Monday, June 8, 2020

(All times Eastern)

11 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

**Opening General Session: State of Public Power and What Happens in DC Doesn’t Stay in DC**

11 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. ET / 10 – 11:45 a.m. CT / 9 – 10:45 a.m. MT / 8 – 9:45 a.m. PT

**Welcome**

Decosta Jenkins, President & CEO, Nashville Electric Service; and Chair, American Public Power Association

**DOE Response to COVID-19**

The Honorable Mark Menezes, Under Secretary of Energy, U.S. Department of Energy

**State of Public Power**

As we gather to celebrate and reflect on 80 years of being connected as a public power community, we also reflect on how we have endured the current crisis facing our country and other national crises throughout our history. Get the latest update on how APPA is working to protect the interests of public power in Washington, D.C., and helping our members to navigate an increasingly complex industry.

Joy Ditto, President & CEO, American Public Power Association

**What Happens in DC Doesn’t Stay in DC**

Paul Begala has seen it all — government united and government divided, gridlock and clear sailing. He draws on his extensive experience to give audiences an understanding of the impact of today’s political landscape on such issues as the economy, budget deficit, healthcare, immigration, the future of social security and Medicare, U.S. foreign policy, the ongoing war in Afghanistan, the unrest in the Middle East, and other critical issues facing the country at home and around the world.

Paul Begala, Political Analyst and Commentator, CNN
Break and Online Networking
12:45 – 1:15 p.m. ET / 11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. CT / 10:45 – 11:15 a.m. MT / 9:45 – 10:15 a.m. PT

Use your break time to meet your fellow attendees in one of our virtual discussion rooms for face-to-face conversation. Choose your room and join your peers for video chat.

- **Coffee with Paul Begala** Join keynote speaker Paul Begala for coffee, questions, and extended conversation.

- **Discussion Room: Mutual Aid**
  Speak with your public power colleagues about mutual aid topics of interest to you.

- **Discussion Room: Renewables & Power Supply**
  Meet your peers to discuss your issues, challenges, and solutions relating to renewable energy and power supply topics.

- **Discussion Room: Community Engagement**
  Connect with fellow attendees to talk about how you are engaging your communities and share ideas.

- **Open Discussion: All Day**
  12:45 – 6:30 p.m. ET / 11:45 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. CT / 10:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. MT / 9:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. PT
  We’re keeping a room open for you all day to meet and discuss the topics that matter to you. Drop in anytime for open conversation – or let our host set up a side conversation for you to approximate the small group discussions you’d have in the halls of a conference. Let us set up a private meeting room for any private or ad-hoc meetings you want throughout the conference.

  You can also stop in any time and ask our Host for a quick demo on using Zoom.

1:15 – 2:30 p.m. ET / 12:15 – 1:30 p.m. CT / 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. MT / 10:15 – 11:30 a.m. PT

**Presentation of Utility Services Awards**
Join us as we honor the recipients of the 2020 E.F. Scattergood System Achievement Award, the Sue Kelly Community Service Award, and the DEED Award of Excellence and Energy Innovator Awards.
CEO Panel: Leading Through COVID-19
Hear from a panel of public power CEOs on their experiences, challenges, and lessons learned from the COVID-19 crisis from both a utility leadership and personal perspective. Learn from their experiences, gain insight from their leadership styles, and learn how you, your employees and your utility can prepare for future challenges.

**Troy Adams**, General Manager, Manitowoc Public Utilities, Wisconsin; **Rob McGarrah**, General Manager, City of Tallahassee Electric Utility, Florida; **Gil Quiniones**, President & CEO, New York Power Authority; **Debra Smith**, General Manager/CEO, Seattle City Light, Washington; and **Joy Ditto**, President & CEO, American Public Power Association (moderator)

2:30 – 2:45 p.m.
**Break**

2:30 – 2:45 p.m. ET / 1:30 – 1:45 p.m. CT / 12:30 – 12:45 MT / 11:30 – 11:45 a.m. PT

2:45 – 3:45 p.m.
**Breakout Sessions**

1. **Congressional Action to Address the COVID-19 Pandemic**
   In an effort to address the unprecedented impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the nation, Congress has been singularly focused on enacting legislation to help Americans, state and local governments, and businesses. Get the latest update from APPA’s Government Relations staff and lobbyists on public power’s priorities in legislation related to COVID-19 and any new policies of interest to public power. Learn what legislation is expected to be addressed later this year and how the national emergency could impact the 2020 election.

   **Desmarie Waterhouse**, Vice President, Government Relations & Counsel; **John Godfrey**, Amy Thomas, and **Corry Marshall**, Senior Government Relations Directors, and **Sarah Czufin**, Government Relations Director, American Public Power Association

2. **Securing Your Supply Chain**
   The array of vendors, suppliers, and third parties you work with exposes you and your customers to a broad array of risks. While we typically think of these risks in terms of cybersecurity, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrate how economics and policy can also impact the supply chain. Whether purchasing cloud programs or transformers, review how to reduce vulnerabilities and manage risk in the procurement process from legal, information technology, and security perspectives. Get expert guidance on structuring a procurement process that addresses compliance and maintains overall supply chain security.
Shari Gribbin, Managing Partner, CNK Solutions

3. Public Power’s Role in a Clean Energy Transformation
The generation mix in the United States is undergoing a broad-sweeping evolution to be cleaner and more secure – and public power plays an often-overlooked role in shaping this transformation. Renewables are replacing traditional fuels at record levels—thanks to declining cost of technologies, state and local policies, and consumer demands. Explore public power’s role in spurring innovation and deploying carbon-free technologies including solar, wind, and storage. Learn about the economics, technology trends, and political measures underpinning the clean energy transition and how your organization can operate at its cutting edge.

Cameron Bard, Senior Advisor, DSD Renewables; and Darren Springer, General Manager, Burlington Electric Department, Vermont

4. Convergence of Technologies
Explore the intersection of present and future information technologies (such as AI, quantum computing, blockchain, and 3D printing) and how they will impact our work and personal lives in the not-so-distant future. The energy sector is experiencing unprecedented disruption from well-funded outside tech entities. Being well informed of these new trends can help utilities manage the technology risks of tomorrow.

Joe Witkowski, Director, Technology Innovation, The Energy Authority

3:45 – 4:15 p.m.
Break and Online Networking
3:45 – 4:15 p.m. ET / 2:45 – 3:15 p.m. CT / 1:45 – 2:15 p.m. MT / 12:45 – 1:15 p.m. PT
Join your choice of online discussion groups to speak face-to-face with your peers on the issues that matter to you. Share your challenges and solutions.

• Fireside Chat with Jolene Thompson
Join APPA’s incoming board chair – and the new CEO of American Municipal Power, Inc. – for questions and a lively conversation. Get her views on the Association and our industry, and share your challenges and concerns.

• Discussion Room: HR Challenges with COVID-19
Employers are facing profound human resource challenges in the wake of the pandemic, including questions on reopening facilities, managing remote workers, and maintaining staffing levels. Discuss these challenges with your peers, and get ideas on how others are tackling them.
• **Discussion Room: Cyber & Physical Preparedness**
  Meet your peers to discuss creating a more resilient and secure grid that is prepared for both cyber and physical threats. Share your challenges and solutions.

• **Discussion Room: Utility Innovation**
  Connect with fellow attendees to discuss innovative new ideas, programs and solutions being explored and implemented around the country. Share what you are doing to position yourself as a utility of the future. Get inspiration you can bring back to your community.

• **Open Discussion: All Day**
  12:45 – 6:30 p.m. ET / 11:45 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. CT / 10:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. MT / 9:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. PT
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4:15 – 5:15 p.m.

**General Session: A Hacker’s Guide to Cyber Threats**

4:15 – 5:15 p.m. ET / 3:15 – 4:15 p.m. CT / 2:15 – 3:15 p.m. MT / 1:15 – 2:15 p.m. PT

A career ethical hacker and social engineer, Joshua Crumbaugh hasn’t encountered a single network that could keep him or his teams out. He has talked his way into bank vaults, Fortune 500 data centers, corporate offices, restricted areas of casinos, and more. As one of the world’s most accomplished social engineers and cybersecurity awareness experts, Crumbaugh will provide an entertaining yet realistic overview of threats to the power sector and explain how you can secure your systems against cyber crime.

**Joshua Crumbaugh.** Co-Founder, Chief Hacker and CEO, PeopleSec
5:15 – 6:30 p.m.

Online Networking
5:15 – 6:30 p.m. ET / 4:15 – 5:30 p.m. CT / 3:15 – 4:30 p.m. MT / 2:15 – 3:30 p.m. PT

Reconnect with old friends, meet new people and network with other public power leaders. Whether this is your virtual happy hour or afternoon coffee break, grab your drink of choice and unwind with your peers.

- **Happy Hour with Joshua Crumbaugh**
  Continue the conversation face-to-face (but online!) with cybersecurity and social engineering expert Joshua Crumbaugh. Ask questions, get tips, and enjoy open dialogue with Josh and your peers.

- **80th Anniversary Virtual Block Party**
  Celebrate APPA's 80th anniversary – and party like it’s the 1980s! Join your public power friends and colleagues for a virtual block party filled with pop culture, music and trivia. Dust off your Members Only jackets and stock up on the hairspray to dress up for the occasion, or share a photo of you looking “peak 80s” with the group. As a bonus, we'll award prizes to the most totally awesome contributors.

- **Silver Linings Social Hour**
  Whatever your lockdown libation of choice, the glass is always half full in this networking room. Share your shutdown stories, isolation interests, quarantine creations, and other positive developments from the past few months with your essential friends and colleagues. Show off your accomplishments, introduce your new “coworkers” in a virtual children & pet parade, and chat about the good news of the day.

- **Virtual Summer Vacation Getaway**
  The joy of traveling – without the planes, trains and automobiles! Join public power friends and colleagues to share your summer plans – what you had originally planned, what you’re doing now, or the big trip you’re planning when you can travel again. Share stories from your favorite past vacations, get and share tips for visiting various destinations, and win prizes for guessing landmarks near and far.
Tuesday, June 9, 2020

(All times Eastern)

10 – 11 a.m.

**Online Networking**

10 – 11 a.m. ET / 9 – 10 a.m. CT / 8 – 9 a.m. MT / 7 – 8 a.m. PT

Kick off the second day of the Virtual Summit by connecting with your peers. Choose the conversation you want and join a targeted discussion group. The open networking room will also be open, so you can use this time to schedule small group discussions.

- **Coffee with Joy Ditto**
  Join the American Public Power Association’s new CEO for coffee, questions, and conversation. Get her view on issues impacting public power, and share your challenges and concerns.

- **Small Utility Roundtable**
  Meet with other leaders from small public power utilities and share your ideas and experiences in an open discussion forum. Discuss your challenges and crowdsource solutions small public power utilities can employ.

- **Large Utility Roundtable**
  Connect with your peers from other large public power utilities to share ideas, discuss common challenges and brainstorm solutions together in this open discussion.

- **Mitigate Risk through Innovative Asset Inventory Solutions**
  From transformers to SCADA to turbine-generators – assets are the lifeblood of public power. For public power providers to achieve their strategic plans, they require a robust asset management plan that will optimally and sustainably manage assets and asset systems, their associated performance, risks and expenditures over their life cycles. A vital first step in this journey is to have an accurate, up-to-date asset inventory across your enterprise. Burns & McDonnell is continuously developing innovate solutions to accurately and efficiently update drawings, documents, and other records which ultimately lead to an asset inventory that will be the foundation for a successful asset management program.

  **Chrissy Carr**, Project Director, and **Bryan Durant**, Mechanical Plant Improvements Manager, Burns & McDonnell; and **Matt Morris**, Director, Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity, 1898 & Co., part of Burns & McDonnell.
• **Open Discussion: All Day**
  10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. ET / 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. CT / 8 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. MT / 7 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. PT
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11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

**General Session: Individual Leadership Awards and The Future is Stranger than Sci-Fi**
11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. ET / 10 – 11:15 a.m. CT / 9 – 10:15 a.m. MT / 8 – 9:15 a.m. PT

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Jolene Thompson**, President & CEO, American Municipal Power, Inc.; and Chair Elect, American Public Power Association

**Presentation of Individual Leadership Awards**
Join us as we honor the recipients of the American Public Power Association’s 2020 awards for individual leadership

**The Future is Stranger than Sci-Fi**
Robots, Artificial Intelligence, and the Internet of Things are just the beginning. In this decade, the science fiction of today will be the reality of tomorrow. New technologies and possibilities will redefine our world, challenging us like never before. Described by the Wall Street Journal as “the premier futurist in the national security environment,” Peter Singer will get you revved up about the future he will help you envision. As the official “Mad Scientist” for the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, and consultant for the CIA, the Pentagon, and Hollywood, he is ideally positioned to discuss security challenges posed by emerging technologies.

**Peter Singer**, Renowned Futurist and Bestselling Author
12:15 – 12:45 p.m.  
**Break and Online Networking**  
12:15 – 12:45 p.m. ET / 11:15 – 11:45 a.m. CT / 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. MT / 9:15 – 9:45 a.m. PT  
Talk to your peers from around the country in topic-oriented discussion forums.  

- **Coffee with Peter Singer**  
  Meet keynote speaker Peter Singer for coffee, questions, and extended conversation.  

- **Discussion Room: Helping Customers during COVID-19**  
  Connect with your public power peers to discuss how you are helping your residential and business customers weather the pandemic. Share the challenges you are facing and get ideas on how others are tackling them.  

- **Discussion Room: Legislative & Regulatory Issues**  
  Join your peers and the experts to discuss the legislative and regulatory issues, challenges and opportunities facing public power.  

- **Discussion Room: Reliability Best Practices**  
  Discuss reliability best practices with friends and colleagues. Learn what other utilities are doing, compare notes and get tips to improve your reliability position.  

- **Open Discussion: All Day**  
  10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. ET / 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. CT / 8 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. MT / 7 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. PT  
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12:45 – 1:45 p.m.  
**Breakout Sessions**  
12:45 – 1:45 p.m. ET / 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. CT / 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. MT / 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. PT

1. **What’s Driving Public Power’s Bond Ratings**  
   Hear representatives from the three largest credit rating companies discuss the latest on rating trends, public power’s strengths and opportunities, and how current issues and industry trends affect public power’s bond ratings. Learn what boards and managers can do to reinforce the financial strength of your organization.  

   **Jennifer Chang**, Vice President – Senior Analyst, Moody’s Investors Service;  
   **Jeffrey Panger**, Director, S&P Global Ratings; and **Dennis Pidherny**, Managing Director, Public Finance, Fitch Ratings
2. Mutual Aid: What’s Changed and What’s the Same
Storms and natural disasters don’t take breaks, and neither does the public power mutual aid network. Hear lessons learned from utilities that have conducted mutual aid operations during the COVID-19 pandemic and how utilities are preparing for what is expected to be a stronger than normal storm season on top of the ongoing pandemic response. Discuss how politics have continued to affect mutual aid response.

Dan Beans, Electric Utility Director, Redding Electric Utility, California; and Sheryl Jenkins, Manager, Human Resources, and Neal Potter, Commercial Energy Analyst, EPB, Chattanooga, Tennessee

3. Don’t Let Your AMI Go to Waste
Explore the process efficiencies, tools, best practices and the critical value that AMI operations applications bring while managing and operating these systems at scale. By integrating seamlessly into business operations, learn how they are taking the necessary steps to ensure operational excellence, making their jobs easier. Also hear about how to most effectively leverage the data produced by AMI systems to gain better insight into your utility and customer behavior.

Kyle Roadman, Power Manager, Emerald People's Utility District, Oregon; and Sarah Valovcin, Senior Quantitative Analyst, The Energy Authority

4. Best Practices to Update Your Rate Structures
As technological changes in the electric industry continue to accelerate, utilities are modifying rate structures to meet customer needs and improve operational efficiencies. Get insight on how public power utilities are changing rate structures to promote growth, meet utility challenges and create saving opportunities. Understand how to overcome obstacles and reduce barriers when changing rate structures.

Mark Beauchamp, President, Utility Financial Solutions

5. Oil’s Pain is Power’s Gain: Why Wholesale Power Prices Are Moving Higher
The plunge in oil prices is causing the main contributor to U.S. natural gas supply growth — gas from oil wells — to fall rapidly. Gas prices, especially for winter and for 2021, are marching higher as a result, pulling wholesale power prices higher. Is this a permanent shift in power prices? Will this slow coal plant retirements and dampen renewables?

Michael Zenker, Managing Director, NextEra Energy Resources

1:45 – 2 p.m.

Break
1:45 – 2 p.m. ET / 12:45 – 1 p.m. CT / 11:45 a.m. – Noon MT / 10:45 – 11 a.m. PT
2 – 3 p.m. Breakout sessions
2 – 3 p.m. ET / 1 – 2 p.m. CT / Noon – 1 p.m. MT / 11 a.m. – Noon PT

1. Demystifying Digital Transformation for Public Power Utilities
Digital transformation is a hot topic in almost every business strategy conversation. However, many business leaders don’t truly understand the challenges or appreciate the opportunities that can come with embarking on a digital transformation journey. Explore some major trends impacting public power’s digital transformation, while demystifying what cutting-edge technologies like artificial intelligence, machine learning, and intelligent automation can do for the sector.

Claudio Garcia, Director, Enterprise Transformation Services Group, Baker Tilly; and Eric Keister, Director, Digital Consulting Group, Baker Tilly

Special introduction by Matthew Donahue, Director, Tax and Regulatory Markets – Government Division, LexisNexis Risk Strategies

2. Electric Vehicle Project Showcase
Many public power utilities are leading the way in understanding and supporting electric vehicle charging, thanks to funding from the Association’s Demonstration of Energy and Efficiency Developments (DEED) program. Learn about DEED’s 40 years of co-funding support to members’ projects, including various completed and upcoming EV projects and resources. Hear from grant recipients and discover their innovative projects covering EV charging infrastructure deployment, fleet assessments, rate design, and charging data collection. Get ideas you can implement in your community.

Jennifer Bangert, Energy Services Specialist, Lincoln Electric System, Nebraska; Tom Sagstetter, Conservation & Key Accounts Manager, Elk River Municipal Utilities, Minnesota; and Michele Fearnley Suddleson, Director, DEED Program, American Public Power Association

A utility’s overall financial health can ensure its ability to provide reliable service to customers now and into the future. Assess your utility’s financial health against industry guidelines and key financial targets and learn how to put a plan in place to reach recommended targets.

Dawn Lund, Vice President, Utility Financial Solutions

4. Leveraging AMR Assets While Migrating to the Smart Grid
Learn how public power utilities are working to extend the life of their current
assets (communications, meter/modules, etc.) while deploying AMI solutions in a targeted, prioritized manner. In addition to the various migration alternatives, the speaker will address advanced applications that are available over AMI and how utilities can capture benefits in either an AMI ‘overlay’ or full deployment.

Matt Haile, Director of Business Development & Commercial Marketing, Tantalus Systems Corp.; and James Rodewald, Superintendent, Engineering/ Metering/ Substations, Crawfordsville Electric Light and Power, Indiana

3 – 3:30 p.m.

Break and Online Networking
3 – 3:30 p.m. ET / 2 – 2:30 p.m. CT / 1 – 1:30 p.m. MT / Noon – 12:30 p.m. PT

Make the most of this final opportunity to speak face-to-face with your peers and industry experts in an online discussion group. Share your challenges and learn from the experiences of others.

• Discussion Room: Operational Challenges with COVID-19
  Discuss the operational challenges the pandemic is creating for you with peers from around the country in this open forum and get ideas on how others are tackling them.

• Discussion Room: Financial Stability
  Meet your peers to discuss creating a more financially stable utility, and the obstacles you may be facing. Share your challenges and crowdsource possible solutions.

• Discussion Room: Workforce Challenges
  Connect with fellow attendees to discuss your workforce challenges, whether your concerns are with recruitment and retention, succession planning, updating your HR policies with the “new normal”, or something else entirely. Get inspiration from others and share your innovative ideas, programs and solutions.

3:30 – 5 p.m.

Association Business Meeting & Closing General Session
3:30 – 5 p.m. ET / 2:30 – 4 p.m. CT / 1:30 – 3 p.m. MT / 12:30 – 2 p.m. PT

Association Business Meeting
The APPA membership will get reports from the board Treasurer on Association performance and financials and cast votes to elect members to the APPA Board of Directors and on policy resolutions that will guide the Association’s advocacy efforts for the coming year. Each utility member must designate a voting delegate for this meeting.

Presentation of Alex Radin Distinguished Service Award
Changing of the Guard: Remarks from the Outgoing and Incoming Board Chairs

Decosta Jenkins, President & CEO, Nashville Electric Service, Tennessee

Jolene Thompson, President & CEO, American Municipal Power, Inc., Columbus, Ohio
Wednesday, June 10, 2020

(All times Eastern)

The following Association committees, task forces and boards will meet in conjunction with the Public Power Connect: Virtual Summit and Business Meeting.

11 a.m. – Noon

**PowerPAC Board Meeting**
(Open to members of the PowerPAC Board of Directors Only)
11 a.m. – Noon ET / 10 – 11 a.m. CT / 9 – 10 a.m. MT / 8 – 9 a.m. PT

The PowerPAC Board of Directors will meet to receive a finance and operations update on PowerPAC’s activities, including how they have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and vote on terms of board members.

12:15 – 1:45 p.m.

**Advisory Committee Meeting**
12:15 – 1:45 p.m. ET / 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. CT / 10:15 – 11:45 a.m. MT / 9:15 – 10:45 a.m. PT

Advisory Committee members will meet to receive an update on legislative activities related to the COVID-19 pandemic and to discuss further reforming the APPA policy resolution process.

2 – 3 p.m.

**Joint Action Agencies Meeting**
2 – 3 p.m. ET / 1 – 2 p.m. CT / Noon – 1 p.m. MT / 11 a.m. – Noon PT

Joint Action Agency CEOs, senior managers, board or commission members, and members of a joint action agency have an opportunity to discuss issues of common interest and concern. Topics will be solicited from members prior to the meeting.

3:15 – 4:15 p.m.

**PMA Task Force Meeting**
3:15 – 4:15 p.m. ET / 2:15 – 3:15 p.m. CT / 1:15 – 2:15 MT / 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. PT

The PMA Task Force is composed of APPA members that are customers of the Power Marketing Administrations (PMAs). This meeting will consist of a legislative update and allow for PMA customers from across the country to share information with each other on what is going on in their regions.

4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

**Membership Committee Meeting**
(Open to members of the APPA Membership Committee Only)
4:30 – 6 p.m. ET / 3:30 – 5 p.m. CT / 2:30 – 4 p.m. MT / 1:30 – 3 p.m. PT

The Membership Committee will meet to discuss membership outreach, strategies to grow the Association’s membership, and ongoing membership engagement campaigns.