Meeting Date: June 5, 2024

Executive Board Meeting Date: June 21, 2024 BAPPG Chairs: Robert Wilson, Autumn Ross

Committee Request for Board Action: None

37 attendees participated virtually, representing 26 member agencies, the Regional Water Board, and two guest speakers.

Updates on Committee Activity and Announcements

- **Regional Water Board Announcements:** Nominations for the next <u>Dr. Teng-Chu Wu</u> Pollution Prevention Award will open in August.
- **Baywise Website:** A small group is working with consulting firm Civic Edge to implement design changes to the Baywise.org website over the coming months.
- BACWA Announcements: Materials from the 2024 BACWA Annual Members are now available on the BACWA website.
- **Budget:** The FY24 budget continues to be on track.
- **CWEA** is tentatively hosting its next Annual P3S Conference in San Jose in early 2025.

Stormwater Participation and Engagement

Amy Kronson, Assistant Director to the State Water Board's Office of Public Participation, provided a presentation on the history and current best practices for public engagement and participation in stormwater planning. Their presentation covered what good engagement looks like, and recommended in-person, comfortable spaces instead of formal spaces with strict engagement rules, like Board meetings. Assembly Bill 2108 (signed in 2022) requires the State Water Board and regional water boards to conduct outreach to identify issues of environmental justice in the planning, policy, and permitting (for example, see the Regional Water Board's September 2023 Racial Equity and Environmental Justice Action Plan). After Amy's presentation, attendees discussed the cost of regulatory requirements (which increase the cost of service) should be included in the public engagement process. This is a key concern for some agencies regarding compliance with the Tentative Order Nutrient Watershed Permit.

Operationalizing Equity in Infrastructure

Khalid Osman, Assistant Prof. of Civil & Environmental Engineering at Stanford University, described his field of research, focused on the interactions between infrastructure (like water and wastewater) and people. Disadvantaged communities often lack the social capital to correct infrastructure deficiencies. Prof. Osman shared graphics showing trends across the country and the State of California, where water systems are more frequently out of compliance in communities with more people of color and/or disadvantaged communities. He also shared case studies from Jackson, MS; Lowndes County, AL; Houston, TX; and East Palo Alto, CA illustrating ways that community engagement can result in better infrastructure policy and better infrastructure. For more information, check out the Osman Lab.

Next BAPPG General Meeting: August 7, 2024, 10am – 12pm, on Zoom