



B A C W A
BAY AREA
CLEAN WATER
AGENCIES

Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 17, 2025, 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM (PDT)
SFPUC

Executive Board Representatives: Jennie Pang (San Francisco Public Utilities Commission); Amit Mutsuddy (East Bay Municipal Utility District); Eric Dunlavy (City of San Jose); Jackie Zipkin (East Bay Dischargers Authority); Lori Schectel (Central Contra Costa Sanitary District).

Attendees

Name	Agency/Company
Aaron Winer	West County Wastewater District
Alicia Chakrabarti	EBMUD
Amanda Roa	Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District
Armondo Lopez	USD
Blake Brown	Central San
Dan Gill	DSRSD
Dave Richardson	Woodard & Curran
David Donovan	City of Hayward
Irene Chu	Hazen and Sawyer
Jennifer Dymant	BACWA
Joel Prather	SFPUC
Julie Weiss	City of Palo Alto
Lorien Fono	BACWA
Mary Cousins	BACWA
Mike Falk	HDR
Rob Learmonth	City of San Mateo
Sara Sadreddini	Black & Veatch
Sarah Scheidt	San Francisco International Airport
Tim Lewis	Dublin San Ramon Services District
Tom Hall	EOA
Violetta Muselli	Civic Edge

Jackie called the meeting to order at 9:04am

Agenda Item

ROLL CALL, INTRODUCTIONS, AND TELECONFERENCE ETIQUETTE

PUBLIC COMMENT None

CONSIDERATION TO TAKE AGENDA ITEMS OUT OF ORDER None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1 December 6, 2024, BACWA Executive Board meeting minutes

2 November 2024 Treasurer's Report

Consent Calendar items 1 and 2: A motion to approve was made by Amit Mutsuddy (EBMUD) and seconded by Eric Dunlavey (City of San Jose). All were in favor. None opposed. None abstained.

APPROVALS AND AUTHORIZATIONS

3 Approval: FY25 NMS Payment #2, \$1.1M

Approvals and Authorizations item 1: A motion to approve was made by Lori Schectel (Central Contra Costa Sanitary District) and seconded by Jennie Pang (San Francisco Public Utilities Commission). All were in favor. None opposed. None abstained.

POLICY/STRATEGIC

4 Discussion: Draft BACWA Communications Plan -BACWA ED summarized the history and need for a communications plan. The goal for the Communications Steering Committee is it will become a BACWA committee in the future, but at the present time it's activities are directed by the Board and implemented by the Executive Director. BACWA ED shared a slide that outlined BAPPG vs. Communication Steering Committee purview, committee status, leadership, membership, participation and regulatory role. BACWA ED shared that the plan is in the packet, and she asked for feedback by 1/24/2025.

Action item: BACWA ED to review and incorporate feedback received into the plan.

5 Presentation: Civic Edge presentation on social media vignettes - BACWA ED shared a summary of possible next steps for the communications plan. Violetta Muselli from Civic Edge shared unbranded social media content and possible events or exhibits that BACWA could sponsor, and the group provided feedback. Attendees supported developing content for use by member agencies, especially content for youth and science education programs.

Action item: BACWA ED & Civic Edge to incorporate group feedback.

6 Discussion: PFAS Update

i. PFAS in the news, NYTimes Article – in the packet.

ii. BAPPG PFAS Spring campaign - BACWA RPM shared the BAPPG committee plans to conduct a PFAS public outreach campaign in the spring. BACWA RPM shared a document that is in the packet containing the PFAS text that will be used on the baywise.org website. BACWA RPM requested input from BACWA members.

iii. PFAS Regulatory Update - BACWA RPM shared a slide that summarized recent EPA actions related to PFAS that are relevant to BACWA members, including draft human health water quality criteria, a draft biosolids risk assessment, pretreatment program regulations, and laboratory methods. Comments to EPA are due at different times and BACWA RPM will request comments as needed.

BREAK

7 Informational: Collective advocacy for nutrient funding - SFPUC offered to organize a group for collective advocacy for nutrient funding. This was decided at the Managers Roundtable Meeting on 1/16/2025. The group needs to work on messaging but agree that our region needs to work together.

8 Informational: RFI for Compliance Milestones - BACWA is preparing a Request for Information (RFI) for compliance schedule milestones as required by the 2024 Nutrient Watershed Permit. Mike Falk from HDR summarized the survey questions and how they will share the results. The request for information will be sent out next week and it is due in late February.

9 Informational: NMS Update – BACWA ED shared that there are notes in the packet and going forward the meeting minutes will be available online. SFEI is hiring a program manager to manage Nutrient Management Strategy (NMS) communication and project elements. The next NMS science planning meeting is January 22nd.

10 Informational: EPA Region IX SF Bay Program Office funding update - **BACWA ED shared that** – Eric Dunlavey shared that the NMS submitted a non-competitive grant application to EPA. Some of the funds have been received and there has been a discussion on how to prioritize and distribute these funds. There is an SFEI meeting next week to discuss how to allocate funding among the SFEI program areas.

11 Informational: Quaternary Ammonia Compounds - BACWA RPM will be sending Board members a draft comment letter for submittal to the CA Dept. of Toxics Substances Control. This comment letter will explain that wastewater treatment plants can experience process interference due to QACs.

Action item: BACWA RPM will send out the comment letter next week.

12 Discussion: Next joint meeting with R2 - BACWA ED summarized a draft meeting agenda with group. The next meeting is Monday March 10, 2025.

13 Informational: 2025 NPDES Compliance Letter - BACWA ED shared that the letter is in the packet. This letter summarizes work BACWA has done over the past year related to NPDES permit compliance, and is referenced by members' annual compliance reports.

OPERATIONAL

14 Informational: Update on BABC integration into BACWA - BACWA ED shared that the Bay Area Biosolids Coalition (BABC) has voted to integrate into BACWA, with 11 out of 12 BABC member agencies voting to approve the change (and one not voting). BACWA ED shared current BABC fees and funding ideas, and next steps.

Action item: BACWA ED will bring a resolution outlining the transition to the February BACWA board meeting for review.

15 Informational: FY26 Budget Schedule - BACWA ED shared that the schedule is in the packet.

16 Discussion: Nutrient surcharge calculations - BACWA ED shared the current calculation for each agency is proportional to annual TIN load. BACWA ED proposed a new calculation for each agency which is \$1,300 base for GAR + proportional to dry season TIN load so that the allocation is consistent with the load limitations. Attendees discussed that it may be prudent to create a separate fee category for minor dischargers (< 1 MGD).

Action item – BACWA ED will provide draft surcharge calculations at the next board meeting.

17 Discussion: Pardee dates - This item was agendaized because the Regional Monitoring Program (RMP) had scheduled their annual meeting to take place at the same time as BACWA's Pardee retreat (Oct 9 & 10). During the meeting, attendees shared that the RMP meeting was changed to October 15th, so there is no longer a schedule conflict.

18 Discussion: Annual meeting preliminary agenda - BACWA ED shared a draft agenda for the annual meeting on May 2, 2025. Attendees suggested having a climate change and emergency response panel in the morning session, and moving pollution prevention to the end of the day.

REPORTS

19 Committee Reports - in packet.

20 Member highlights - Meeting participants shared agency highlights. EBDA reported savings >\$250,000/year for sodium bisulfite due to regulatory changes for residual chlorine. SFPUC reported that the new Treasure Island plant will go online later in 2025. EBMUD reported that two new gas domes have been installed at their digesters. Central San has selected a consultant to assist with a nutrient mitigation roadmap. San Jose shared information about their NPDES permit reissuance.

21 Executive Director Report - in packet.

22 Board Calendar and Action Items - in packet.

23 Regulatory Program Manager Report - in packet.

24 Other BACWA Representative Reports

a. RMP Technical Review Committee Samantha Engelage, Alicia Chakrabarti,
Blake Brown

b. RMP Steering Committee Karin North; Amanda Roa; Eric Dunlavey

c. Summit Partners Lorien Fono; Jackie Zipkin

d. ASC/SFEI Lorien Fono; Amit Mutsuddy; Lori Schectel

e. Nutrient Governance Steering Committee Amit Mutsuddy, Eric Dunlavey;
alternates: Lori Schectel, Jackie Zipkin

e.i Nutrient Planning Subcommittee Eric Dunlavey

e.ii MERHAB MaTAG Amit Mutsuddy

f. SWRCB Nutrient SAG Lorien Fono

g. BAIRWMP Cheryl Munoz; Florence Wedington; Jackie Zipkin

h. CASA State Legislative Committee Lori Schectel

i. CASA Regulatory Workgroup Lorien Fono; Mary Cousins

j. RMP Microplastics Liaison Jesse McDermott

k. Bay Area Regional Reliability Project Jackie Zipkin

l. San Francisco Estuary Partnership Lorien Fono; Jackie Zipkin

m. CPSC Policy Education Advisory Committee Colleen Henry

n. California Ocean Protection Council Lorien Fono

o. California Water Quality Monitoring Council Lorien Fono

p. CASA Air Toxics Steering Committee Lorien Fono, Jason Nettleton

25 SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for February 21, 2025 at EBMUD Orinda.

ADJOURNMENT at 12:15