

# BACWA Recycled Water Committee Meeting Notes

EBMUD Headquarters – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Small Training Conference Room

May 15, 2018

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

## 1. Introductions – Biagtan

Cheryl Muñoz – SFPUC

Darcie Luce – SFEP

Leah Walker – City of Petaluma

Lorien Fono – BACWA

Daniel Larsen – City of Redwood City

Debbie Ivazes – City of Redwood City

Brian Kuhn – SF Airport

Melanie Tan – Kennedy Jenks

Roanne Ross – West Yost

Samantha Engelage – City of Palo Alto

Stefanie Olson – DSRSD

Tom Hall – EOA

Sarah Rhodes – Woodard & Curran

Reena Thomas – EBMUD

Daniel Patten – City of Palo Alto

William Burrell – Regional Water Board

### **On Phone**

Kevin Booker – SCWA

Jayne Strommer – DSRSD

Medi Sinaki - SCVWD

## 2. Funding Opportunities – Biagtan

### a. Federal (Strommer)

#### *i. Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act and Title 16*

The US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) has a target date of May 23rd for release of the combined Funding Opportunity Announcement. Application deadline will be 60 days after release. Congress is going through the appropriation process, but it seems unrealistic that they will pass all 12 Appropriation bills prior to the end of the federal fiscal year (esp. in an election year), so we're likely to see a Continuing Resolution at that time.

#### *ii. Other Federal Legislation*

S. 2800, WRDA (Senate introduced 5/8/2018) WRDA (Water Resources Development Act of 2018) bill – Referred to committee on Environment and Public Works

- o Does almost nothing for funding water recycling

- o Reauthorizes WIFIA through 2021

- o Doesn't authorize funds for SRF – simply includes "Sense of Congress" language regarding "robust funding" for SRF's

HR 5596 (Carbajal (D-CA-24)) introduced 4/24/2018 with Republican Tom Reed from NY) "Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability Act of 2018"

- o Proposes a new EPA grant program to owners or operators of water systems to increase resiliency or adaptability of the systems to changing hydrologic conditions - - "Water system" is broadly defined as community drinking water, wastewater/POTWs, groundwater storage & replenishment system, irrigation water, floodwaters

- o Authorizes \$50 M each fiscal year from FY 2018-2022

- o Up to 75% federal share for the grants

HR 5609 (Introduced by Dem in MN – has 36 cosponsors all Democrats) – "Water Affordability, Transparency, Equity and Reliability Act of 2018"

- o Establishes a trust fund to provide funding for water and sewer infrastructure. (rolling back some of the corporate tax cuts to fund water infrastructure)

HR 5127 (Napolitano – intr. 3/6) “Water Recycling Investment and Improvement Act”

o 16 Cosponsors – all Democrats

S.2364 (Boozman, Feinstein)/HR4902, SRF WIN\* Bills – Allow State SRF programs to borrow through WIFIA to fund projects in their Intended Use Plans – authorizing \$200 M/year (leveraged)

o S 2364 – 10 cosponsors, bipartisan

o HR 4902 – 7 cosponsors, bipartisan

b. State

i. *Update on BAIRWMP (Munoz)*

Cheryl provided [slides](#) from the May 4 DWR and IRWM Round table of Regions meeting, giving details of the solicitation process. Compared to previous rounds, DWR is planning for more engagement with applicant during the solicitation process, providing opportunity for clarification. They will maintain competition in the process, and provide opportunity for projects developed through the DACI program to receive funding. Only two rounds are expected; \$47.4M total for SF Bay region; \$23M for first round maximum; some will be set aside specifically for DAC projects The tentative schedule for the next IRWM Round is:

- Late June 2018 – DRAFT PSP and Guidelines
- August 2018 – 3 Public Meetings
- Fall 2018 – FINAL PSP and Guidelines
- November 2018-April 2019 –Pre-Application Workshops
- January 2019 – First Application Submitted
- Early 2019 – Final Award and Grant Agreement Execution following set time period after Pre-Application Workshop

ii. *CWSRF 18-19 IUP Workshop (Biagtan/Hu)*

The State Water Board plans to develop a list of fundable projects, which will be the only projects eligible to receive support. They plan to provide a partial funding option for the first time, as well as retroactive funding for projects that have begun construction. They have included Regional Water Board support as a selection criterion, and WaterReuse has submitted a [comment letter](#) recommending that they remove this criterion, since it creates a problem of transparency in how Regional Water Board select projects to support. There will also be a clause to allow dropping a project from the fundable list if the proponent is unresponsive.

3. **[Recycled Water Policy Revision Update](#) – Biagtan/McLellan** (Laura McLellan of the State Water Board was expected, but was unable to attend).

a. [2018 Science Advisory Panel Final Report on Constituents of Emerging Concerns](#)

The final report was released, and Lorien will check to make sure that WaterReuse/BACWA’s comments on bioanalytical panels not being used for compliance were incorporated. The concern was this statement: *For endpoints that consistently exhibit responses at a high level of concern (BEQ/AL > 1,000), consider removing the RW supply while increasing frequency of monitoring, identifying sources and/or treatment alternatives.* (Edited after the meeting to add that the above statement was removed from the final recommendations.)

b. [Proposed Amendment to the Recycled Water Policy](#) – Hu

The proposed amendment to the Recycled Water Policy was released for public comment in early May. The committee will host a conference call on May 30 to discuss developing a BACWA comment letter, due June 26. Laura McClellan plans to join the conference call. There will be a public hearing on June 19. The amendment includes new goals to minimize discharges to Bays, Ocean, Estuaries and Coastal Lagoons except where the discharge is needed to protect beneficial uses. There was a discussion at the meeting about how, although the amendment recognizes that recycled water is not the only contributor of salt and nutrients to groundwater basins, there are pages of material detailing the requirements for SN Management Plans. Coordination with SGMA is described. There is also a one-year deadline to transition Regional permittees to the State General Order, and a three-year deadline to ensure that engineering reports are consistent with the requirements of the State General Order.

4. **Legislation and Regulatory Update –Walker**

a. [Proposed Framework for Regulating Direct Potable Reuse](#)

Water Board released draft framework, and CASA/WaterReuse developed draft comment letter. The Water Board will continue to take comments until draft regulations developed, but there is no intent to modify framework at this time

Those attending workshop felt that framework was very general and only done to satisfy the requirements of the legislation

- b. Active Legislation
  - SB 1489 (Stern) – California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018
  - SB 966 (Wiener) – Water Quality Criteria for Onsite Treated Non-potable Water Systems – Proposed by SFPUC and supported in concept by WateReuse.
  - AB2379 (Bloom) – Would require labeling of clothing made from synthetic fibers recommending that it be hand washed to prevent microfiber shedding.
  - AB1668 (Friedman) – Requires State to develop conservation standards.
  - SB606 (Hertzberg) – Requires water purveyors to develop conservation standards, based on those pursuant to AB1668, above.

**5. AWWA Advance Treatment Operator Certification Job Analysis – Sinaki**

Santa Clara Valley Water District released with document development. They reviewed previous drafts in 2016 and 2017.

**6. Proposal: Enhanced Recycled Water Study Under Next Watershed Permit—Fono**

Under the next nutrient watershed permit, there will likely be a requirement to do a regional study on non-greyscape alternatives for nutrient removal. This will likely include a recycled water component, and BACWA is interested to hear from the committee what information would be useful to the recycled water community, and how to leverage existing informational resources. The regional study could look at barriers and incentives for recycled water. Credit banking for early actions to remove nutrient could be significant when deciding on potable vs. irrigation reuse projects. This item will be discussed at the May 18 Nutrient Strategy Team meeting.

**7. Use of Email List – Rhodora**

Rhodora will use her discretion to determine which emails from outside organizations will be forwarded to the group.

**8. Announcements/Agency Updates – All**

WateReuse Northern California Chapter Meeting, May 18, 2018, Santa Rosa  
CWEA SFBS Professional Development Seminar on Recycled Water and Potable Reuse – 5/23/28, SFPUC

**Future Agenda Topics:**

Issues Permitting Onsite Reuse Facilities, Mountain View Area  
Transfer coverage from 96-011 to General Order 2016  
BACWA Regional Study for 2<sup>nd</sup> Watershed Permit

**Next Meeting**

Tuesday, July 17, 2018, EBMUD Small Admin Training Room