

# BACWA Recycled Water Committee Meeting Notes

Teleconference only  
September 22, 2020  
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

## 1. Introductions (Olson)

Stefanie Olson, Co-chair	DSRSD	Kevin Calcagno	Eurofins
Reena Thomas, Co-chair	EBMUD	Lei Hong	Valley Water
Lorien Fono	BACWA	Maggie Monahan	SF RWQCB
Alina Constantinescu	LWA/BACWA	Maricate Mangan	Valley Water
Anita Jain	West Yost	Mary Cousins	BACWA
Ben Glickstein	EBMUD	Matt Richter	HDR
Billy Dixon	Sonoma County Water	Medi Senaki	Valley Water
Carrie Del Boccio	Woodard & Curran	Melody LaBella	Central San
Chelsea Thompson	City of Petaluma	Michael Falk	HDR
Cheryl Muñoz	City of Hayward	Nick Steiner	Delta Diablo
Dan Frost	Central San	Pam Phillips	American Canyon
Danielle McPherson	BAWSCA	Sarah Rhodes	Woodard & Curran
Dave Richardson	Woodard & Curran	Shelly Masuda	Woodard & Curran
Diego Martinez Garcia	Palo Alto	Sindy Mulyono-Danre	Redwood City
Eric Hansen	Silicon Val. Clean Water	Rhodora Biagtan	West Yost
Eric Rosenblum	Envirospectives	Richard Foss	Central San
Jayne Strommer	Delta Diablo	Tom Hall	EOA
Jed Beyer	West Bay Sanitary	Will Burrell	SF RWQCB
Jennie Pang	SFPUC		

## 2. Legislation and Regulatory Update (Thomas)

### a. Active Legislation

- i. AB 2560 (Quirk) is on the Governor's Desk. This is a measure that will require greater transparency and public participation when establishing Notification and Response Levels for water quality, similar to the existing process for MDLs. WaterReuse California (WRCA) supports the measure.
- ii. AB 3030 (Kalra) was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on suspense. This means that it most likely dead for the year. (The two-year Legislative session ends August 31.) Recently WRCA opposed this measure, which required all waters and lands in California be subject to a 30% conservation goal. While a laudable goal, it was not clear how the regulatory agencies would implement the new goals with respect to recycled water.
- iii. SB 996 (Portantino): CECs - Science Advisory Panel: WRCA Support as Amended; Status: Held by Author
- iv. SB 1052 (Hertzberg): Stormwater Capture/Reuse: WRCA Support; Status: Held in Senate Governance and Finance Committee

### b. Follow up on Prior Legislation

- i. AB 574 – DPR Expert Panel WRCA is working with the Water Board and the Legislature to find funding to begin work on the "expert panel" required by AB 574 (Quirk 2017). WRCA is discussing with agencies that can help to fund the expert panel and needs to get the water board to accept this proposal of outside funding assistance.

### c. Other Updates

- i. **CWSRF.** WRCA is working to increase efficiencies and sustainable funding levels for the CWSRF Program. WRCA is exploring other funding mechanisms for the program and reviewing other state's programs and approaches. CASA-WRCA surveyed members regarding experiences with the CWSRF loan program to examine efficiencies in staffing and programmatic review to increase available funding for the program.
- ii. **WaterKeeper Suit.** In August, the LA Superior court ruled for the LA WaterKeeper and against the State Water Board in the case regarding City of LA's discharge to rivers and oceans. The State Board will need to complete an analysis on whether it is wasteful to discharge to the LA River and/or to the ocean. This currently affects 4 WWTPs -- Hyperion, Tillman, Burbank, LA Glendale - but the logic could be extended to other regions. The ruling is significant because the State Board must do the analysis, but has wide discretion on what to include in the analysis such as other benefits of WW discharge. The State could come up with mandates and timelines to reduce WW discharge. Link to the court ruling: <https://lawaterkeeper.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/WUU-Case-Final-Decision.pdf> Link to a news article: <https://yovenice.com/2020/08/12/state-must-analyze-practice-of-dumping-billions-of-gallons-of-wastewater-into-sea/>

### 3. SNMP Report Examples

Reena Thomas (EBMUD) solicited examples of Salt & Nutrient Management Plan reports.

### 4. Funding Opportunities

- a. Federal (Jayne Strommer)  
The Bureau of Reclamation has not yet announced any WIIN Act grant products; it is still stuck with the Office of Management & Budget. There may not be further appropriations until a new session of Congress in 2021.
- b. State (Cheryl Muñoz)  
Local agencies and the state are finishing up agreements for Round 1 of Prop 1 funding; there is no information yet on when the 2<sup>nd</sup> round will be available. BAIRWMP has been having dynamic conversations about disadvantaged community funding and equitable involvement. There will be a 3-day summit in October regarding equitable involvement. Link to info: <https://www.lgc.org/summit/>

### 5. EBMUD Residential Fill Station Pilot Update

Ben Glickstein (EBMUD) updated the group on EBMUD's pilot project for a residential fill station, which was rolled out in summer 2020 for employees. The purpose of the pilot project was to test logistics and documentation procedures. Customers are required to watch a video and to make an appointment ahead of time. EBMUD determined that the fill station is logistically feasible and will be rolled out more widely in a future drought. One idea was to offer carboys for sale (at cost) since some customers had difficulty obtaining suitable containers. In rolling out the pilot project, EBMUD realized that some employees who don't live in EBMUD's service area could not take home water due to legal/institutional barriers (see below).

### 6. Trucking/distributing recycled water across jurisdictions

The group discussed regulatory and institutional barriers to distribution of recycled water by truck across jurisdictional boundaries (approved recycled water programs often only allow distribution within particular water service areas; e.g., a truck can't fill up at EBMUD and deliver water in Fremont). CCCSD's approved residential fill station program allows employees to take water home, but this is a very small number of people compared to the overall program. Stefanie noted that cross-connections are one potential area of concern; DSRSD does inspections of residential fill station customers, and inspection staff encountered customers attempting to install cross connections with landscape irrigation piping or installing storage tanks.

A regional program may involve an MOU with multiple water and wastewater utilities, but that approach may not be comprehensive (i.e., all utilities might not sign on). Furthermore, it may be difficult to complete since there is currently no drought emergency.

Ben will reach out to see if the EBMUD legal team can offer more guidance about next steps.

## **7. USEPA National Water Reuse Action Plan, Version 1**

There will be an update to this plan in 2021, and Eric Rosenblum encouraged the group to provide feedback on what sorts of research questions should be included in the next update. Ideas offered by the group included RO concentrate management (including nature-based solutions); recycled water without RO for inland areas; and how to tear down institutional barriers to multi-benefit projects, especially potential wetlands projects around the Bay that could have flood control or sea level rise benefits.

The State Water Board and Water Research Foundation are collaborating on a stakeholder survey of water reuse research questions related to updating the National Water Reuse Action Plan. The Survey due date is **Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**. Link to survey:

<https://www.surveymoz.com/s3/5811760/Water-Reuse-Research-Strategy-Stakeholder-Survey>

## **8. Regional Recycled Water Evaluation Update**

Mike Falk (HDR) provide an update on the Regional Recycled Water Evaluation. The project team has completed initial data collection based on the Request for Information (RFI), and has compiled information regarding past deliveries, future project plans, and barriers & drivers. A template for individual plant reports will be circulated starting 9/22 for a 2-week review period. Comments will be due to Mary Cousins (BACWA) by October 6<sup>th</sup>, then Mary will compile comments for HDR by October 14<sup>th</sup>. After the template is finalized, HDR/Woodard & Curran will begin preparing individual plant reports, which will be available around mid-2021.

## **9. Recycled Water User's Self-Monitoring Reporting Changes**

The new regional Monitoring & Reporting program for the region's enrollment in the Statewide General Order requires quarterly monitoring of recycled water customers. Some agencies are switching from 2/year customer monitoring performed by agency staff to customer self-monitoring. Several agencies are having customers fill out PDF forms, while others are either working on or have already rolled out electronic forms using online forms like Google Forms. DSRSD shared their customer self-monitoring form.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdhkUnjm7bFAsK254juYzg\\_n4zDf5fj0xvIXi96MuPb-oPGyQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdhkUnjm7bFAsK254juYzg_n4zDf5fj0xvIXi96MuPb-oPGyQ/viewform)

## **10. Regional Board Recycled Water Presentation Staff Report & Recording**

The September meeting of the Regional Water Board included several presentations regarding recycled water. Links to the Regional Water Board Recycled Water [staff report](#) and [recording](#) of the presentation and discussion (item starts at 3:33).

## **11. State Board update on the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook**

A workshop will occur in November to discuss new cross-connection control policy to replace Title 17. No date has been announced, but Stefanie Olson will share with the group when it becomes available.

## **12. Announcements/Agency Updates**

- a. Bay Area One Water Network seminar on October 1  
<https://stanford.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwtd-qpqT0pEtN6thavRF8XfzHbQ1rQdKDo>
- b. WaterReuse Northern California chapter meeting scheduled for December 4, 2020
- c. Rhodora Biagtan (West Yost) solicited comments on the [UWMP guidebook for 2020](#) regarding water recycling.

## **Next Meeting**

Tuesday, November 17, 2020, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm, video conference via Zoom.