



Executive Board Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2015

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Executive Board Representatives: Laura Pagano (San Francisco Public Utilities Commission); Jim Ervin (San Jose); Jason Warner (Oro Loma - East Bay Dischargers Authority); Ben Horenstein (East Bay Municipal Utility District); Lori Schectel (Central Contra Costa Sanitary District).

Other Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency/Company</u>
Amanda Roa	Delta Diablo
David Senn	SFEI
Denise Connors	LWA
Greg Baatrup	FSSD
Holly Kennedy	HDR
Karin North	Palo Alto
Melanie Tan	Kennedy Jenks
Tom Hall	EOA
Dave Richardson	RMC
Amy Chastain	SFPUC
Jean-Marc Petit	CCCSD
Melody LaBella	CCCSD
Eric Ruckdaschel	Water Asset Management
Barbara Hockett	WOT Program
Paul Pitt	Hazen Sawyer
Daniela Brandao	CH2M Hill
Leah Walker	Petaluma
David Williams	BACWA
Lorien Fono	BACWA
Sherry Hull	BACWA

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE AGENDA ITEMS OUT OF ORDER

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. September 25, 2015 BACWA Executive Board Meeting Minutes
2. August & September, 2015 Treasurer's Reports

Consent Calendar items 1 and 2 were approved in a motion made by Jason Warner and seconded by Lori Schectel. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVALS & AUTHORIZATIONS

Agenda Item 3 –Approval of Audited Financial Reports for the Years Ended June 30, 2014 and 2015, and the BACWA Annual Report to its Members for FY 15. Financial Reports were included in the Handout on Page 22 and linked on the Agenda.

Item 3 was approved in a motion made by Jean-Marc Petit and seconded by Jim Ervin. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 4 - Authorize a Contribution to North Bay Watershed Association for FY16. Documents requesting sponsorship of their upcoming conference as described in the Handout on Pages 23-28. The Executive Director noted that the last time BACWA contributed to NBWA was in FY10.

The NBWA is a group of POTW's, many of which are BACWA members. It was noted that the requested sponsorship is consistent with BACWA's Criteria for Funding Collaborative Initiatives or Sponsorships.

Item 4 was approved in a motion made by Jean-Marc Petit and seconded by Laura Pagano. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 5 – Approval of the Agreement with Solano Community College to provide Water Operating Training Classes. The Agreement was included in the Handout on Pages 29-32. The Executive Director introduced Barbara Hockett who is now under contract with Solano Community College and will be providing support for the WOT Program. Hockett explained her role in assisting with the administrative aspects of the WOT Program.

Item 5 was approved in a motion made by Jason Warner and seconded by Jean-Marc Petit. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 6 - BACWA Executive Board Approval to Amend the Agreement with O'Rorke for BAPPG Social Marketing and Integrated Outreach Plan Implementation.

Item 6 was approved in a motion made by Jean-Marc Petit and seconded by Jason Warner. The motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS-POLICY/STRATEGIC

Agenda Item 7 – Discussion: Nutrients

a. Regulatory

- i. Review of BACWA Goals - BACWA's Position Paper on the Nutrient Issue was included in the Handout on Pages 39-40. Board members suggested that the paper

- be amended to better reflect the BACWA focus on stewardship, sound science and early actions. It may be appropriate to rename it “BACWA’s Approach”, rather than as a Position Paper, depending on what its purpose and intended audience are. It is important to engage early and be proactive in discussions with BACWA’s membership and the Regional Water Board.
- ii. Discussion of Early Actions – Discussion of Early Actions for Nutrient Reduction was included in the Handout on Pages 41-42. A survey of members was suggested to see how many agencies plan nutrient removal over the next five years and to better understand what is driving them. HDR already has information about agencies with nutrient removal plans in their 5-yr CIP, but not agencies that have not yet formally adopted the plans. BACWA will work with HDR to include this in the next information request to the agencies participating in the Optimization/Upgrade Studies. It was also suggested that the Permit Negotiating Team be started soon with representatives from the five subembayments. At this time it is appropriate to call the group something other than the negotiating team since BACWA is presently exploring options for the permit and not in negotiations with the Water Board.
 - iii. Discussion of Science Funding - Discussion of Increased Funding for Nutrient Reduction was included in the Handout on Pages 43-46. The Board discussed key considerations and next steps. One outstanding question is if there is currently any unfunded or underfunded science that BACWA would like to see elevated in priority.
- b. Technical Work
- i. Debrief on the Nutrient Technical Workgroup Meeting – The Agenda from the November 5, 2015 meeting was included in the Handout on Pages 47-48. An overview and update of the Science Plan was presented by Dr. David Senn of SFEI. Of major note was the phytoplankton effect on algae growth. An important finding by Mine Berg was that the inhibition of phytoplankton growth due to ammonia was much less important than that due to light limitation. While there are still some uncertainties that are worth investigating, it looks as if the so-called “ammonia paradox” should be deprioritized for scientific investigation. The next workgroup meeting will be in March, 2016 at CCCSD to identify the important questions that remain. Due to questions about the vessel that was funded through the Nutrient Management Strategy, it was clarified that the expenditure was not to purchase the boat but was only to modify it for monitoring efforts that would benefit the conduct of the Nutrient Management Strategy Science Plan.
 - ii. Review of Technical Reports – Various Levels of Assistance for Conducting Critical Review of Science and Modeling Reports was included in the Handout on Pages 49-51. The Executive Director reviewed the various levels. The Board asked the ED to develop an RFP reflecting a low- to mid-range option for support.
 - iii. Recommendations on Clarifications for Annual Report – Recommendations for Clarifications in the Nutrient Annual Report was included in the Handout on Page 52. The Regulatory Program Manager reviewed the recommendations. The Board agreed with the recommendations. HDR will move forward to develop a worksheet

for data entry to avoid the data collection problems that were experienced in the first Nutrient Watershed Permit year. The Water Board will be asked to provide clarity on dissolved orthophosphate reporting.

c. Governance Structure -

- i. Update on Program Coordination – A Program Coordinator RFP was linked in the Handout. <http://bacwa.org/?p=3569>
- ii. Planning Subcommittee Meeting – A Meeting Summary of Planning Subcommittee Meeting #14 was included in the Handout on Pages 53-64. The Board recommended that the name of the “assessment framework” be changed to deemphasize its role in determining impairment.
- iii. Update on Representatives – The ED noted that Tim Potter has stepped down as an alternate for CCCSD and Lori Schectel has volunteered to be the Steering Committee Representative.

Agenda Item 8 – Discussion: Pardee Debrief & Survey – A survey of Pardee attendees was included in the Handout on Pages 65-72. The Executive Director pointed out that the overall review is very good. The most interesting sessions were the Optimization/Upgrade Studies, the Science Plan, and Future Planning.

Agenda Item 9 – Discussion: Joint Water Board Meeting Planning – A DRAFT Agenda for the December 1, 2015 meeting was included in the Handout on Page 73. The Regulatory Program Manager noted that the times on the Agenda were incorrect, but would be corrected on the posted version. Some suggestions for changes were made and the Executive Director will modify the Agenda prior to the meeting.

Agenda Item 10 – Discussion: Water Board Hearing on the Triennial Review & Chlorine Decay Investigation – BACWA’s Comments on the 2015 Triennial Review for the Water Quality Control Plan, San Francisco Bay Basin, the Water Board’s Notice of Public Hearing, and Triennial Review Talking Points were included in the Handout on Pages 74-82. The Executive Director has reviewed the talking points and will attend the hearing as BACWA’s representative. Paul Pitt from Hazen & Sawyer was introduced. He is working with SFPUC on a study to avoid overdosing of sodium bisulfite for dechlorination and to find alternatives for chlorine residual compliance. In response to a request to incorporate BACWA interests, he will bring his scope to the Laboratory, Permits and Ops/Maintenance Committee meetings to get input. BACWA will then have the opportunity to look at the costs of piggybacking on his work. It was noted that the study will not help shallow water dischargers, who do not have long outfalls, and that a regulatory fix may be needed to help those agencies avoid sodium bisulfite overdosing.

Agenda Item 11 – Discussion: Policy on Class of Membership – BACWA Board Policy # BP-001, Dues & Fees Associated with Classes of Membership, was included in the Handout on Pages 83-84. The Executive Director will make some corrections to applicability and bring the Policy back to the Board for approval at a future date.

OTHER BUSINESS-OPERATIONAL

Agenda **Item 12** – Discussion: Drought/Recycling – A survey to develop BACWA Recycled Water Projections were included in the Handout on Page 85.

Agenda **Item 13** – Discussion: Update on WOT – Barbara Hockett was introduced. She will be working with Solano Community College to manage the Water Operator Training Program. The Assistant Executive Director will coordinate with her.

Agenda **Item 14** – Discussion: Update on Information Collection & Sharing – BACWA’s Role in Addressing Informational Needs was included in the Handout on Page 86. Informational requests to BACWA have recently been increasing from both the Water Boards and the BACWA membership. Staff will be attempting to meet as many of the needs as possible but this may require some outside assistance. If such assistance is needed, staff will bring proposals to the Board for Approval. The Water Board’s highest priorities will be determined.

Agenda **Item 15** – Discussion: Annual Meeting Planning – A DRAFT Agenda for the January 15, 2016 Annual Member’s Meeting was included in the Handout on Pages 87-88. It was noted that BACWA has not yet received any nominations for the Arleen Navarret Award for FY16. It was agreed that the deadline for submission of nominations would be extended to December 11, 2015. It was suggested that CPSC be invited to speak at the Annual Meeting.

Agenda **Item 16** – Discussion: Monitoring Reduction Proposal – A chart of Cost Reduction Opportunities, 2016 RMP Fees, and an SFEI Letter to the RMP Steering Committee were included in the Handout on Pages 89-95. The Regulatory Program Manager noted that the Water Board is open to dropping sensitive species screening requirement; is open to reducing Method 1668C for PCB Cogenerators when the Hg/PCB Watershed Permit is reissued; and is looking at dropping the EPA 1613 for dioxins entirely, but needs historical data to be compiled first. Different approaches for gathering dioxin data were discussed. The Water Board would like to see a proposal from BACWA on the cost transfer. This issue will be discussed with the Water Board at the December 1st joint meeting.

REPORTS

Agenda **Item 17** – Committee Report – BACWA Committee Reports were included in the Handout on Pages 96-117.

AIR Committee: No Report.

BAPPG: A Report from the October 7, 2015 Meeting and a BACWA Comment Letter on the Diquat Dibromide Registration Review was included in the Handout on Pages 96-102. Two points in the letter were highlighted: the study on concentrations required to achieve dilution

and the notification to treatment plants of dosing events. A request was made for Board approval of the letter. ***The Draft BACWA Comment Letter was approved in a motion made by Jason Warner and seconded by Jim Ervin.*** The letter is due on November 24, 2015 and will be submitted by BACWA then.

Biosolids Committee: No meeting.

Collections Committee: A report from the November 12, 2015 meeting was included in the Handout on Pages 103-104. The Regional Water Board would like to revisit what the definition of a well-performing collection system is, and include operational/asset management indicators to reward good work and not just low SSO numbers. The Committee will discuss a proposal at the next meeting on January 14, 2016 and work with the Water Board. It was noted that the Water Board is very interested in knowing how agencies are investing in systems and about private sewer lateral ordinances. BACWA is also working with the Water Board on a survey to ask agencies about ordinances requiring inspection and repair of private sewer laterals upon point of sale or major remodel.

Asset Management InfoShare Group: A report from the Asset Management Group on November 5, 2015 was included in the Handout on Page 105. This was the first meeting for this Committee under the BACWA umbrella and they appreciate the BACWA support. A good presentation on Implementing Mobile Devices for Warehouse and Tool Room was given by SFPUC.

Operations and Maintenance InfoShare Group: A report from the Operations & Maintenance meeting on October 28, 2015 Group was included in the Handout on Page 105. This Operations and Maintenance InfoShare Group meeting was the first under the new format, with support from the RPM and ED. Paracetic acid was discussed as an alternative disinfectant. Alternative compliance to reduce sodium bisulfite overdosing was also discussed and attendees reported that both a higher limit at the treatment plant and a longer compliance period (i.e., hourly rather than instantaneous) would be helpful.

Lab Committee: A report from the October 14, 2015 meeting was included in the Handout on Page 108. Methods for testing Microplastics were discussed.

Permits Committee: Two reports from the October 13, 2015 and November 10, 2015 meetings were included in the Handout on Pages 109-111. Calistoga's proposed numeric chronic toxicity limits were dropped after the Water Board allowed them to invalidate a couple of data points that were used in their reasonable potential analysis.

Pretreatment Committee: A report on two trainings held on October 13, 2015 and October 22, 2015 was included in the Handout on Pages 112-116. The trainings were very well received.

Recycled Water Committee: A report from the November 14, 2015 meeting was included in the Handout on Page 117. The draft surface water augmentation (SWA) regulations for indirect potable reuse are being developed. The committee will be cosponsoring a workshop featuring speakers from San Diego, which has been involved in the development of these regulations. The workshop has been added as an afternoon session at the next regularly scheduled WaterReuse meeting, from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm on December 4, 2015 at the Amador Ranch

Center at Rancho San Ramon Community Park. A flyer for the event was distributed at the meeting.

Agenda **Item 18** - Discussion: Member Highlights - Executive Board Representatives (Board) were given an opportunity to provide updates from each of the Principal agencies. 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 report.

EBMUD: No report.

Central Contra Costa: They are looking at zero discharge in dry weather and can provide a presentation at a future Executive Board meeting. Their Master Plan is moving along, and they ended their anamox/zeoline pilot since it was not yielding good results. Their Board has approved their plans for a truck fill program.

San Francisco: A Bacterial TMDL is under development that cannot be met during the rainy season without treatment. There is concern this will effectively end development in separate sewer areas.

San Jose: Was in the news on the microplastics issue. The media is beginning to move towards an understanding that microbeads are only part of the problem and microfibers are ubiquitous and more difficult to control.

Palo Alto: No report.

Delta Diablo: No report.

Petaluma: No report.

Agenda **Item 19** - The **Executive Director's Report** was included in the Handout on Pages 118-123.

It was noted that 89 of the 90 action items from FY15 have been completed and 22 of the 22 action items from FY16 have been completed.

Agenda **Item 20** - The **Regulatory Program Manager (RPM) Report** was included in the Handout on Pages 124-125.

Other BACWA Representative Reports were given an opportunity to provide updates under **agenda Item 20, 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 – No report.

- 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 – No report.
- l. NACWA Emerging Contaminants: Karin North, Melody LaBella – No report.
- m. CASA Statewide Pesticide Steering Committee: Melody LaBella – No report.
- n. CASA State Legislative Committee: Lori Schectel – No report.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Recycled Water issues.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for **December 18, 2015 from 9:00 am – 12:30 pm** at the **EBMUD Treatment Plant, Lab Library, 2020 Wake Ave., Oakland, CA.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:27 pm.