



**Upcoming Events**

**December 3, 2009**  
Establishing a Stormwater Utility.  
[Register/more information here](#)

**December 8, 2009**  
Construction Site Inspector Training (stormwater).  
[Register/more information here](#)

**December 9 & 10, 2009**  
Water Operator Lab Workshop.  
*Note: Registration is full*

**Special election Tuesday for House District 33 seat**



◆ A special election to fill the vacant Iowa Legislature seat of Representative Dick Taylor is set for November 24.

Taylor, of District 33, which is located in Linn County and includes portions of Cedar Rapids, announced in October that he was resigning from his position.



◆ Access back issues of the IAMU *Informer* and the *Informer* Story Index on the IAMU web site's [Informer page](#). It may be necessary to download the latest version of Adobe Reader (Adobe Reader 9.1) to view the IAMU *Informer*. Download it [here](#).



Fall 2009 issue available soon!

◆ ◆ ◆  
Featuring "The Family Connection" in IAMU and its member utilities

**Legislative committee recommends changes in IPERS**



◆ The Retirement Systems Legislative Committee, co-chaired by Senator Jack Kibbie and Representative Mary Mascher, met on November 19, 2009. On a partisan vote, the committee adopted preliminary recommendations to address issues related to the Iowa Public Employees Retirement System (IPERS) and other retirement systems. Recommendations related to IPERS were as follows:

- Increase the total contribution rate to 13.45% beginning July 1, 2011 and allow the system to adjust the rate either up or down by no more than one percentage point per year. Current law is likely to increase the rate to 11.95% on July 1, 2011, with the system able to adjust the rate up or down by no more than one/half percentage point per year.
- Increase the vesting requirement from 4 to 7 years
- Calculate retirement benefits using a member's high five years of salary instead of the current three years
- Implement a 6% per year reduction in retirement benefits for each year a member retires and receives a retirement allowance prior to age 65 if at the time the member retires the member does not meet the rule of 88 or is at least 62 year of age with at least 20 years of service
- Extend the current purchase of wage credit rules relative to furloughs for IPERS members for an additional year and allow the rules to apply to union bumping rights

Details related to each of these issues have yet to be worked out. The committee is expected to meet one more time in January to address these recommendations in legislative language. The recommendations in final form will be drafted as a study bill and introduced for consideration in both the Senate and House State Government Committees.

**Water/WW Operator Workshop celebrates 15th year**

◆ The 15h Annual IAMU Water and Wastewater Operator's Training Workshop continued its reputation as the association's most popular conference with an attendance of more than 230.



The event, held November 17 – 19 at the Holiday Inn Northwest in Des Moines, featured more than 20 speakers and topics in water treatment, water distribution, wastewater, operations and management.

A tour of the Des Moines Wastewater Reclamation Facility kicked off the conference, and vendor displays kept attendees abreast of tools, equipment and techniques pertinent to their operations during breaks and a separate product show. Plan now for next year's workshop, November 16 – 18, 2010.



An abundance of speakers and vendors again graced the Water and Wastewater Operator's Training Workshop, including Jon Harger, Vessco (left, top); Travis Beran, Subsurface Solutions (left, bottom); Justin Vogel, MSA Professional Services (above, left); and IAMU associate members Ziegler Power Systems (above, center); and Steffen (above, right).

The IAMU *Informer* is an electronic publication of the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities.

Editor: John Burnett 515-289-1999 [jburnett@iamu.org](mailto:jburnett@iamu.org)

To add an *Informer* subscriber: contact Sandy Longfellow at: [slongfellow@iamu.org](mailto:slongfellow@iamu.org)\*

To unsubscribe from this publication, contact Sandy Longfellow at: [slongfellow@iamu.org](mailto:slongfellow@iamu.org)\*

\* When emailing to add or remove a subscriber, please include full name and affiliation