



# City Commission Agenda Item

**Meeting Date:** September 5, 2023  
**From:** Randy Frazer, City Manager  
**Item:** Environmental Excellence Competition Winners – Rod, Tommy, Mike, & Spencer

**Purpose:** Recognize Wastewater Treatment Facility employees Rod Philo, Tommy Bowman, Mike Frank, and Spencer Stover for winning the Environmental Excellence Competition, a “scholar’s bowl” of the water industry, at the Kansas Section AWWA/KWEA Water and Wastewater Conference held August 29-31, 2023, in Wichita, KS.

**Background:**

The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Kansas Water Environment Association (KWEA) and Kansas Section American Water Works Association (AWWA) joint conference took place August 29-31<sup>st</sup> this year in Wichita, KS. This conference offers a greater diversity of technical sessions, presenting the latest topics in water and wastewater developments as well as an expanded exhibition of the newest equipment in the industry.

The Environmental Excellence Competition, deemed the “scholar’s bowl” of the water industry, is held during the conference. Teams made up of three operators or lab personnel from across Kansas, compete against each other in a fast-paced questions-and-answer tournament. The purpose of the Competition is to recognize and promote excellence and professionalism in all aspects of water operations by establishing a competition that gives operators the opportunity to showcase their talents. Contestants are asked a series of competitive, question-and-answers in the tournament where a moderator asks a broad range of technical questions to the participating teams, and they have limited time to answer. Strategy is involved since points are awarded for correct answers, deducted for incorrect answers, and no change occurs to the score for not answering a question. Rod, Tommy, Mike, and Spencer represented the City of Arkansas City, really putting their “minds” together and ultimately winning this year’s Environmental Excellence Competition!

We would like to congratulate Rod, Tommy, Mike, and Spencer on this achievement. Further, thanking all the Wastewater Treatment staff for all their hard work and expertise in their around the clock efforts to provide quality environmental services to our community.

**Approved for Agenda by:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Randy Frazer", written over a horizontal line.

Randy Frazer, City Manager