

Committee Request for Board Action: None

71 attendees participated remotely, including 42 representatives from 27 BACWA member agencies, the Regional Water Board, a guest speaker, and guests from the CWEA Laboratory Committee.

Standard Methods Microbiology Quality Control Sections Required by the 2024 MUR

John Gumper from [ChemVal](#) presented on changes to the quality control sections of Standard Methods for Microbiology affected by the most recent [EPA Routine Methods Update Rule 2](#) (rMUR 2) promulgated in April 2024. The presentation focused on changes to Standard Methods sections 9020 (QA/QC), 9030 (Laboratory Apparatus), 9040 (Washing Labware), and 9050 (Culture Media and Buffered Dilution Water). The presentation included details about the specific requirements that have changed in the most recent version of Standard Methods for topics such as calibration and verification of weights and balances, thermometers, reagent water, pH and conductivity meters, autoclaves, freezers, dilution water, buffers, culture media, spectrophotometers, and labware. For more information on the specific changes, see the presentation [video](#).

The presentation was a follow-up to John Gumper's [previous presentation in October 2024](#) on quality control in Standard Methods sections 2020, 3020, 4020, and 5020.

Member Survey on Laboratory Analyst Certification Requirements

Kristy Fournier (DSRSD) shared the results of a recent member survey regarding agency-specific requirements for laboratory staff to carry CWEA and/or AWWA certifications. Of the agencies that responded, about half require that their laboratory staff be certified as a [CWEA Laboratory Analyst](#) Grade I, II, III, or IV. A few agencies prefer (but do not require) the certification, or recognize AWWA certification in lieu of CWEA certification. A small number of laboratories recognize only a subset of the CWEA Laboratory Analyst grades (e.g., not Grade I). For agencies that require certification, it typically must be acquired during the probationary period, not before applying. The majority of agencies will cover the expense of exam fees, and some also cover the cost of training materials or provide a pay incentive. For full details, see [summary slides](#). The [complete survey results](#) are also available, but contain duplicates.

BACWA Announcements

- [Register by April 23rd](#) for the (free) BACWA Annual Members Meeting, Friday 5/2 in Berkeley
- The [2024 Group Annual Report](#) for the Nutrients Watershed Permit is now available. In addition to containing information about nutrient loads and flows (similar to past year), it also includes information about each agency's plans to meet final effluent limits for Total Inorganic Nitrogen.
- The Bay Area Biosolids Coalition is merging with BACWA to serve as BACWA's Biosolids Committee. To join the committee, email [Mary](#) or use the [BACWA website](#).

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 10th, 10 AM, Virtual

Jenn McClaren from ELAP will be joining for a Q&A session. Members are invited to share questions with Kristy Fournier in advance of the meeting.