



FYI - Small Systems

**Small Systems Committee
INDIANA SECTION AWWA**

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February, 2008

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FYI

Happy 2008!!

We're starting off the new year with AWWA's 100th Annual Conference which will be held February 19 – 21, 2008 at the Marriott in downtown Indianapolis. While the advanced registration deadline has passed, you may register on-site. Approval has been received from IDEM for both water and wastewater contact hours. Please visit www.inawwa.org for conference details or call AWWA toll free at 866-213-2796.

The Small System Committee will once again share booth space with the Young Professionals Committee and the Water For People Committee. Please come by our booth while you are at the Conference.

Other Small Systems Committee news.....this is the last year of our AWWA / IRWA / IDEM Contract to train Indiana's grandparented and facility specific operators. We will conduct 48 of these workshops in 2008. Grandparented operators are required to attend one of these workshops prior to June 30, 2008 in order to maintain their certifications. If you are a grandparented operator and have not yet attended one of these workshops in 2006 or 2007, you must attend one before the deadline this year. For a schedule of these workshops, please visit www.indianawateroperatortraining.org.

WHAT'S UP WHAT'S NEW - IDEM

Below are the results of the November round of tests. The next test will be in May 2008. If you plan to sit for the exam you should make sure your application is complete and submitted in a timely manner. There is generally a one day study session before the May exam. Preparation for the exam done over the next few months will make for a more relaxed test session. We staff a booth at AWWA, IRWA and the Alliance conferences if you have questions or would like to discuss study materials. For those new operators, please remember it is never too early to begin earning your continuing education hours.

	DSS		DSM		DSL		WT1			
	PASS	FAIL	PASS	FAIL	PASS	FAIL	PASS	FAIL	PASS	FAIL
	16		20	19	42	26	1			
{NO SHOWS}		{2}				{4}				
PERFORMANCE	100%		51%	49%	62%	38%	100%			
	WT2		WT3		WT4		WT5		TOTAL	
	PASS	FAIL	PASS	FAIL	PASS	FAIL	PASS	FAIL	PASS	FAIL
	17	1	49	8	3		9	8	157	62
{NO SHOWS}		{2}		{2}						{10}
PERFORMANCE	94%	6%	86%	14%	100%		53%	47%	72%	28%

(Continued on page 2)

FYI FROM THE SECTION CHAIR

As I thought about writing this letter, this being my last as chair of the Indiana Section, and Odetta having told me there was plenty of space so it didn't need to be short, the main thing on my mind was our upcoming conference. Recently I've talked to a lot of people on the vendor side who are attending our conference for the first time. They are coming from all over the country to attend "our" conference. The reputation of our conference has spread coast to coast. Every year we sell out earlier than the year before. This year we sold out prior to the early deadline for returning exhibitors and had eleven companies on a waiting list, so members of the MAC met with the Hotel and added twenty exhibit booths in the foyer and hall surrounding the exhibit hall. In another week we sold out again, and we have another waiting list. It's that popular.

That started me thinking. How we can have a conference that's so popular that people come from all over the country and yet we have operators right here in Indiana who don't attend? We have some members who attend every year or two as they have to take turns. Not every person from a utility or company can leave at one time, that's understandable. But what about those utilities or companies, few as they are, that have not attended in many years or have never attended. I started thinking about the pros and cons of attending and speculating on what prompts people to make the decision to attend or not attend. Then I remembered something that I heard this past summer. After reflecting on it a bit, I decided I should share it with you.

This past August I attended the AWWA leadership conference in Colorado Springs, CO and took part in some good discussions and listened to some excellent speakers. One of these was Thomas Frey of the DaVinci Institute whose presentation titled "What Will the Future Hold for Leaders" contained some interesting concepts. One of those was that the future predicts the present. The concept of this idea, and I'm paraphrasing, is that when faced with making a decision we try to predict the outcome of that decision. If we do "this" then this will happen. If we do "that" then that will happen. We use our accumulated knowledge gained by previous experiences to try and predict what the outcome of any decision will be. We then make our final decision based on our predication of the outcome of that decision. In that way our vision of the future predicts the decisions we make in the present, or as the man said "The future predicts the present!"

Most of us do this without realizing with every decision we make; from making a career change to ordering lunch we are allowing this to happen. Our predictions of the future are, of course, biased by our outlook whether pessimistic or optimistic. For example, I go with the guys to lunch and I'd really like to order the large steak and cheese sub and my optimistic view is that I'll really enjoy it and it's not that bad for my cholesterol. My pessimistic view is that I really, really, don't want to experience another heart attack and that sandwich probably looks a lot better than it really is. After comparing my two views of probable future outcome of my decision about my lunch order, I decide to order the regular size turkey sub, hold the mayo.

(Continued on page 5)

WHAT'S UP WHAT'S NEW - IDEM (Continued)

(Continued from page 1)

I had the good fortune to attend a security conference in New Orleans in January. We were afforded the opportunity to tour the heavily damaged hurricane areas of New Orleans. Over 2 years after the hurricane there are still blocks and blocks of empty and abandoned homes. The drinking water plants fared pretty well; the infrastructure did not. Plants were able to get back to treating water, but there was so much damage to the distribution system that the water was lost. Federal aid was available for repairs but depreciation was factored in so old pipe in the ground may have met or exceeded its useful life according to charts. As a result, the amount available did not even come close to actual cost. In addition, these areas lost a large percentage of their customer base. Businesses were destroyed so jobs were lost. Both important sources of revenue. Loans, if they were available, could not be repaid because of lost revenue. The wastewater plants were hit much harder. These plants were out of commission. What happens to the sewage when it has no place to go? How do you supply water if lines are broken and submerged beneath several feet of water? What plans do you have for conservation in case of an emergency? What sort of consumer education materials do you have to get people to realize the interconnection of all utilities? It certainly made me realize just how important mutual aid assistance known as Water and Wastewater Agency Response Networks (WARN) and the Emergency Management Assistance Compacts (EMAC) are to a system. Is your response plan up to date? A disaster of any magnitude will pinpoint all of the weak spots in your plan. You all should have your vulnerability assessments/emergency response plans completed and ready for use at a moment's notice. The recent weather related emergency in Nappanee goes to show just how quickly things happen and stresses the need to be prepared. It's Indiana; it's winter. An ice storm could take out your power or the wastewater treatment plant. Are you prepared?

(Continued on page 7)

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION NEWS AND AIDS IN BRIEF

By Jerry Webb, Director of Water/Sewer Division

The Commission's web-site, at www.in.gov/iurc/ has a wealth of information for small systems. From the home-page, under IURC News, take a look at the 2007 Regulatory Flexibility Report to the legislature. In this report, you will find the Commission's first ever water/sewer section and it's full of issues important to the water/sewer utility industry. At the Commission, there are a couple of rulemakings underway . From the homepage, look under Statutes and Rules, then Rulemakings. You will find two proposed rules of interest to small systems. One is on the thirty day administrative filing process and the other is the small (less than 5000 customers) utility filing process. Both of these proposed rulemakings have had stakeholder participation before this more formal process started. While these rulemakings are in progress, you can still use the existing procedures for both as noted following.

The thirty day filing process, available to any utility, can be used to increase non-recurring charges like tap fees, bad check charges, and reconnect fees. You'll need to prepare a letter, tariffs, and cost support, but there is no hearing. The small utility filing process is essentially a rate case without a hearing. It's more complicated than the process for a 30 day filing. Some small utilities can do it by themselves, but most end up hiring an accounting firm to do the preparation. Details on both these processes can be found on our Web-site under the Water/Sewer section. E-mail me jlwebb@urc.in.gov or call 317-232-2733 with questions.

INDIANA SECTION AWWA ANNUAL CONFERENCE CELEBRATES 100 YEARS!!

The Indiana Section AWWA's 100th Annual Conference will be held on Tuesday, February 19 thru Thursday, February 21 at the Marriott in downtown Indianapolis.

Come join the celebration, network with your peers, earn contact hours, and continue your professional development!!

For information, please visit www.inawwa.org or call 866-213-2796.

NEW AWARD PROGRAM - HOOSIER WATER GUARDIAN

How do you know if you are doing enough to protect our water resources at the source? That's one of the questions we try to answer in the Hoosier Water Guardian program. While it is aimed at community ground water supplies right now, in the future it may be expanded to include noncommunity and surface water supplies.

Here's some examples of the activities conducted to earn the distinction of a Hoosier Water Guardian award: development of an interactive GIS system to let property owners know if their property lies within a protection zone, weekly and monthly household hazardous waste collections, annual neighborhood cleanups, development and passage of ordinances prohibiting hazardous landuse within a protection zone, emergency response exercises designed around a wellhead protection zone, and inspections of businesses located within a wellhead protection area.

Is your community doing some or all of these things? Have they developed beneficial partnerships with other water resource agencies or programs such as the National Groundwater Guardian program? If so, you need to check out IDEM's web page at <http://www.in.gov/idem/programs/water/swp/hwg/index.html> . You could be a Hoosier Water Guardian! It's not too late to submit your application (they've been updated – call 317-308-3330 for the new version.). The first awards will be presented at the AWWA annual conference in February and will continue annually thereon.

Emergency Response Planning

Safe and reliable drinking water is vital to every community. Emergency response planning is an essential part of managing a drinking water system and is a requirement of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know. Water utilities serving more than 3,300 persons must conduct a vulnerability assessment as required under the Bioterrorism Act, certify to the EPA the assessment has been completed, submit a copy of the assessment and show that the system has updated or completed an emergency response plan outlining response measures if an accident occurs. Information on this is available by the EPA.

Emergency Response Planning is a process where water system staff and managers look at the vulnerabilities of the water sources and systems, make improvements, and establish procedures to follow in an emergency. It is a plan that relies on people to work together in an emergency situation. People involved can be your own staff, police and fire departments, the public, local officials, civil defense, local emergency response teams and businesses within and out of your community depending on the type of emergency you may have.

Most public drinking water systems have had routine operating emergencies such as pipe breaks, pump malfunctions, minor contamination, and power outages. These are manageable if you have an emergency response plan that can be put into action quickly. More serious emergencies may result from intentional acts of vandalism or terrorism, chemical spills, floods, earthquakes, windstorms, droughts, waterborne diseases, cross contamination, fire and cyber attacks.

With an effective plan you can address these issues quickly and initiate effective response action to protect the health of water customers. Having a chain of command defines lines of authority and responsibilities for system personnel which speeds up response time. This eliminates confusion which is crucial in an emergency situation. Effective communication is a key factor to the process of how an Emergency Response Plan works. In order to make the plan work it requires practice drills. Drills should be practiced on the different levels of emergencies in order to familiarize individuals of what to do in the event of a real emergency. Practice drills will get you more relaxed so you are less likely to tense up or even worse have the feeling of "what do I do" in a real situation.

Drinking water reservoirs and river intakes are particularly vulnerable to spills and accidental releases from private and public discharges. Nearby roadways, railroads, boats, businesses, site developments, farm ground that uses inappropriate amounts of pesticides and fertilizers, improper household disposal of hazardous wastes and illegal dumping are just some of the examples of potential contamination to your water source that can cause sudden and costly damage to your system and put the public at harm. Having a response plan gets you prepared and in compliance should such a situation happen.

GRANDPARENTED OPERATOR TRAINING SPONSORS

We wish to thank..

The Small Systems Committee wishes to thank the following vendors who have most generously stepped up to help sponsor the Indiana Water Operator Training workshops that AWWA/IRWA conducted in 2007. Please express your appreciation to these wonderful companies for their support of the water industry.

Adaptor, Inc.
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Godwin Pumps
 GRW Engineers, Inc.
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 United Rentals Trench Safety
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 URS
 Utility Supply Company
 M.D. Wessler & Associates
 WHPA, Inc.

FYI FROM THE SECTION CHAIR (Continued)

(Continued from page 2)

I'm pretty confident that you did the same thing when making your decision about attending the 100th Annual Conference of the Indiana Section of the American Water Works Association, the largest water industry conference in the state, being held at the Indianapolis Downtown Marriott on February 19 through 21, 2008.

Those of you who have attended in the last few years, thought about all of the new products and services that were going to be on display in the one hundred and sixty exhibits that will be set up by one hundred and twenty-nine different companies. You thought about the hundreds of professionals staffing those exhibits who will be eager to answer your questions and provide literature on their wares. They'll probably be able to provide a reasonably priced solution to that problem you've been having.

You thought about the interesting variety of sessions that are being offered with three, and sometimes four, concurrent technical sessions being offered over the first two days. Presentations on research projects, new water treatment techniques, maintenance best practices, and case studies presenting the problems identified and solutions found. It is a pretty painless way to get those needed CEUs (continuing education units).

You probably thought about Tuesday evenings Fuller Award reception. What a great meet and greet it always is, with ample food and beverage. You really do want to see who receives this year's Fuller Award, as it is the highest honor that a Section of AWWA can bestow. The Water-for-People Committee's silent auction will be wrapping up and you always enjoy seeing, and sometimes bidding on, what your peers have donated to it. Some of the art made, and donated out of gratitude, by the people of our sponsored country of Bolivia are beautiful, one-of-a-kind items. Then you thought about Wednesday night's Meter Madness reception which is always a good time, with more great hors d'oeuvres. It's pretty exciting to watch those district winners assemble their meters to see who becomes the new Indiana Meter Madness winner and will be going to Atlanta, GA in June to represent Indiana in the competition for AWWA Meter Madness Championship.

You probably thought about the Thursday morning session, the appetizing "Hot" Breakfast Buffet, and the opportunity to hear those important updates from the Water Utility Council and IDEM Commissioner Tom Easterly.

Those of you who have not previously attended probably thought about the free registration being offered for operators who have not previously attended the conference, or have not attended since the conference moved downtown to the Marriott, and thought that you might as well go see if it is as great as everyone keeps telling you that it is. After all, one of the suppliers will probably invite you to go to dinner after the reception is over. You thought about the Chair of the Indiana Section who wrote this article to tell everyone about the free operator registrations with his intent to make everyone feel welcome regardless of their rank, title, or membership status. (We're not exclusive to operators we welcome Clerks, Managers, and Mayors too!)

I suppose that there are some of you who have decided not to attend the 100th Annual Conference. You possibly predicted that if you went something "might" happen at work or a problem "might" develop and you "might" have to leave early. You thought about having to walk a couple blocks from the inexpensive parking area to the hotel to avoid the hotel's parking fees. You probably thought about how you would have to continually wear your registration badge to get into everything and that you would "probably" get tired of sitting in the sessions and you would have to sit there all day to get your CEUs, unless you attended a couple of the 30 minute presentations scheduled in the exhibit hall. But, then you would "probably" have to stand for 30 minutes and remember to get your CEU form stamped before and after the presentation.

You possibly predicted that the break stations in the back of the exhibit hall offering free coffee and rolls "might" be crowded when you got there. You probably thought that the receptions "might" be noisy and with all of those people it would be hard to decide who to visit with. Again you'd have to remember to wear your registration badge or they won't let you in. You thought about how you "might" break your diet and eat too many hors d'oeuvres and spoil your dinner plans. You probably thought it was just too much trouble to bother with.

Then there are those of you who never made a decision, but not making a decision to do something has the same predictable future as making a decision not to do it. For those of you who never got around to making a decision, it's not too late to register. If you're an operator and you've not attended the conference, since it moved to the Indianapolis Downtown Marriott five years ago, you can still receive a free registration. The rest of you have missed the advanced registration deadline, but even paying the on-site registration rate it's still a bargain at \$175 for 2 ½ days of educational opportunities. That's less than \$15.00 per potential CEU. This is a once in a life time experience. You'll only get one chance to attend the 100th Annual Conference and Centennial Celebration of the Indiana Section AWWA.

In closing, I would like to express my appreciation to our membership who gave me this opportunity to serve as their Chair. It's been a lot of fun. I really appreciate your support! ~ Dan

p.s. I'll pass along a little secret to those of you who didn't stop reading a page ago. The first 1400 people registered are going to receive a pretty nice gift with our 100 Year logo on it.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! (Continued)

(Continued from page 8)

March 10, 2008 – Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification Examination Application submission must be post-marked by this date. The application can be downloaded from IDEM's website at <http://www.in.gov/idem/compliance/water/wastewater/certconted/index.html>. The Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification Examination will be given April 24, 2008. Contact: Rebecca McMonigle, IDEM, 317-232-8791, rmcmonig@idem.in.gov.

March 12, 2008 – Central Indiana Stormwater Quality Workshop (for Builders, Contractors, Developers, Engineers, Property Managers, Utility Companies, and MS4s) to be held at the Holiday Inn North (Pyramids) in Indianapolis. Contact: Jill Hoffman; Empower Results, LLC; 317-891-8820; jhoffmann@empowerrresults.com; Upper White River Watershed Alliance; 1939 Rockford Road; Indianapolis, IN 46229.

March 24, 2008 – Water Works Operator Certification Examination Application submission must be postmarked by this date. The application may be downloaded from the drinking water website: <http://www.in.gov/idem/compliance/water/drinkingwater/certconted/index.html> or <http://www.in.gov/icpr/webfile/formsdiv/12094.pdf>. Contact: Ruby Keslar at RKESLAR@idem.in.gov or 317/308-3305 or Dennis Henderson at DHENDER@idem.in.gov or 317/308-3304. Water Works Operator Certification Examination will be given May 8, 2008.

March 25 - 27, 2008 – 2008 Road School – Purdue University; West Lafayette, IN Contact: Indiana LTAP; 800-428-7639; www.purdue.edu/INLTAP/

March 27 - 28, 2008 – Indiana Municipal Managers Association Spring Conference – Brown County Inn; Nashville, Indiana. Contact: Indiana Association of Cities and Towns; 317-237-6200 or www.citiesandtowns.org.

March 30-April 2, 2008 – AWWA 2008 Customer Service Conference – Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center; Detroit, Michigan. Contact: www.awwa.org/conferences or call 800-926-7337

March 30-April 1, 2008 – AWWA/WEF 2008 Information Management & Technology Exposition – Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center; Detroit, Michigan. Contact: www.awwa.org/conferences or call 800-926-7337

April 2008 – Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule Deadline – Systems serving 10,000-49,999 people – Begin first round of source water monitoring. Contact: Yasser Elkhatib at 317-308-3303, yelkhati2@idem.in.gov OR Adrian Lugo-Martinez at 317-308-3285, alugomar@idem.in.gov OR Stacy Jones at 317-308-3292, sjones@idem.in.gov. Other information on the LT2 Rule can be obtained from www.epa.gov/safewater/disinfection/lt2

Distribution Maintenance Check List

Hydrants

- Bi-annual flushing
- Checking oil reservoirs/grease
- Greasing caps (food grade grease preferred)
- If hydrant is operational
- Hydrant valve is on all the way
- Verify hydrant is in data base (hydrant card)
- Overall Condition
- Does it Drain?

Valves

- Accessible
- Operate correctly (close and open)
- Verify valve is in data base (valve card)
- Location

Towers

- Secured
- Screens are on overflows, and no obstructions (Bee nests, or LADYBUGS!!)
- If equipped, is aircraft warning light operational?
- Outside appearance (Does it need power washed, painted?)

Emergency Stock Items

- Repair clamps
- MJ sleeves
- Compression fittings
- Roll Plastic
- Lids and Rings
- Saddles(3/4 and 1")
- Valve boxes (tops and bottoms)

WHAT'S UP WHAT'S NEW - IDEM (Continued)

(Continued from page 2)

Trying to save a little money on energy costs?

EPA and its water and wastewater partners are learning more and doing more to confront serious challenges related to rising energy costs. A new guidance, *Ensuring a Sustainable Future: An Energy Management Guidebook for Wastewater and Water Utilities*, will help utilities systematically assess their current energy costs and practices, set measurable performance improvement goals, and monitor and measure their progress over time.

Steadily rising energy costs and associated environmental effects have made energy use one of the most pressing challenges facing water utilities. Energy management is also at the heart of efforts across the industry to ensure that water and wastewater systems are operated in a sustainable way.

The guidance follows the successful Plan-Do-Check-Act methodology embodied in environmental management systems and other utility management tools. It was developed with the help of utilities that are successfully confronting their own energy challenges using this approach. It will serve as a step-by-step guide to help utilities systematically manage their energy programs over time.

For an electronic copy of the handbook: http://www.epa.gov/waterinfrastructure/bettermanagement_energy.html

Ground Water Rule

EPA published the Ground Water Rule on November 8, 2006. The requirements of the rule go into effect on December 1, 2009, for all community, nontransient noncommunity, and transient noncommunity public water systems that meet any of the following criteria:

- rely entirely on one or more ground water source(s);
- are consecutive systems that received finished ground water; or
- mix surface and ground water, where ground water is added directly to the distribution system and provided to consumers without treatment equivalent to the treatment provided for surface water.

These system are referred to as Ground Water Systems (GWS).

The requirements under the rule include:

- Triggered source water monitoring.
- Corrective action if a significant deficiency is identified during a sanitary survey.
- Corrective action if ground water source samples test positive for fecal contamination.
- Written notification from ground water systems providing at least 4-log treatment of viruses that demonstrates the treatment effectiveness.

If a GWS does not provide at least 4-log treatment of viruses (using disinfection or membrane treatment technology) at or before the first customer, then triggered source water monitoring is required if that system has a total coliform-positive sample collected in compliance with the total coliform rule. When a system is notified of a total coliform-positive sample, the system must collect at least one ground water source sample from each sample in use at the time the total coliform-positive sample was collected. *Although this triggered sampling does not begin until December 1, 2009, if your system does not have a location to collect a source water sample, you will want to install a sampling tap prior to that date.* The system is to be equipped to with a sampling tap for raw water from each well. Sampling taps should meet standards and be of the smooth-nosed type without interior or exterior threads, not be of the mixing type, and not have a screen, aerator or other such appurtenance. The source water sample must be analyzed for the presence of a state-approved fecal indicator. If the triggered source water sample is fecal indicator-positive, the system will either take corrective action or additional samples to verify the source water fecal contamination.

More information on this rule will be provided in future issues of FYI – Small Systems. If you have questions, please contact Stacy Jones at (317) 308-3292 or Marc Hancock at (317) 308-3113.

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Small Systems Committee
INDIANA SECTION AWWA

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

To add dates to this section,
contact any Small Systems
Committee Member.

Indiana Water Operator Training for Grandparented and Facility Specific Operators – Please visit www.indianawateroperatortraining.org for a schedule of workshops. **ALL** “grandparented” and “facility specific” operators are required to take one of these workshops.

February 19 – 21, 2008 – Indiana Section AWWA Annual Conference – Downtown Indianapolis Marriott. Contact 866-213-2796 or www.inawwa.org

February 24-27, 2008 – AWWA/WEF Utility Management Conference – Tampa, Florida. Contact: www.awwa.org/conferences.

February 26-28, 2008 – IWEA 2008 Water and Sewer Construction Inspection Course – Hendricks County Convention Complex; Danville, Indiana – Contact: Indiana Water Environment Association at 317-328-2151 or Marcus Turner at 317-547-5580 or mturner@structurepoint.com.

February 27, 2008 – 2008 Stormwater Drainage Conference – University Inn; West Lafayette, IN Contact: Indiana LTAP; 800-428-7639; www.purdue.edu/INLTAP/

February 27, 2008 – IWEA 2008 Biosolids Seminar – Merrill Brothers in Kokomo, Indiana – Contact: Indiana Water Environment Association at 317-328-2151 or Joyce Rives at 317-234-2738, jrives@idem.in.gov or Amanda Fox at 317-924-3380, afox@greeley-hansen.com, or Ted Merrell at 800-663-8830, ted@merrellbros.com.

March 5, 2008 – Disinfection of Pipelines and Storage Facilities – Webcast. Contact: www.awwa.org/conferences.

March 8 - 12, 2008 – National League of Cities Congressional City Conference – Washington, DC. Contact: Indiana Association of Cities and Towns; 317-237-6200 or www.citiesandtowns.org.

March 9 - 14, 2008 – Indiana League of Municipal Clerk Treasurers 13th Annual Institute & Academy – Ball State University; Muncie, Indiana. Contact: Indiana Association of Cities and Towns; 317-237-6200 or www.citiesandtowns.org.

(Continued on page 6)

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