

BACWA Recycled Water Committee Meeting Notes

March 15 2022

Meeting held via videoconference

1. Introductions (Olson)

Stefanie Olson, Co-Chair	DSRSD	Mark Grushayev	SASM
Reena Thomas, Co-chair	EBMUD	Melody LaBella	Central San
Annahita Fallah	SFPUC	Mike Falk	HDR
Billy Dixon	Sonoma Co. Water	Natasha Dunn	SFEP
Cheryl Muñoz	City of Hayward	Negin Ashoori	BAWSCA
Daniel Larsen	Redwood City	Pam Phillips	City of American Canyon
Dan Frost	Central San	Pedro Hernandez	South Bay Water Recyc.
Diego Martinez Garcia	City of Palo Alto	Richard Foss	Central San
Eric Rosenblum	Enviroinspectives	Sachi Itagaki	Kennedy Jenks
Kevin Calcagno	Eurofins	Salvador Navarro	City of Hayward
Laila Mufty	City of Palo Alto	Sarah Rhodes	Woodard & Curran
Liana Olsen	Central San	Sindy Mulyono-Danre	Redwood City
Lorien Fono	BACWA	Will Burrell	Regional Water Board
Maricate Mangan	Valley Water		

2. 2nd Nutrient Watershed Permit – Special Study Update

Mike Falk from HDR gave an update on the progress of the Recycled Water Evaluation that is being conducted in compliance with the 2nd Nutrient Watershed Permit. All the emails with the 2nd RFIs have been sent out and 1/3 of the draft reports have been completed. There will be extensive dialog with each agency to follow up individual agency reports. Each agency will ultimately be required to sign off on their report.

3. USEPA National Water Reuse Action Plan (Rosenblum)

Lessons for successful collaboration:

Summary https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-03/multi-agency_water_reuse_programs-one_pager_march_2022.pdf

Full Report: https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-03/multi-agency_water_reuse_programs-lessons_for_successful_collaboration_march_2022.pdf

Eric Rosenblum gave a summary of the report developed for WRAP Action 2.16. Some key takeaways were:

- Economic benefits of a recycled water project need to be commensurate with costs for all participants
- The major barriers aren't legal, but are the difficulties in finding alignment between different agencies' interests.
- Leadership at all levels is key to project success.
- Hampton Roads and Southern Arizona provided important case studies on how water/wastewater agencies can move their interests into alignment

The presentation was followed by participants discussing their own agencies efforts to overcome interjurisdictional challenges to implement recycled water projects.

4. BACWA Updates

- BACWA's Annual meeting is open for [registration](#) and will be held May 6.
- BACWA is moving ahead with the second phase of its PFAS special study which will look at upstream sources of PFAS to POTW influent.

Funding Opportunities

Federal (Sachi Itagaki, KJ):

USBR:

- WaterSmart: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law contains \$1 billion over five years for water reclamation and reuse projects, including \$550 million for the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program and \$250 million for water desalination projects. \$250m is allocated for desalination in next years budget including sources from both ocean and brackish water. These projects require an approved Feasibility Study. Two of the funding opportunities released in January are for Title XVI projects, including one funding opportunity for projects authorized by Congress in standalone legislation and one funding opportunity open to projects eligible under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act. Funding opportunities invite sponsors of eligible projects to apply for up to 25% of the costs of planning, design, and construction scheduled for the next three years. For WIIN Act Title XVI projects and WIIN Act Desalination Construction projects, Reclamation has increased the total amount of funding for any one project to \$30 million. In contrast, the maximum amount of funding for a Title XVI project authorized by Congress is set by statute and is typically \$20 million.

USEPA

- WIFIA Loans - EPA can provide up to 49% of project costs to fund large projects > 20m- 2 step process – Agencies submit a letter of interest; then may receive invitation for application. There is a \$100k+ processing fee for technical/financial/environmental review.
- SRF 5 year plan includes the following allocations:
 - CWSRF emerging contaminants \$1b
 - DWSRF General supplemental \$11.7b
 - DWSRF emerging contaminants \$4b
 - DWSRF lead service fund - \$5b

State

State of CA-

- SWRCB -
 - CWSRF \$600m/year funding capacity recently
 - DWSRF \$300m/year funding capacity recently - priority on public health
 - Water Recycling Funding Program - Prop 1 and Prop 68 grant funds are encumbered
 - State Budget \$650m WW, \$650m DW (focus DAC); \$100m PFAS \$350m for GW clean up and water recycling project - includes \$100m for future; \$20m Mexico border rivers
- IUP process to continue - submitted to EPA to receive funds – deadline for submitting applications is 12/31 of each year to get on following year IUP.
- RW Feasibility Planning grants - up to \$150k with 50% match - rolling availability

DWR

In December, DWR released a final solicitation package for Round 2 of [IRWMP Prop 1 funding](#), which states that approximately \$182 million will be made available for implementation grant awards in Round The BAIRWMP Process and Planning Committee plans to submit an application for the solicitation and has met to discuss how projects will be selected for the application.

- Prop 1 IRWM Funding - final Round 2 PSP in April 2022
- \$192m total remaining
- In SF Bay \$6.5m DAC; \$22.75m for general IRWM
- An agency's project needs to be in IRWM plan and engaged with IRWM group

Any project seeking funding through the State Revolving Fund needs to comply with the [American Iron and Steel Act](#). Agencies should familiarize themselves with these requirements, which requires compliance documentation from vendors.

5. Site Supervisor Training Update

The committee is moving forward with plans to conduct a site supervisor training video series in calendar year 2022. The BACWA Executive Board agreed to allocate funding in the FY23 budget to hire a video editor. The Board will give final approval once a scope of work and budget are developed. The initial concept is to develop 4 videos, each about 10 minutes long. Anyone interested in helping with video production should contact Stefanie Olson.

6. Legislation and Regulatory Update (Reena Thomas, EBMUD)

Update from the WaterReuse California Leg/Reg committee:

- AB 2787 (Quirk) Microbeads/microplastics
 - i. Bill expands on CASA's bill to regulate microbeads/microplastics
 - ii. Keep it out of sewers and recycled water
 - iii. Committee recommends support position
- AB 2811 (Bennett) Onsite reuse/dual plumbing
 - i. WRCA concerned with requirement that by 2025 water board shall develop programs if not already developed locally, and requirement of onsite reuse for large commercial developments
 - ii. WRCA concerned with supporting State mandated water recycling programs across the board
 - iii. Members voiced concerns with mandate as onsite reuse is not always the preference to centralized reuse, local entity should make the determination
 - iv. Concerned with bill language that agencies have to show adverse impact in order to avoid State mandate
 - v. Committee recommends considering oppose unless amended position, put together a working group to evaluate
- AB 2387 (E. Garcia) Climate Bond
 - i. Bill unlikely to move forward, currently State has surplus so why take on more debt.
- SB 991 (Newman) Design build
 - i. Bill to allow for progressive DBB for larger public works projects (water, WW, recycled water included), selection process based on qualifications, owner-controlled process
 - ii. Gives broad authority to larger projects to have this alternative process of DBB as an option that can offer cost savings
 - iii. Metropolitan has separate bill to allow Met to use DB for projects
 - iv. Committee recommends support of the bills, but continue to review and make adjustment as needed
 - v. CASA and ACWA are taking support position
- SB 1144 (Wiener) Water efficiency and quality assessment reports
 - i. Graywater provision caught WRCA's attention
 - ii. Bill deals with assessing water efficiency, and assessing and remediating for lead pipes and water quality issues, in public state buildings and schools
 - iii. Bills also includes that State buildings and schools should evaluate and implement graywater for landscape irrigation
 - iv. Recycled water is not included in the bill
 - v. Committee recommends a watch position for now, consider whether to include recycled water as landscape irrigation option
- SB 12
 - i. Senator McGuire may be amending bill to include provisions requiring use of heat resistant materials for water infrastructure in high fire hazard areas

- ii. Flagged for further review – watch
- SB 1197
 - i. initiative to advance water innovation and drought resiliency to further new technologies and innovative approaches in the water sector
 - ii. Committee recommends a support position

Updates on Priority Bills:

- AB 2247 (Bloom) PFAS: WRCA Support (2022)
 - i. CASA-sponsored bill, requires manufactures of PFAS to disclose PFAS in public databases
 - ii. CASA will circulate a support template letter
 - iii. Committee recommends a support position
- SB 230 (Portantino) CECs Drinking Water: WRCA Support (2021)
 - i. Working on amendments
- SB 1157 (Hertzberg) Indoor Residential Water Use Standard: WRCA Oppose Unless Amend (2022); in alignment with CASA, ACWA... requesting review of study

7. Geotracker data is due April 30

- Portal now open for 2021 data (<https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/esi/login.asp>)

8. Agency updates/Announcements

Materials related to the January and February 2022 expert panel workgroup on direct potable reuse are [now available](#).

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 17, 2022, 10:30 AM by Zoom.