



Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Friday March 20, 2026, 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM (PDT)

Executive Board Representatives: Amy Chastain (San Francisco Public Utilities Commission); Amit Mutsuddy (East Bay Municipal Utility District); Eric Dunlavy (City of San Jose); Jackie Zipkin (East Bay Dischargers Authority); Lori Schectel (Central Contra Costa Sanitary District).

Attendees

Name	Agency/Company
Alicia Chakrabarti	EBMUD
Amanda Roa	FSSD
Andy Morris	City of Benicia
Autumn Ross	SFPUC
Brian Thomas	Delta Diablo
David Donovan	City of Hayward
David Primozich	The Freshwater Trust
Emily Corwin	SFEI
Francis Rooney	SVCW
Irene Chu	Hazen & Sawyer
Jennie Pang	SFPUC
Jessica Fox	The Freshwater Trust
Lorien Fono	BACWA
Mary Cousins	BACWA
Matt Zucca	SVCW
Mike Falk	HDR
Tim Lewis	Dublin San Ramon Services District
Tom Hall	EOA

Jackie Zipkin called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

Agenda Item

ROLL CALL, INTRODUCTIONS, AND TELECONFERENCE ETIQUETTE

PUBLIC COMMENT           None

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE AGENDA ITEMS OUT OF ORDER   None

## CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1 February 20, 2026 BACWA Executive Board meeting minutes
- 2 March 4, 2026 BACWA Special Joint meeting with Water Board minutes
- 3 January 2026 Treasurer's Report

Consent Calendar Items 1 through 3: A motion to approve was made by Lori Schectel (Central Contra Costa Sanitary District) and seconded by Amit Mutsuddy (EBMUD). All were in favor. None opposed.

## APPROVALS AND AUTHORIZATIONS

- 4 Approval: Extend Bruce Wolfe Memorial Scholarship to FY31 – BACWA ED explained the rationale for the scholarship, which goes to a Bay Area high school student.

Approvals and Authorizations Item 4: A motion to approve was made by Lori Schectel (Central Contra Costa Sanitary District) and seconded by Eric Dunlavey (City of San Jose). All were in favor. None opposed.

- 5 Approval: MOU with Water Board for CEQA support – BACWA ED provided an update on the Water Board and BACWA's plan to hire a CEQA consultant to assist with preparing environmental documentation for a Basin Plan Amendment. Three firms submitted Statements of Qualification, and the selection committee selected AECOM. There was a review of the MOU, which gives oversight of the SED to the Water Board, but requires payment by BACWA. Terminating the MOU is the only recourse if BACWA objects to elements of the work plan or future changes in scope. The Executive Board is being asked to delegate signing authority to the Executive Board Chair, assuming there are no substantive changes to the draft MOU.

Action Item: Board Chair to execute the MOU once the Water Board, consultant, and BACWA are confident that the consultant's contract can be signed within 30 days.

Approvals and Authorizations Item 5: A motion to approve was made by Amy Chastain (San Francisco Public Utilities Commission) and seconded by Eric Dunlavey (City of San Jose). All were in favor. None opposed.

## POLICY/STRATEGIC

- 6 Presentation: BAPPG Update and budget overview – Autum Ross (SFPUC), co-chair of BAPPG, shared the committee's FY27 budget request and work plan, which includes coordination among BACWA members, regulatory outreach on pesticides and other pollutants, and public outreach. Attendees strategized on making the committee's pesticide regulatory work more of a statewide effort.

7 Discussion: Debrief from 3/4 Joint meeting with R2 – BACWA ED led group discussion regarding the planned Basin Plan Amendment to provide more than 10 years for compliance with the Nutrients Watershed Permit. There was unanimous support for continued dialogue with Water Board staff about the content of the Basin Plan Amendment and related practical considerations for the next permit.

8 Informational: GAR Update – BACWA RPM shared that HDR has received comments from BACWA members on the draft GAR and is working on a final version to submit by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Action Item: BACWA RPM to finalize and submit 2026 Group Annual Report for the Nutrients Watershed Permit by April 1.

9 Informational: Trading update – Jessica Fox (The Freshwater Trust) shared an update on BACWA member responses to a recent survey on water quality trading for the Nutrients Watershed Permit. Member agencies are interested in participating as buyers or sellers, but would like more information. TFT staff are scheduling interviews with individual member agencies, and are tentatively planning a workshop for later in 2026.

10 Discussion: Nutrient Infoshare - 1st meeting – BACWA ED shared a conceptual draft agenda for a Nutrient Strategy Team meeting that would include a few presentations on plant optimization. Future sessions could focus on process intensification, large-scale plant upgrades, recycled water, or nature-based solutions.

Action Item: BACWA ED to determine speaker availability for a Nutrient Infoshare workshop focused on optimization, then schedule the meeting.

BREAK

11 Discussion: Air District Engineering Program Manager beta period update – BACWA ED shared updates on several initiatives related to permit streamlining at the Air District. For the Engineering Program Manager pilot phase, BACWA now has an executed MOU with the Bay Area Air District that was crafted to avoid conflicts of interest. For the next phase of work, the intent is to sign an MOU in June with an effective date of July 1.

12 Informational: PFAS Phase 3 Study Questions – BACWA RPM shared updates on the schedule for the Phase 3 study. BACWA RPM also noted ongoing discussions with Clean Water SoCal and Water Boards staff related to PFAS source control.

13 Informational: EPA Region IX SF Bay Program Office proposal - available upon request – BACWA ED shared information about the Clean Water Together coalition grant funding proposal recently submitted to USEPA. BACWA anticipates that USEPA staff will notify selected applicants in April 2026 and issue awards in June 2026. BACWA members may request a copy of the proposal from the ED.

14 Discussion: Strategic Plan Evaluation/ED Performance Plan – Attendees discussed logistics for conducting the BACWA ED performance evaluation.

Action Item: BACWA ED to circulate a strategic plan evaluation to the Executive Board. Board Chair to schedule a special closed session meeting to conduct the BACWA ED performance evaluation.

15 Informational: Second draft of FY27 Budget, and draft workplan – BACWA ED shared highlights of the draft budget, noting significant differences with previous budgets.

Action Item: BACWA ED to propose revisions to BACWA’s Contracting Policy to allow great flexibility for consultant contract amendments.

16 Discussion: May 15 Annual Meeting Preliminary Program – BACWA ED shared a draft program for the 2026 Annual Members Meeting and a general discussion followed. Board members were assigned to moderate specific sessions of the meeting.

Action Item: BACWA ED to invite member agency speakers for resiliency and communications sessions.

17 Discussion: BACWA spirit and leadership award – BACWA ED shared that the award application is in the packet. Attendees noted that they are interested in hearing how previous award winners used the award funds.

18 Informational: Netfile reminder – BACWA ED shared a reminder to complete Form 700.

19 Informational: BACC Update – BACWA ED shared a summary of BACC’s bid results FY27 bid results and comparison of prices to previous years.

## REPORTS

20 Committee Reports - in the packet

21 Member highlights - SFPUC shared that they have approved a design-build contract for nutrient removal at the Southeast plant. EBDA provided a progress update on agreements needed to make AQPI a BACWA project of special benefit; the goal is to have agreements in place with participating agencies and CW3E for FY27. San Jose plans to celebrate their 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November 2026, and Central San will host an anniversary celebration on June 13<sup>th</sup>. EBMUD provided a cybersecurity update.

22 Executive Director Report - in the packet

23 Board Calendar and Action Items - in the packet

24 Regulatory Program Manager Report

25 Other BACWA Representative Reports

- a. RMP Technical Review Committee Samantha Engelage, Alicia Chakrabarti, Blake Brown
- b. RMP Steering Committee Karin North; Amanda Roa; Eric Dunlavey
- c. Summit Partners Lorien Fono; Jackie Zipkin
- d. ASC/SFEI Lorien Fono; Amit Mutsuddy; Lori Schectel
- e. Nutrient Governance Steering Committee Amit Mutsuddy, Eric Dunlavey; alternates: Lori Schectel, Jackie Zipkin
  - e.i Nutrient Planning Subcommittee Eric Dunlavey
  - e.ii MERHAB MaTAG Amit Mutsuddy
- f. SWRCB Nutrient SAG Lorien Fono
- g. BAIRWMP Cheryl Munoz; Florence Wedington; Jackie Zipkin
- h. CASA State Legislative Committee Lori Schectel
- i. CASA Regulatory Workgroup Lorien Fono; Mary Cousins
- j. RMP Microplastics Liaison Jesse McDermott
- k. Bay Area Regional Reliability Project Jackie Zipkin
- l. San Francisco Estuary Partnership Lorien Fono; Jackie Zipkin
- m. CPSC Policy Education Advisory Committee Colleen Henry
- n. California Ocean Protection Council Lorien Fono
- o. California Water Quality Monitoring Council Lorien Fono
- p. CASA Air Toxics Steering Committee Lorien Fono, Jason Nettleton

26 SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS - None

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for April 17 at EBMUD, Oakland

27 CLOSED SESSION to discuss personnel matters pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957 12:30 PM

28 Report-out from closed session - There was no report-out from the closed session.

ADJOURNMENT 1:34 PM