



Executive Board Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2015

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Executive Board Representatives: No representative from San Francisco Public Utilities Commission; Jim Ervin (San Jose); Mike Connor (East Bay Dischargers Authority); Ben Horenstein (East Bay Municipal Utility District); Jean-Marc Petit (Central Contra Costa Sanitary District).

Other Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency/Company</u>
Amanda Roa	Delta Diablo
Denise Connors	LWA
Karin North	Palo Alto
Tom Hall	EOA
Robert Wilson	City of Petaluma
Lori Schectel	CCCSD
Rhodora Biagtan	DSRSD
Leah Walker	City of Petaluma
Holly Kennedy	HDR
Mike Falk	HDR
Rion Merlo	HDR
Patricia McGovern	PME
Steve McDonald	Carollo
Adrian Santiago	SFPUC
Greg Baatrup	FSSD
Eric Ruckdaschel	Water Asset Management
Robert Cole	CMSA
Jason Dow	CMSA
Meg Herston	FSSD
Bhavani Yerrapotu	Sunnyvale
David Williams	BACWA
Lorien Fono	BACWA
Sherry Hull	BACWA

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE AGENDA ITEMS OUT OF ORDER

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. July 17, 2015 BACWA Executive Board Meeting Minutes
2. June, 2015 Treasurer's Report

Consent Calendar items 1 and 2 were approved in a motion made by Mike Connor and seconded by Jean-Marc Petit. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVALS & AUTHORIZATIONS

Agenda Item 3 – Approval of Agreement with Stephanie Hughes for BAPPG Support. A Board Authorization Request and supporting documents were included in the Handout on **Pages 16-19**.

A request was made by the Board to periodically conduct a competitive process for the selection of consultants to assist in completing the BAPPG Board approved Workplan.

Item 3 was approved in a motion made by Ben Horenstein and seconded by Mike Connor. The motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS-POLICY/STRATEGIC

Agenda Item 4 - Discussion – Nutrients

a. Regulatory

- i. HDR Quarterly Update on Optimization/Upgrade Studies – Presentations were given by Holly Kennedy, Mike Falk and Rion Merlo from HDR. Holly acknowledged all of the contributors from BACWA, HDR and Brown & Caldwell for their work on the Studies. Only a few more plant site visits remain. Data is still being collected and analyzed. In particular 2015 data is still being QA'ed and missing data will need to be investigated. General early conclusion: Flows are decreasing slightly overall; nitrogen is decreasing, as is phosphorous, although not in all subembayments. Variations will be validated after data is fully corrected. Optimization is defined as being the engineers' best judgement of what is possible without significant capital investment. Optimization opportunities include chemically enhanced primary treatment, trickling filter nitrification, and use of unused tankage to increase sludge retention times. Upgrade is what is required to meet the specified targets (levels 2 and 3) for ammonia, total nitrogen and total phosphorus. Site constraints and costs are the main drivers for selecting upgrade alternatives. The driver for selecting a technology is that it can be adapted to an increased level of treatment down the road should that be required. Thirty-two of the thirty-seven POTWs are candidates for sidestream treatment. The team is waiting for the results of the sidestream analyses to quantify what may be the potential for nutrient load reductions through

sidestream treatment. Special findings include: every plant is unique; and there is a real benefit to having both process and operations experts onsite during visits. Unanticipated issues: the amount of coordination needed and the level of outreach needed. No net loading will be addressed after the first annual report. A draft Annual Report will be available by the end of August, 2015. The BACWA Board agreed to request an extension of the October 1 deadline for delivery of the Annual Report.

HDR will provide the Board with a copy of the chart of incomplete data;
HDR will attend the next Permit and Lab Committee meetings to discuss the data gaps.

- ii. EPA Case Studies on Low Cost Modifications to Reduce Nutrients - A link to this document was provided in the Handout. <http://bacwa.org/?p=3282>
- b. Technical Work
 - i. Draft Scope of Work for Review of Documents - A document titled *Various Levels of Assistance for Conducting Critical Review of Science and Modeling Reports* was included in the Handout on **Pages 20-22**. The Executive Director noted that although this item is on the Agenda for the Pardee Technical Seminar any feedback from the Board at that time would be welcomed.
- c. Governance Structure
 - i. NMS Program Coordinator RFP – A DRAFT RFP was included in the Handout on **Pages 23-38**. This item is on the Agenda for the Steering Committee meeting in September and also on the Agenda for the Pardee Technical Seminar in October. The Water Board has not yet indicated if it wants to support this position. BACWA has budgeted \$50,000 per year for the position in the 5-Year Plan. It was noted that meeting facilitation was funded by BACWA in FY15 at \$25,000. It is anticipated that facilitation would flow naturally from, and be included in, a Program Coordinator scope. It was suggested that since funds are limited, there might be higher priorities for spending. It was noted that the scope should be strategic and look at the big picture water quality/environmental issues, including resource recovery, climate change, and so on. A motion was put forth by Ben Horenstein to take a proposal to the September meeting of the Steering Committee for BACWA to fund a one year pilot program to support the position with a maximum expenditure of \$100,000. BACWA would work with the Steering Committee to evaluate the pilot program. Jean-Marc Petit seconded the motion and it carried with one abstention.

Agenda Item 5 – Discussion: Allocating Time for Policy Issues. A document outlining background and options was included in the Handout on **Pages 39-40**. The Board generally agreed that they would continue the discussion at Pardee but in the meantime, the new approach of putting policy/strategic items first on the monthly Board Meeting agendas should be continued.

Agenda item 6 – Discussion: Toxicity Update.

a. Draft Outline of Expert Panel Charge. An email from CASA and a Draft Outline for an Expert Panel was included in the Handout on **Pages 41-44**. CASA has arranged meetings between POTW representatives and State Water Board members and staff. The key points are that POTWs do not want a maximum daily effluent limit, they want a pathway to compliance so they are not racking up violations while they are engaged in a good faith TRE/TIE effort, and they would like statistical guidance on how to assure that a toxicity test is valid. Next steps are to work with the State Water Board to set up an expert panel for statistical guidance. If the State Water Board doesn't establish its toxicity Plan in the near future, it is unclear what the next steps will be, since LACSD has put the petitions they filed on their permits into abeyance. Details of how toxicity is implemented may be addressed in the ongoing lawsuits.

Agenda **item 7** – Discussion: Debrief of Joint Meeting with Water Board. A summary of the meeting was included in the Handout on **Pages 45-47**. The Regulatory Program Manager gave a brief overview of the meeting and drew attention to the list of opportunities to reduce monitoring frequencies, particularly PCBs in the next Watershed Permit. Species screening was discussed as a possible item to drop to reduce costs. The Water Board determined that more thought was needed regarding BACWA's letter requesting blanket permission to truck recycled water across jurisdictional boundaries where the water and recycled water agencies agree.

Agenda **item 8** – Discussion: Draft Agenda for Pardee Technical Seminar. There was discussion about whether to include HDR on the Agenda since the data is so preliminary and incomplete. In addition to devoting a substantial portion of the agenda to nutrients, it was noted that BACWA should be looking at how it can contribute to structural changes in the industry in the future such as: how to link water recycling to nutrients; how to improve relationships with water companies to increase recycling; energy generation; food waste; air issues; reverse osmosis concentrate discharge; and filtration to allow all agencies to deliver Title 22 water as needed and reduce constituents discharged in effluent. It was suggested to include a brainstorming session on the agenda focused on identifying what BACWA can do as a regional organization that would be helpful to its members.

Agenda **item 9** – Discussion: Draft Triennial Review Comment Letter. A draft letter was included in the Handout on **Pages 48-52**. The letter is due on August 18, 2015. BACWA is proposing two new issues in addition to those being considered by the Regional Water Board: 1) Redefining the chlorine residual effluent limitation; and 2) developing a policy to address reverse osmosis concentrate. BACWA is offering resources to address chlorine residual limitations to reduce the overdosing of sodium bisulfite during dechlorination. The major issues are priorities, what BACWA supports, and funding. The Regulatory Program Manager will incorporate Board member comments into the letter. It was suggested that the letter account for the ten criteria the Regional Water Board will use to rank potential projects.

Agenda **item 10** – Discussion: Selenium TMDL. Comments on the proposed draft Basin Plan amendment and supporting staff report for the North San Francisco Bay Selenium TMDL are due September 8, 2015. There are issues with the allocations being too low since there is no safety factor on measured data, and because 2014 data were not being included in the allocation calculations. RPM will contact Barbara Baginska at the Water Board to clarify.

OTHER BUSINESS-OPERATIONAL

Agenda **item 11** – Discussion: Drought Issues

- a. DSRSD Residential Recycled Water Fill Station – A presentation was given by Rhodora Biagtan of DSRSD on their Recycled Water Fill Station and is available on the BACWA website at <http://bacwa.org/?p=3316>.
- b. Blanket Approval of Intra-Jurisdictional Transfers. A draft letter from BACWA to the RWQCB was included in the Handout on **Page 53**. This is a voluntary program and depends on the agreement of the water and recycled water agencies having jurisdiction. There is a question as to whether this will be a long-term sustainable practice due to the high costs of managing the fill stations and transporting the recycled water by car/truck rather than purple pipe. This will be on the Agenda at the Pardee Technical Seminar in October.

Agenda **item 12** – Discussion: BACWA Rep on CASA State Legislative Committee. BACWA received an invitation to provide a representative to the CASA State Legislative Committee. Lori Schectel of CCCSD volunteered to the BACWA Representative.

REPORTS

Committee Reports were included in the handout packet for agenda **item 13. Pages 54-60**

AIR Committee: No meeting.

BAPPG: A report from the August 5, 2015 meeting was included in the Handout. Also a supporting letter from BAPPG re AB 888 (Bloom) – BAPPG Support for Plastic Microbeads Ban was included in the Handout. No concerns were expressed by the Board.

Biosolids Committee: No meeting.

Collections Committee: No meeting.

InfoShare Group: No meeting.

Lab Committee: No meeting.

Permits Committee: Reports from the July 14, 2015 and the August 4, 2015 meetings were include in the Handout.

Pretreatment Committee: No meeting.

Recycled Water Committee: No meeting. The new Co-Chairs of the Recycled Water Committee: Rhodora Biagtan of DSRSD and Leah Walker of the City of Petaluma were introduced.

Member Highlights: Executive Board Representatives (Board) were given an opportunity to provide updates from each of the Principal agencies under agenda **item 14, Member Highlights**. Non-principal members were also given an opportunity to report out on behalf of their agencies. No actions were taken on the report-outs.

EBDA: No comment.

EBMUD: No comment.

Central Contra Costa: No comment.

San Francisco: No comment.

San Jose: No comment.

Palo Alto: No comment.

Delta Diablo: No comment.

Petaluma: No comment.

The **Executive Director's Report** was included in the handout packet for agenda **item 15 (Pages 61-68)**. The Executive Director noted that to accommodate Bruce Wolfe as a speaker from the Water Board, the date of January 15, 2016 has been chosen for the BACWA Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Boy Scout Facility in San Leandro. He also noted that BACWA has tickets available for the State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference on September 17-18, 2015. He asked Board members to let him know if they are interested in using BACWA's tickets.

It was noted that 86 of the 90 action items from FY15 have been completed and 4 of the 7 action items from FY16 have been completed.

The **Regulatory Program Manager (RPM) Report under agenda item 16 (Page 69)**.

Other BACWA Representative Reports were given an opportunity to provide updates under **agenda Item 17, Other BACWA Representative Reports**. No actions were taken based on the reports.

- a. RMP-TRC: Rod Miller; Laura Pagano – No report.
- b. RMP Steering Committee: Karin North; Jim Ervin – No report.
- c. Summit Partners: Dave Williams – No report.
- d. ASC/SFEI: Laura Pagano; Dave Williams – No report.
- e. Nutrient Governance Steering Committee: Ben Horenstein; Jim Ervin – No report.
- f. SWRCB Nutrient SAG: Dave Williams – No report.
- g. SWRCB Focus Group – Bacterial Objectives: Lorien Fono; Amy Chastain – No report.
- h. SWRCB Focus Group – Mercury Amendments to the State Plan: Tim Potter – A summary of the meeting with SWRCB to discuss the Mercury Amendment was included in the Handout on **Pages 70-72**.
- i. Nutrient Technical Workgroup: Eric Dunlavey – No report.
- j. NACWA Taskforce on Dental Amalgam: Tim Potter – No report.
- k. BAIRWMP: Cheryl Munoz, Linda Hu, Dave Williams –

I. NACWA Emerging Contaminants: Karin North, Melody LaBella – No report.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: None.

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for **September 25, 2015** from 9:00 am – 12:30 pm at the **EBMUD Treatment Plant, Lab Library, 2020 Wake Ave., Oakland, CA.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm.