

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

ARTICLE 1: INTRODUCTION

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into between the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) and the Georgia Section of American Water Works Association (GAWWA) on this day of JANUARY 26, 2023. Its purpose is to form a common approach and a basis for establishing an efficient working relationship between the two parties.

GAWP is dedicated to exceptional professional education, dissemination of sound technical principles and scientific information, increased public understanding, and promotion of valid public laws and programs. GAWP's chief purpose is to assist those who have an interest in water, wastewater, and related topics in the State of Georgia.

GAWWA is a section of the American Water Works Association, an international nonprofit, scientific, and educational society dedicated to the improvement of drinking water quality and supply. GAWWA works to further the dissemination of information and the advancement of knowledge in the areas of design, construction, operation, and management of utilities rendering water service to the public. GAWWA promotes the further study, experimentation, research, and publication of the results thereof, in the areas of water distribution, water purification, conservation, development of water resources, and water utility management, together with the usual related activities of a scientific and educational society serving the public interest in the State of Georgia.

GAWWA and GAWP have had a longstanding relationship that the parties wish to continue to benefit their respective membership and to the benefit of Georgia's water industry and the water environment. The purpose of the collaboration of GAWP and GAWWA is to better serve our members in the water industry, and to reinforce the platform of "one water". Even though the collaboration requires effort, it provides a stronger level of support to our members and strengthens our voice and representation to state leaders and legislators as a known and trusted resource on water issues, especially those affecting operations of public water systems and water resources.

GAWP and GAWWA leadership are committed to this collaboration and mutual support of the goals of serving our members and fostering a positive working relationship. To facilitate this positive relationship, all are committed to respectful communication about any issues or concerns related to this MOU. Any issues or concerns that arise will be directed through the GAWWA chairperson and the GAWP Executive Director for discussion and resolution.

ARTICLE II. AGREEMENT

A. GAWP will:

1. Board Representation - Assign the GAWP President-Elect to serve as an Ex Officio voting member of the GAWWA Executive Committee.

2. Committees - Establish and maintain technical and administrative committees, as identified in GAWP Operation's Manual; each of these committees shall be open for participation to all individual members of GAWWA in good standing with both GAWWA and GAWP. Indicate all GAWWA Committees as "GAWWA" after the committee name on the website and in conference programs, and add the assigned GAWWA EC member as additional liaison on the committee webpage.
3. Training - Coordinate training activities with GAWWA to avoid redundancy and scheduling conflicts in accordance with the Membership and Association Services Agreement.
4. Advocacy - Represent the interests of its affiliates in lobbying activities regionally and in Georgia.
5. Membership- Allow all GAWWA members, who are also GAWP members, to be eligible to compete for GAWP awards (as of November 2022 these awards include the following, if new awards are initiated during the 3 years period of the MOU, they will also be available to GAWWA members).
 - a. GAWP Awards include: Hugh A. Wyckoff, Nathan Meridith DeJarnette, Elizabeth McEntire, Ira C. Kelley, Jack C. Dozier Emerging Leader, Golden Wrench, Alva T. Storey, Life Membership, President's Award, Honorary Memberships, 5-S Society, Customer Service Award, Phil Karr Award (GWWC), Denise Skinner-Hurst Pretreatment Award, Stormwater Professional Excellence Award, and TopOps.

B. GAWWA will:

1. Board Representation - The Chair will serve on the GAWP Board of Directors and Executive Committee. The Vice-Chair, Senior Trustee, and AWWA Director will also serve on the GAWP Board as voting members. The number of representatives shall be equal to the number of GWEF representatives.
2. Committees - Make open all technical committees for participation to individual members of good standing of GAWP. GAWWA committee leadership requires AWWA membership.
3. Training - Coordinate Section training activities with GAWP to avoid redundancy and scheduling conflicts in accordance with the Membership and Association Services Agreement.
4. Advocacy - Participate in government affairs activities in partnership with AWWA nationally and in Georgia. Additionally, GAWWA will coordinate with and participate on the GAWP Legislative Reporting Committee to further represent the interests of drinking water in legislative activities in Georgia on matters of mutual interest and concern.
5. Membership - Allow all GAWP members, who are also GAWWA members, to be eligible to compete for GAWWA awards (as of November 2022 these awards include the following, if new awards are initiated during the 3 years period of the MOU, they will also be available to GAWP members).

- a. AWWA and GAWWA awards include (but are not limited to): Meter Madness, Pipe Tapping, Drinking Water Taste Test, George Warren Fuller, Wendall LaDue Safety, Operator's Meritorious Service, Golden Hydrant Society, Heroism, William J. Greene, Jr., Membership, Kenneth J. Miller, Education, TopOps Competition, Hydrant Histeria, Outstanding Young Professional (5 Under 35), AWWA Fresh Ideas Poster Competition, Water Industry Hall of Fame, and Diversity.

C. GAWP and GAWWA will:

1. Execute a contract for member and association services to be known as the GAWP and GAWWA Membership and Association Services Agreement.
2. Create a policy and procedures document(s) to contain sufficient detail to support and guide this MOU and all joint activities, as deemed necessary.

ARTICLE III. TERMS AND DURATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This MOU will become effective upon approval of the parties and will exist as a living document. It will be formally reviewed annually and renewed/amended every three years, or more frequently if agreed by both parties. This MOU may be terminated at any time, upon mutual agreement of the parties, or upon 120-day prior written notice by any party. This termination process shall be rendered moot should the Membership and Associations Services Agreement be terminated. Upon termination of the Membership and Associations Services Agreement, the MOU shall also terminate.

Georgia Association of Water Professionals

By: Pamela S. Burnett, Executive Director Date: January 26, 2023

Georgia Section of American Water Works Association

By: Cornell Sims, Chair Date: January 26, 2023