

Executive Director

Position Summary



Downtown Des Moines at the confluence of the Des Moines and Raccoon rivers

Open date:

August 2, 2024

Apply By:

5 p.m., August 29, 2024



Direct inquiries to:

***Mark R. Peterson, Senior Consultant
GovHR USA/MGT Consulting
www.govhrusa.com
(309) 825-5091***

About Us

Central Iowa Water Works (CIWW) is a new regional drinking water authority established by 12 founding members composed of municipalities, rural water agencies and public water utilities. It is responsible for water treatment, water system planning, and wholesale delivery of drinking water to more than 600,000 central Iowans.

Governed by a 13-member Board of Trustees, CIWW will own the region's water production facilities by January 2025. It will contract with the major water-producing members to operate treatment facilities. The founding



entities will continue to manage and control their local distribution, customer service, billing, and other business-related functions.

It is anticipated that CIWW will be operational and sell water to its members during the first quarter of 2025. As additional production capacity is warranted, CIWW will construct additional treatment and production facilities.

Founding Members



The Ideal Candidate

CIWW's Executive Director position offers a rare opportunity for a qualified candidate to lead a paradigm shift in regional utility conception, management and execution.

The founders of CIWW truly believed the phrase "stronger together" and have sought to create the best governance model for central Iowa's drinking water future. Member agencies worked diligently for more than two years charting a course that embraces collective oversight, collaborative planning and cost sharing. CIWW regionalizes water production while its member water systems remain independent.

The ideal candidate will guide the vision of this regional entity, understanding the diversity of its members and the common purpose that brought them together.

CIWW seeks a seasoned professional who is an outstanding manager and leader, able to thrive while running a complex, dynamic organization. This person reports to the Board of Trustees

and is responsible for the day-to-day affairs of CIWW and making policy recommendations.

The successful candidate will have strong financial, technical and communication skills; be achievement-oriented, a doer and problem-solver with a strategic mindset; and lead and manage people with realistic expectations. Experience and knowledge in water production, utility management, engineering, regional collaboration, and/or public-sector management are highly desirable, though not required.

COMPENSATION

The starting annual salary range is \$210,000-\$250,000 depending upon qualifications and experience. This position is intended to be covered by the Iowa Public Employee Retirement System (IPERS). CIWW also will provide an attractive fringe benefits package, including monthly vehicle allowance, and will negotiate a relocation assistance package for the successful candidate.

Major Duties and Responsibilities

Direct current and future water production facilities planning in coordination with CIWW members

Oversee financial affairs, including annual operating budget and long-range capital investment plan, and advise Board about rate structures and capital improvement financing

Plan and coordinate future capital infrastructure improvements, including treatment facilities, distribution lines, water storage facilities, and source development

Maintain relationships with all member entities, including Board representatives, elected/policy officials, and agency staff

Communicate important information to Board of Trustees and member agencies

Manage legislative affairs, including interaction with federal, state and local officials, and pursue grants and other funding opportunities from government sources

Monitor compliance with all applicable federal, state and local regulations

Develop plans and strategies to promote environmental sustainability, water resource conservation and watershed protection

Coordinate all public information activities, including media relations

Lead an organization whose employees are not directly employed by CIWW, but by member agencies

Welcome to Central Iowa

Des Moines, the capital city of Iowa, and its thriving suburbs are a regional hub for business, education, entertainment and recreation, earning the designation as one of the top 20 best places to live in the United States, according to U.S. News & World Report in 2023, and the #1 Best Place to Live in the Midwest for High Salaries and Low Cost of Living, according to The Ascent in 2021.

Central Iowa is a place to call home. Area schools receive high marks for their quality education; housing is reasonably priced; traffic is minimal with the average commute less than 20 minutes; and the metro is viewed as a great place to live with art, culture, sporting events and outdoor adventures, providing something for everyone.

You'll find art and history museums, performing arts and musical groups with the Des Moines Metro Opera, the Des Moines Symphony and the Des Moines Art Center. The Hoyt Sherman Place mansion and the Salisbury House and Gardens provide a stunning look at Des Moines' rich history.

Wells Fargo Arena is Des Moines' primary venue for sporting events and concerts frequently booking large, national touring acts. Des Moines' downtown continues to grow with a number of unique, lively districts — each with its own personality, style and culture.

From urban lofts, rehabilitated Victorians and established historic neighborhoods to new suburban communities with nearby parks and rural acreages, there's a wide range of housing stock. The median home price in central Iowa is \$281,750. With lower than the national average prices for groceries, utilities, transportation, and housing, central Iowa offers an incredible value, plus a safe place to call home — U.S. News & World Report listed the Greater Des Moines region as the #2 Safest Place to Live in 2021.

Opportunities abound in central Iowa, whether it is at home, at work, or at play. It would be hard to find a better job in a better place to live, work, play, and raise a family, so we invite you to apply to be CIWW's executive director and experience one of the country's best cities!

Learn about arts, culture and entertainment in central Iowa at [CatchDesMoines.com](https://www.catchdesmoines.com).



15 Largest Private-Sector Employers

GREATER DES MOINES METRO REGION

COMPANY NAME/INDUSTRY	REGIONAL LOCATION	EMPLOYEES
Hy-Vee Inc. (Midwest Grocery Chain)	West Des Moines	11,782
Wells Fargo & Co. (Financial Services)	Des Moines/ West Des Moines	11,000
Principal (Investment Mgt, Retirement & Insurance)	Des Moines	6,100
MercyOne (Health Care)	Metro wide	5,641
UnityPoint Health (Health Care)	Des Moines/ West Des Moines	5,147
Amazon (Distribution)	Bondurant/Grimes/ Ankeny	4,100
John Deere (Ag Machinery)	Ankeny/Johnston/ Urbandale	3,800
Nationwide (Insurance)	Des Moines	3,300
Corteva Agriscience (Agriculture)	Johnston	2,224
Mercer Health & Benefits (Insurance Brokerage)	Urbandale	1,800
Casey's General Stores (Convenience Stores)	Ankeny	1,750
UPS (Logistics and Distribution)	Des Moines	1,721
Wellmark BC/BS of Iowa (Medical Insurance)	Des Moines	1,700
Bridgestone Americas Tire Co. (Ag. Tires)	Des Moines	1,600

Greater Des Moines has an unemployment rate among the lowest in the nation and is also home to many public-sector employees.

Thousands of state employees work near the Capitol complex in Des Moines. Forbes named central Iowa a "Top 10 Place for Business & Careers" in 2019.

The Des Moines Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) encompasses six counties in central Iowa. All of the participating CIWW agencies are located within the Des Moines MSA, home to 735,000 people. For the past decade, the MSA has been the fastest-growing large metro area in the Midwest. The ten largest municipalities within the MSA are Des Moines, Ankeny, West Des Moines, Urbandale, Waukee, Johnston, Altoona, Clive, Grimes and Indianola. Eight of these are CIWW members.

CIWW Water Treatment

Central Iowa Water Works will assume ownership of six treatment plants, three aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) wells, and source, production, and transmission facilities. Combined, this system produces an average of **60 million gallons a day** (mgd), with an historic peak production of nearly 110 mgd, and a design capacity of approximately 125 mgd, not including ASR capacity.

The largest of the six treatment plants is the Fleur Drive Water Treatment Plant with a design capacity of approximately 75 mgd. Its water sources are the Raccoon and Des Moines Rivers and an infiltration gallery.

The L.D. McMullen Water Treatment Plant is a 25 mgd water treatment plant at Maffitt Reservoir. Its main water source is shallow groundwater from radial collector wells along the Raccoon River.

The Saylorville Water Treatment Plant is located north of Des Moines and treats water from shallow groundwater from radial collector wells along the Des Moines River. It has a capacity of 10 mgd and is in design to be expanded to 20 mgd.

The A.C. Ward Water Treatment Plant in West Des Moines draws primarily from the Jordan Aquifer and produces up to 10 mgd from four deep wells and 17 shallow wells.

The City of Grimes has two water treatment facilities that use source water from the Jordan Aquifer and shallow wells, producing 5 mgd.

Polk City's water treatment facility takes water from the sand and gravel of the Pennsylvanian Aquifer and pumps an average of 425,000 gallons per day.

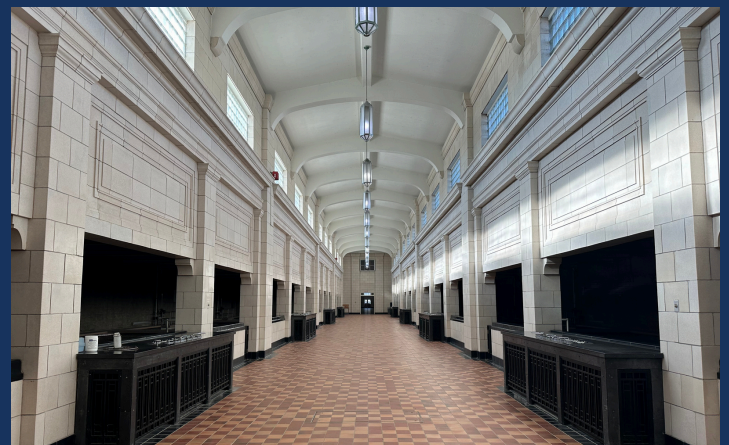
CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Iowa is an agricultural state producing many commodities that include corn, soybeans, cattle, hogs, and chickens. Agricultural land use contributes to a number of raw water quality challenges. Nutrients, primarily nitrate, and cyanotoxins are two examples of contaminants that CIWW's water producers must monitor, manage and remove as needed.

Central Iowa's water systems also face a challenge with infrastructure. As treatment facility's age, equipment needs to be repaired, replaced and upgraded. The new CIWW executive director will have a voice in how these facilities are maintained or expanded and the development of new treatment facilities for Central Iowa.

THE REGIONAL ROLE OF CIWW

The formation of the Central Iowa Water Works represents a continuation of an impressive tradition in the metro area of pursuing regional approaches to vital public services. Other examples include the Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART), Metro Waste Authority (MWA), Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (DMAMPO), and the Des Moines Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Authority (WRA).



Filter Building at Fleur Drive Treatment Plant



Work with Us

HOW TO APPLY

Submit a cover letter, resume and five (5) work-related references to the attention: Mark R. Peterson, Senior Consultant, GovHR USA/MGT Consulting, at www.govhrusa.com no later than Thursday, August 29, 2024, at 5 p.m. CDT.

All applications must be submitted electronically. Direct all inquiries about the position and/or the selection process to Mr. Peterson at (309) 825-5091.

CONFIDENTIALITY

CIWW intends to maintain the confidentiality of all applicants until a group of final candidates is selected. At that point, each remaining applicant will be notified of the possible disclosure of their identity as a finalist for the position. In addition, no references will be contacted without the applicant's approval.

THE PROCESS

It is anticipated that final interviews will be held in late September with a selection expected to be announced in October.

Central Iowa Water Works is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages minorities and women to apply.

West low lift pump at Fleur Drive Treatment Plant



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