

IMEA

INDIANA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION



Powerconnection

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Indiana Municipal Electric Association

ISSUE 1 2019

IMEA President, Bill Ley

Dear IMEA Members and Associate Members,

Welcome to IMEA 2019! Many thanks to all who have collaboratively made IMEA a great organization to be a part of in 2018. Special thanks to 2018 Past President, Randy Emmons who will not be returning in 2019. We valued the time spent with you during your term. Your involvement was very much appreciated. Please help me welcome Brian Adams (Bremen), back to the IMEA Board of Directors, along with new member, Shawn Guidace (Rising Sun), both representing 3 - year terms. Jim Binkley (Scottsburg), is also coming back for another 1 year term. Their experience and knowledge in the electrical industry will help guide "Team IMEA" for many years to come.

Thank you to 2018 President Lenny Larson for his dedication and service to the IMEA.

We also would like to thank Randy Hendrickson, for his hard work and dedication to directing the 2018 Safety and Training Program. Many thanks to Executive Director, Duane Richardson, for his hard work and dedication given to the organization, as well as the Safety & Training / Apprenticeship Programs. Duane and Janel Sparks, Member Services & Communications Manager, have done a fantastic job of assisting in all new and improved programs and resources including updating the IMEA website over the last year to make it simple to navigate and user friendly. Thank you!

Also, a huge thank you to all of our IMEA committee members for the time you volunteer! We are the success of this great organization and I am proud to be a part!

As one of the longest serving members on the current Board of Directors, I am pleased to say we have come a long way in the last 10 years. I believe we can continue to improve the services we offer our members in 2019 and beyond.

My focus for 2019 is to continue to keep IMEA strong and vital for all its members. If we continue to share ideas and information, we will be better suited to serve our members for the foreseeable future.

Thank you to the IMEA Members, Associate Members, Board Members and Committee Members, for all their hard work, guidance and dedication. My door is always open and I am only a phone call, or email away. Please stop by, call, or email, with questions or concerns. I have added my contact information in reference if needed.

Email: bley@townofavilla.com

Direct: 260-897-2781.

Sincerely,
Bill Ley



Local Government Grants

ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL AND LARGE MUNICIPALS

GRANTS 101: A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO HELPING YOUR DEPARTMENT GET GRANTS

Grants are a great way for your department to receive funding beyond the limits of your operational budget. They can help bridge the gap between your department's resources and its needs. Grants are meant to be a solution to evolving community problems when budgets aren't able to adjust quickly enough. Grants can help pay for communication equipment, software, or even provide funding for training.

Grants can be a boon for cash-strapped local governments agencies looking to expand or maintain their capabilities. The truth is, any department can benefit from a little grant writing help, from the smallest town government to the largest municipal agency.

BUT, WHAT IS A GRANT?

HOW CAN I GET A GRANT FOR MY DEPARTMENT?



In order to receive a grant, your department must submit an application or proposal. It's important to recognize that a considerable amount of research and planning is necessary in order to submit a strong application.

The application process can be challenging to navigate. Most grant programs are only open once a year, are designed to fund a specific focus area (such as safety, environmental, or human services) and each individual grant program has specific requirements for eligibility

On top of that, getting grant funding can be *very* competitive. The number of requests for funding is always greater than the funds available. This means that sometimes even a strong application may not be approved for funding. But don't be discouraged. With minor effort, planning and persistence, you should be able to secure funding for your project.

DEFINE A PROJECT & GET GRANT READY



The first step is to identify your community and department's current needs during your strategic planning sessions. Where would your community benefit from grant funding? The best way to do that is to give priority to those areas that will produce the most measurable impact on your department and your community. Be prepared to explain how the requested funding will solve a problem.

You will also be asked to predict the negative impact on your department and community if your project isn't funded.

NEXT PAGE





The search results may seem long depending on what search terms you entered, but it is important to review each of these grants carefully. Each post includes a summary of the grant's purpose, funding areas identified by the grant maker, eligibility requirements, as links to the application and full RFP (request for proposal).

If you think the grant may be a fit, it is always in your interest to review the full RFP. Although they may seem tedious, they often include important application requirements, dates for deadline submission or tips on how to have your application score competitively.

PREPARE FOR THE GRANT TO OPEN



The number one reason why grant applications are denied is failure to follow directions. So, once you have found a grant you want to apply for and are sure you meet the eligibility requirements, read the current RFP very carefully.

Some grants sponsor workshops or provide written guides which can be helpful in keeping your grant application process on-track. When looking at a guidance document, go through and look for items that are "must do's," "should do's," and "could do's."

APPLICATION PERIOD: CREATE, REVIEW AND SUBMIT



You have been gathering all the information you need, and now it's time to put it together. Throughout this process it is important that you remain mindful of the grant application submission deadline. You wouldn't want your hard work to go to waste because you missed a single deadline.

You'll have to assemble your application, following all of the rules and requirements that you researched in the last step. Some applications even have strict formatting requirements, such as what font size you can use and how each heading must look.

The narrative is one of the most important parts of your grant application. It's your opportunity to tell the grant makers your story. Use your data to paint a picture of how you and your community are being impacted by the outdated gear or equipment. Has anyone been injured because they didn't have the training, equipment or additional support personnel on site? Were there any recent incidents where lives or property could have been saved if your department had the requested equipment?

AWARD AND TURNDOWN



The time from application submission to award notice varies for each grant. Some are up to 12 months while others can be as short as one or two weeks. On average however, a grant maker will have made their funding decisions in about 3–6 months.

MANAGE YOUR AWARD



Once you have received your award, it's time to put it to use. Be sure that you follow all instructions given to you by the grant maker on post award management. These instructions are sent after the grant has been given.

An advertisement for Tech Products, Inc. featuring various safety signs and markers. At the top is the company logo "TECH PRODUCTS, INC." and the text "Signs, Tags & Markers". Below this are several examples of their products: a "WARNING HAZARDOUS VOLTAGE KEEP OUT!!" sign with a graphic of a person being struck, a yellow tag with the number "23541", and a black marker with "VHF-192" and "FIBER OPTIC CABLE" written on it. At the bottom is a yellow banner with the phone number "(800) 221-1311" and the website "www.TechProducts.com".



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ABOUT THE IMEA

IMEA has operated as the statewide service association representing the issues and concerns of municipally owned and operated electric utilities while promoting the benefits and public power business model since 1941.



IMEA SPRING CONFERENCE AND BUSINESS MEETING

The IMEA Spring Conference & Business Meeting provides and opportunity to learn from industry experts and network with peers. It attracts all levels of the Indiana utility industries and staff from member communities, as well as IMEA staff, consultants and Municipal Electric Partners.

The conference features informative sessions on technical programs focused on the utility industry in general. It also provides an opportunity to collaborate with other utilities one on one during a technical & safety roundtable.



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MAY 15 - 17, 2019

General membership and project participant meetings are held in conjunction with educational sessions. The conference also features an annual awards program banquet to recognize the outstanding efforts of our municipal employees and scholarship recipients.



INTEGRITY MATTERS

AEP Energy Partners (AEPEP) understands that each municipality, cooperative and utility customer has different power supply needs and risk profiles. As one of the largest wholesale suppliers in the country, AEPEP specializes in offering customized wholesale power supply products based on the specific needs of our customers' electric system. AEPEP's energy experts carefully balance the forces of price and risk to create the right power supply product at a competitive price.

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ISSUES CONCERNING THE UTILITY ENERGY SECTOR IN 2019



Renewable Energy Is More Competitive Than Ever

The global renewable energy industry, in particular its wind and solar segments, have seen tremendous growth over the last several years, allowing for continued technological and efficiency improvements, leading to significantly improved Levelized Costs of Electricity (LCOE) — a measurement of a particular technologies' lifetime of costs, including development manufacturing, development, operation, and closure.

According to a new report from MAKE Consulting, "Wind and solar energy have experienced significant improvements in the cost of electricity in all major markets, bringing renewable energy to be cost competitive with conventional fossil fuels, despite historically low fuel pricing." This has been helped by recent additional costs of environmental controls added to fossil fuels, which have reduced their cost effectiveness.

Bailout by Trump Continues to be a threat

Throughout 2018, the threat of federal action to bail out coal and nuclear plants cast a pall over Washington energy policy.

The debate started late in 2017, when President Trump's Department of Energy proposed a financial support package for the large generators, which are challenged by cheaper natural gas and renewables, at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Regulators unanimously rejected that proposal in January, but in the spring, the White House responded by directing DOE — following public pushes from coal and nuclear generators — to find another way to save the ailing plants. In late May, a leaked administration revealed that officials were considering using DOE's emergency powers or wartime authorities dating back to the 1950s.

Those plans were reportedly shelved this fall after internal debate, but many of the companies that pushed the original bailout proposal are running out of time to save their plants from retirement, and the White House could move to use its emergency authorities at any time throughout the coming year.

If that happens, it will likely prompt a swift pushback from clean energy and environmental groups, as well as some utility companies themselves.



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Small ways you can improve your city or town

The least you could do to make a big difference where you live

Whether celebrating your community and finding small ways to improve it, or taking a broad look at cities and the issues facing them—from climate change to transportation—Community members should make every effort to love, learn, and create a place of invitation to all newcomers. Sometimes the smallest things we can do can even have the biggest impact in a small city or town.

At one level

Small and large towns do share some similar priorities when it comes to revitalizing their downtowns: they both need a comprehensive approach, and need to leverage existing assets. But when looking at small towns more closely they're surprisingly complex, from economic development challenges and analytical needs, to complex land use and transportation issues. They also suffer from a chronic unemployment, and need to think outside the box to begin resolving this issue. A further difficulty is a lack of resources and expertise to support and implement change. Successful small communities have developed a range of alternate approaches by leveraging limited resources and working with nearby communities, as well as by creating main street associations, business networks, circuit rider programs and consortiums, and economic development organizations.

Main Streets

Many small towns and rural communities have Main Streets, which were once central to their economies and can again be a significant asset for economic development. Investing or re-investing in a Main Street as a community asset can help revitalize downtowns and support small businesses, create jobs, restore historic buildings, highlight community heritage, and create a renewed sense of place and community pride.

Tips on Using Local Assets to Build Your Economy

⇒ *Identify the assets that offer the best opportunities for growth and develop strategies to support them. Assets might include natural beauty and outdoor recreation, historic downtowns, or arts and cultural institutions.*



- ⇒ *Take advantage of outside funding. Even a small amount of outside funding applied strategically to support a community's vision and plans can help increase local interest and commitment in the area and spur private investment.*
- ⇒ *Create incentives for redevelopment, and encourage investment in the community. Make it easier for interested businesses and developers to invest in the community in ways that support the community's long-term priorities.*
- ⇒ *Support a clean and healthy environment. Invest in natural assets by protecting natural resources and cleaning up and redeveloping polluted properties, which makes productive use of existing transportation, water, and utility infrastructure; increases the tax base and employment opportunities; removes environmental contamination; and helps spur investment in surrounding properties.*

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Here's What Exacter Users Are Saying:

"Outages at the locations Exacter found would have cost the city over \$135,000 over the next three to five years. We received more than 300% ROI on the project."

Midwest Municipal Utility

"Exacter found a 69-kV transition from overhead to underground that serves 5 of Westerville's 6 substations. Had they not found it, it would have taken out 80% of the city's electrical systems and resulted in a significant rebuild."

City of Westerville, Ohio

"Exacter found a problem on a 69kV line to the substation that had it failed would have taken out the majority of the community. It's literally the best tool in our toolbox!"

Village of Jackson Center, Ohio

"Exacter found over 30 failed lightning arresters in 180 miles in areas already patrolled & investigated."

CoServ Electric, Denton, Texas

"The Davey-Exacter program exceeded its SAIDI reduction estimate of 1.1 minutes to a remarkable 4.5 minutes! Outages were down 21% compared to the year before."

Southern Rural Cooperative Utility



"As a former AMP member with the Village of Versailles, Ohio, I would love to start a conversation with you about some innovative ways Exacter could help you improve reliability."

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Town Of Flora, Indiana

WATER PROJECT FUNDED BY OCRA GRANT FOR AN UPGRADE TO WATER PLANT

The town of Flora, Indiana had successfully been funded an OCRA Grant for an upgrade to the Municipals water plant. Among many projects funded to the Town of Flora. The Flora water plant had not received an upgrade since 1989. With the OCRA grant funding the project, Flora Municipal will almost double the effluent water capacity.

Other project opportunities are a state of the art treatment plant with an air scour backwash. This will allow for preservation of water when backwash is needed.

When the project is complete the Flora Municipal Water Plant will increase output of up to 600 gallons per minute compared to 350 gpm produced from the previous system. Another addition added will be a new chlorine building.

The second phase of the project will be to install a mixing system to the water storage tanks as well as adding a fresh coat of paint for an updo. Once painted, the Town of Flora, along with the County school logo will be added in pride of their community spirit.

Besides the employees of Flora Municipal Water, others assisting in the project, are Commonwealth, engineering group and Graves Construction ID, general contractor.

The project date is set to be completed by the end of July, 2019.

A lot is still yet to be finished but Flora Utility Manager, Ron Fritz is optimistic about the process and completion of all projects and is looking forward to accomplishing the tasks at hand. He welcomes all to visit once all projects are completed.





**Thomas M. Hemmer, President
and Chief Executive Officer**

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2019 Safety and Training Schedule

<u>Date</u>	2019 Calendar	Location
April		
11	200A Underground	Anderson
May		
2	Supervisor Safety - Session One	Lawrenceburg
9	Safety & Training Committee	Frankfort
15 - 17	Spring Conference	Noblesville
June		
10-14	IMEA 611	Lebanon 031918
19	Introduction to Supervision - Session One	Lawrenceburg
24-28	IMEA 612	Lebanon 032717/ 092517
July		
11	Safety & Training Committee	TBD
23-25	Top Out Test	Lawrenceburg 102615 / 040615
30	Supervisor Safety - Session Two	Lawrenceburg
August		
1	Substation Devices	Anderson
2	Distribution Protective Devices	Anderson
9	Introduction to Supervision Session Two	Lawrenceburg
19-23	IMEA 613	Lebanon 041816 / 101716
27-28	IMEA 212	Henderson KY
September		
5	Safety & Training Committee	Lebanon
9-13	IMEA 611	Lebanon 100118
24-26	Fall Conference	Lawrenceburg
9/30 - 10/4	IMEA 610 / Week One	Lebanon
October		
7 - 11	IMEA 610 / Week Two	Lebanon 093019
16	Introduction to Supervision Session Three	Lawrenceburg
31	Safety & Training Committee	TBD
November		
14-15	IMEA 212 Transformer	Scottsburg



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