



**SPRINGFIELD WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION  
P.O. BOX 995, SPRINGFIELD, MA 01101**

Date of Issuance: August 14, 2017

Contact: Jaimye Bartak, Public Communications Manager  
Springfield Water and Sewer Commission  
413-452-1302

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Executive Director Joshua Schimmel Elected to Board of  
National Association of Clean Water Agencies**

During the National Association of Clean Water Agencies' (NACWA) *Utility Leadership Conference & 47th Annual Meeting* in St. Louis, MO, representatives of the Association's nearly 300-member utilities elected Joshua D. Schimmel, Executive Director of the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission, to a seat on its Board of Directors. NACWA, headquartered in Washington, DC, is the nation's recognized leader in clean water issue advocacy, and Schimmel's leadership will be instrumental in helping to shape and improve clean water policy that impacts all states and cities.

"With the addition of Josh Schimmel, the Association further bolsters its long tradition of having the most forward-thinking public utility leaders helping shape our regulatory, legislative and legal clean water initiatives and showing the path toward the Utility of the Future. Mr. Schimmel brings exceptional experience, innovation and commitment to his local utility and to the national stage and it is a great honor for me to welcome him to NACWA's Board of Directors," said Adam Krantz, Chief Executive Officer of NACWA.

Schimmel has more than 24 years of experience at the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission, participating in all facets of the water and wastewater utility business – from operations to engineering to customer service to financial and regulatory issues. Appointed executive director in 2016, Schimmel worked proactively with the Board of Commissioners and Commission staff to advance efforts to create financial stability, implement an aggressive capital investment program, and develop a sustainable operating strategy while keeping rates affordable and service reliable. This was recognized in the Commission's recent bond rating upgrade and the previous acceptance of its Integrated Wastewater Plan (IPW) by the Environmental Protection Agency, one of only two accepted plans in the country. The IPW in particular demonstrates the Commission's innovative commitment to responsible and sustainable stewardship of both the environment and the critical infrastructure that serves the greater Springfield region.

Commission Chairwoman Vanessa Otero said of Schimmel's appointment to the NACWA board, "Schimmel's leadership and vision have already produced dividends for our customers, and I am



**SPRINGFIELD WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION  
P.O. BOX 995, SPRINGFIELD, MA 01101**

proud to have the Commission's interests and ideas represented on the board of NACWA. I look forward to the ideas and policy advancements Josh's participation will bring to the Commission's ratepayers and customers."

Now more than ever before, clean water agencies like the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission are embracing and implementing innovative approaches and technologies to advance sustainable practices and maximize environmental and public health protection. They are ensuring the biggest bang for the buck in terms of ratepayer investment, while boosting local economies. NACWA's 33-member Board guides the Association's advocacy initiatives and an array of technical resources, helping its member agencies improve clean water services to local communities and the nation.

###

**About Springfield Water and Sewer Commission**

The Springfield Water and Sewer Commission was established in July 1996, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40N, by a vote of the Springfield City Council. The governing body of the Commission is a three-member Board of the Commissioners appointed by the Mayor of Springfield and approved by the City Council.

The Commission provides drinking water service to a total population of about 250,000, with approximately 43,500 water services and 550 fire service accounts in Springfield and Ludlow, and supplies water wholesale to the towns of Agawam, Longmeadow and East Longmeadow. The Commission also collects and treats wastewater from over 36,000 households in the City of Springfield. Wastewater from Agawam, West Springfield, Longmeadow, East Longmeadow, Wilbraham and Ludlow is additionally treated at the Springfield Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant at Bondi's Island.

**About NACWA**

For nearly 50 years, the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) has been the nation's recognized leader in legislative, regulatory and legal advocacy on the full spectrum of clean water issues. NACWA represents public wastewater and stormwater agencies of all sizes nationwide, and is a top technical resource in water quality, water management and sustainable ecosystem protection.

NACWA's unique and growing network strengthens the advocacy voice for all member utilities, and ensures they have the peer-to-peer tools necessary to provide the most affordable and sustainable clean water services for all communities. Our vision is to represent every utility as a NACWA member, helping to build a strong and sustainable clean water future. For more information, visit [www.NACWA.org](http://www.NACWA.org).

**END**