



Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, December 19, 2014, 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**EBMUD Treatment Plant, Lab
Library, 2020 Wake Ave.,
Oakland, CA**

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Executive Board Representatives: Mike Connor, Chair (East Bay Dischargers Authority); Amy Chastain (San Francisco Public Utilities Commission); Jim Ervin (San Jose); Ben Horenstein (East Bay Municipal Utility District); Tim Potter (Central Contra Costa Sanitary District).

Other Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency/Company</u>
Bhavani Yerrapotu	Sunnyvale
Vince De Lange	East Bay Municipal Utility District
Amanda Roa	Delta Diablo
Holly Kennedy	HDR
Melody LaBella	Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
Meg Herston	Fairfield Suisun Sewer District
Denise Connors	Larry Walker Associates
Tricia McGovern	PME
Cheryl Munoz	SFPUC
Jean-Marc Petit	Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
Dan Gallagher	Dublin San Ramon Sanitary District
Teresa Herrera	Silicon Valley Clean Water (SBSA)
Jimmy Dang	Oro Loma
Abby Partin	South San Francisco
Tom Hall	EOA
Arvind Akela	CDM Smith
David Williams	BACWA
Sherry Hull	BACWA

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE AGENDA ITEMS OUT OF ORDER

To be determined later.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. November 21, 2014 BACWA Executive Board Meeting Minutes
2. December 8, 2014 Special Board Meeting Minutes
3. October, 2014 Treasurer's Reports

Consent Calendar items 1, 2 & 3 were approved in a motion made by Amy Chastain and seconded by Vince de Lange. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Committee Reports were included in the handout packet for agenda **item 4**.

AIR Committee – No Report

Biosoids Committee – No Report

Collections Committee – No Report

InfoShare Group – Both InfoShare and the subgroup Maintenance met. See Reports on pages 16 through 21. The contribution from the InfoShare Group is appreciated by members. Maintenance is getting more attention recently. Three to four more meetings are planned in the current fiscal year. The issue of a sole provider of chlorine was discussed. Might be an issue to discuss at CASA.

Lab Committee – No Report

Permits Committee – See Report on pages 22-23.

Pretreatment Committee – No Report

Recycled Water Committee – See Report on page 24. Discussion later in Agenda.

Executive Board representatives (Board) were given an opportunity to provide updates from each of the Principal agencies under agenda **item 5, Executive Board Reports**. Non-principal members were also given an opportunity to report out on behalf of their agencies. No actions were taken on the report-outs.

SFPUC: The Oceanside Tentative Order is expected after the holidays. Compared the December 3rd to the December 11th storms and noted one hour peaks.

CCCSD: Attorneys filed a petition with the State Board to name CCCSD in a lawsuit regarding the release of perchloroethylene dry cleaning solvent in Pleasant Hill.

SAN JOSE: No Report

EBDA: While the December 11th storm presented challenges, the SSO's were not bad. There was lots of lead time for planning. Relatively low peaks of toxicity raises the question of what does cause toxicity.

EBMUD: Even with cleaning of sewers prior to the storm, there was still lots of grease. Have moved to 1/4" screens, but that is not a complete solution.

OTHER: Silicon Valley noted that they have ordered 3/4" screens.

It was noted that the storm feedback information is one reason why the InfoShare Group is important. But the group needs better marketing to the agencies to encourage participation. One possibility is to revamp the Group into a Committee.

The **Executive Director's Report** was included in the handout packet for agenda **item 6**. The main highlight was the meeting with the Water Board on the evaluation plan. He noted that only three action items remain incomplete from fiscal year 2013-14 and thirty-six of the forty-two action items from fiscal year 2014-15 have been completed.

The **Regulatory Program Manager (RPM) Report under agenda item 7** was included in the handout packet. Patricia McGovern noted that the Regulatory Program Manager, Lorien Fono, will be returning on the first Monday of January, 2015 following her maternity leave.

Other BACWA Representative Reports were given an opportunity to provide updates under **agenda item 8**.

Item 8, Other BACWA Representative Reports. No actions were taken based on the reports.

- a. RMP-TRC: Rod Miller – No Report
- b. RMP Steering Committee: Karin North; Jim Ervin – Tom Hall suggested more information about peripheral meetings be made available. It was noted that the biggest discussion is about margin sampling.
- c. Summit Partners: Dave Williams – No Report.
- d. ASC/SFEI: Laura Pagano; Dave Williams – Warner Chabot, Executive Director of SFEI, attended his first board meeting on December 12th. SFEI decided to change their fiscal year to match BACWA's which extended this fiscal year by six months. Jim Kelly who has been acting as Executive Director, is easing out after taking care of their audit problems. Warner is doing lots of outreach, looking for more grant funding. The Board lost an NGO member, Phil Stevens. As chair of the Governance Committee, Dave Williams is looking for an NGO Board member. There are currently 14 members, but that could rise to 21. He would appreciate any assistance identifying potential members. It was noted that SFEI needs to watch that the brand is not damaged by political outreach or a clash between science and social justice issues.
- 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 – No Report.
- i. Nutrient Technical Workgroup: Eric Dunlavey – No Report.
- j. NACWA Taskforce on Dental Amalgam: Tim Potter – NACWA has extended the comment time.

CHAIR & ED AUTHORIZED ACTIONS

Agenda **Item 9** – The Board was informed of the Chair Authorization of funds for Kelly Moran's assistance to BAPPG for monitoring and helping to develop comments on pesticides. Kelly's focus will be on pesticide registration and review.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda **Item 10** - Discussion - **Nutrients**

- a) Technical Work
 - i) Update on **Pilot Studies** –
San Francisco: A summary is provided on Page 45
CCCSD: A summary is provided on Pages 46-47. The program is built upon the Oro Loma pilot program on anammox. It was started in August. There has been some

increase in nitrate. The largest concerns are the time to grow anammox and how to scale up in the long term. Using effluent the first year and recycled water the second year. There is a two year contract for \$225k, but the second year is optional. They have not received any grants.

ORO LOMA: Goals were to keep it simple and the cost low. No results yet, will be fully operational in March, 2015. Have spent \$80k to date, with no grant funding. Paid for by Oro Loma and Castro Valley. Prior smaller pilots were successful.

EBMUD: Provided a summary of their anammox pilots to date. Running two technologies side by side. Flows are 1/2 to 2/3 of target. So far they have learned both how to grow and how to kill anammox and that it is vulnerable to sharp loading events. They feel that a high level of monitoring is required and that the processes are not as resilient as expected. Budget is \$366k, and they received an EPA grant of \$500k for sidestream nitrate removal.

EBDA-UNION SAN: Are spending \$50k on an anammox pilot. Operational for 4 ½ months looking to determine if it is viable for a full scale operation. Key findings are that it is surprisingly resilient and most likely possible to construct as a full scale operation. One problem has been the centrate concentration.

DELTA DIABLO - CANDO: Started in March to convert ammonia to Nitrous Oxide. Successful converting to nitrate, but not nitrous oxide. The first reactor is now 80% stable and the second is 90%. Delta Diablo's budget is \$75k and they received an EPA grant. The energy savings are not as much as with anammox. Economically it is more expensive vs. value.

It was suggested that EBMUD share their experiences in how to grow anammox and how to avoid process upset at the Annual Meeting by providing a summary with no more than 2 slides to show what BACWA and its agencies are doing above and beyond what is required. Determine the combined dollar value of all of the pilot programs.

- ii) Sea Level Rise – San Jose is deep into their Master Planning and it includes this issue. Using the available data from the Army Corp of Engineers and the Permanent Committee on Tides & Mean Sea Level, but the assumptions used are key. There are lots of measurements on the West Coast, but there are variations between city vs rural and even within the Bay. Storm surges are a near term threat. SFPUC will have issues with their outflows and will need to go to pumping. It will be expensive but doable. There are very few funds for rebuilding/improving infrastructure like levees. Sea Level is being addressed in Scoping/Evaluation – should the level of concern continue or escalate?

b) Regulatory

Meeting with Water Board on Scoping/Evaluation Plan – met with Water Board on December 15th. There were approximately 20 attendees including representatives of five consulting teams. Discussed 1) optimization; 2) 2 mg/liter; and 3) ammonia,

nitrogen, phosphorous. The Water Board accepts the concept of averaging and seasonal periods and will send a letter outlining their views. Site Visits: There will be a focus on the location in the Bay with a site specific 15% buffer. The first report is due September 1, 2015. While there are 6 sidestream pilot studies, they can be quite expensive to implement. Any upgrades should focus on established technology with discussion on emerging technology. Plants will be asked about the presence of sea level rise in their Master Plans. The Water Board felt that the economic analysis portion of the presentation was good and will provide a letter accepting the Plan. Issues to make note of: Optimization should be low cost; Upgrades will be medium to high cost; Plants are very sensitive to cost; where will the line between optimization and upgrade be drawn? It will also be crucial that the consultant provide feedback to the Plants and make sure that the report is an overall BACWA member report, not individual plant reports.

i) Optimization/Upgrade Survey webinars – Sent out to Points of Contact. Agencies need to understand how important the Survey is.

c) Governance Structure

i) Planning Subcommittee activities –A subcommittee of the Steering Committee, and includes BayKeeper, the Water Board, and BACWA. There has been recent discussion on a Program Coordinator who could, among other support, provide management and coordination of the budget, handle scheduling, present future issues, and explore grant money. Prior to deciding further options, there is a need for an interim contract with the current coordinator, CCP, whose support has been useful.

ii) Options for Program Coordination – Prior to issuing an RFP the Board will need to explore whether the coordinator will be full or part-time and have a higher technical understanding than the current provider. The current thinking is that the cost will be split with the Program Coordinator (SFEI), (half from the Nutrient Permit funding in the BACWA budget and half from BACWA funds). BACWA should also consider funds from other stakeholders.

iii) Approve CCP Contract in the amount of \$10,000.

Discussion: CCP contract has run out of funds. This new contract will be funded from the FY 2016 Nutrient Permit Funds.

Agenda item 10.c.iii was approved in a motion made by Ben Horenstein and seconded by Amy Chastain. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda item 11 –Discussion– Recycled Water Update (Bhavani Yerrapotu/Cheryl Munoz)

a. POTW activities to promote recycled water; residential fill stations, scalping plants, other –

Central San is finding it difficult to find private entities that build scalping projects. Only the public entities seem to be doing it and they are exploring new ground.

Sunnyvale gave a presentation on their RW program. They have plans for recycling discharge water. They have \$600k in funding as part of their Master Plan. Average 12 ½ - capacity is 29, using their pond system and they have digesters.

Sunnyvale showed a slide show of their future footprint using conventional activated sledge – completion is planned for 2035. Space is available for future development.

Recycled opportunities: 3.6 mgd of non-potable demand over 22 years. They have a partnership with Santa Clara Valley Water District on potable water.

Asking for 10+ mgd RO Plant (\$619k).

Impacts on WIPR Project.

Have 3 ponds which provide opportunities.

Advanced purification by 2021.

Expanding side RW use short term and long term projects. Will still need \$200 million in funding for long term.

District has RW Master Plan. The term is 30-40 years, but working on 50 year plan. Treatment through wetlands RO concentration.

Next steps (other than money) is the regulatory issue. In 2015 – needs decision on funding from district and support from the WB.

The Board requested, and Sunnyvale agreed to provide the presentation to Board for placement on the BACWA website.

b. Update on Truck Fill Station survey – The RW Committee is developing a Guidebook and it will be available to put on the BACWA website next month. They surveyed 100, received 50 responses, and found 20 existing stations. Another 22 are considering facilities. CalTrans is using RW.

DSRSD presented a video on their Residential Fill Station experience. It opened June 12, 2014 with three stations. They had about 30 users, but that number has increased to over 500. They see approximately 150 per day on average. They provide training to users which takes about 20 minutes, and have an agreement users must sign. Users are then issued an ID card. The fill stations also provide stickers for tanks indicating it is RW. DSRSD is distributing 20 to 30k gallons per day. They have a 1 gallon minimum. Their stations are open to other districts. There is very high public acceptance and they are moving toward a mature cost structure. Questions include how does lower sales of potable water affect agencies? What are the greenhouse gas effects of the facilities? The positives include good public feeling about RW and this often overwhelms the negatives. The City of Pleasanton is considering adding purple pipe but is it cost effective? Does a change in the supply of water change the cost effectiveness?

c. IRWM update – There are opportunities for RW funding under IRWM.

d. Proposition 1 activities -

e. Permitting under State permits vs. Region 2 – Region 2 is the only region in the State to have a General Permit, which was issued in 1996. The Statewide permit was based on the Region 2 permit, but it also offered regulators an opportunity to add additional regulations which terminated progress. Both new and expansion of current facilities is covered under the old permit. More monitoring required. Will not be repealed. The consultant from EOA noted that there is no language preventing 9611 coverage. The Water Board may be open to coordination of the state and regional permits. Salt effects are imposed only on RW permits with the discussion on balance of nutrient load vs. recycle needing a coherent approach. Next step is for the agencies to meet with the WB. It was suggested that Cheryl attend that meeting.

Agenda **item 12** – Discussion: Toxicity –

a. Petition to SWRCB – A Special Meeting of the BACWA Board was held on December 8, 2014 and the minutes are included on **Pages 8-9**. The Board discussed what the next steps might be: The SWRCB could choose to ignore the petition. If they do the petitioners could choose to file a lawsuit. The regional board could reverse their decision to change the permits, but then the EPA has the option to take back the NPDES program. Taking back the whole program is a very high bar. It was asked by one agency if BACWA would want to weigh in on the numeric and testing frequency issues when their permit is issued since consistency is important to the regional board. The Board consensus was that BACWA should meet with the EPA to see where this is going before the permit.

b. Discussions with State Board members - The Water Board is waiting for written comments from the EPA. Strategic questions are whether the State Plan is focused on numeric limits and daily limits vs. monthly averages with daily limits being a bigger issue. There was discussion about meeting with the EPA to gather more information and if BACWA should meet with the RWB prior to any meeting with the EPA. Prior to the BACWA Annual meeting, BACWA should work through the Permits Committee, meet with the RWB and then with Dave Smith at the EPA. And at the Summit Partners meeting, the ED should talk to the State Board regarding the Toxicity Plan about when and where it is headed. It was recommended that BACWA wait for feedback from these meetings about what is non-negotiable prior to meeting with the EPA.

c. LGVSD Tentative Order –

Agenda **item 13** – Discussion: San Jose 60 Day Notice from BayKeeper – The Notice was issued November 24, 2014 as a Formal Notice pursuant to the Clean Water Act and is based on a broad assertion that there is exfiltration overflow into the system storm drains (the study cited was done in the desert which is a very different environment), and alleging violation of MS4

permits using a list of SSO's. San Jose was surprised that there was no communication from BayKeeper prior to the notice.

Agenda **item 14** – Discussion: FY 2016 Budget Planning – The ED summarized the Schedule for Budget Adoption included in the handout on Page 83 and the Key Issues on Pages 84 to 86. Dues will be increased, CBC Fees will stay the same and the Nutrient Surcharge will increase from \$300 to \$600 in FY 15 and will continue to increase for a couple more years until they are reevaluated for the next Nutrient WS Permit.

Agenda **item 15** – Discussion: Annual Member Meeting Planning – The Annual Member Meeting will be held on January 30, 2015. The proposed Agenda was reviewed and some subjects and speakers were changed or added. It was suggested that a discussion of grant funds available for recycled water project be included.

Agenda **item 16** – Discussion: Ebola Update –

a. Agency preparation – It was noted that updated CDC information is available. CDC FAQ's are included in the handout on Pages 90-93.

b. NSF Research Funding Request – A request from CASA for funding the Ebola research project was included in the handout on Pages 94-95.

Suggestions for Future Agenda Items: None

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for **February 20, 2015** from 9:00 am – 12:30 pm at **SFPUC, Hetch Hetchy Room, 13th Floor, San Francisco, CA. The BACWA Annual Member Meeting will be on January 30, 2015 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Elihu M. Harris State Building Auditorium, 1515 Clay St., Oakland, CA.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.