



**TACWA Meeting Minutes
Garland, Texas
January 28, 2022
9:00 a.m.**

The Texas Association of Clean Water Agencies (TACWA) meeting on January 28, 2022, was hosted by the City of Garland Water Utilities Department and sponsored by ARCADIS, CP&Y, Gupta & Associates, Jones|Carter, and Mead & Hunt.

Those in attendance included: - See attached sign in sheet – Total Attendance 52

Business Meeting:

- President Patel opened the meeting, welcomed guests and thanked the City of Garland Water Utilities Department for hosting and the sponsors.
- President Patel announced his retirement with TACWA
- Introduction of Bill Gase as the new TACWA President and Lisa Boatman as the new Vice President.
- Nomination of Carol La Breche for Secretary and Walid Samarneh for Deputy Secretary for TACWA. Members approved the nomination by voice vote.
- Welcome – Wes Kucera, Managing Director of Water and Wastewater for Garland
 - Mr. Kucera welcomed everyone to Garland.
- Approved the November 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes.
- Motion approved to sponsor Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors Program at the signature level of \$5,000.00.

Meg Pierce-Walsh:

- Implementation Procedures Updates
 - Currently IPs in use are from 2010. While revisions were made and circulated in 2012, they were not adopted. IP revisions have been a topic for some time. Recently, the Water Quality Advisory Work Group identified the following concrete changes:
 - Procedures for WET RPA – these have been in use for some time
 - Updates to 7Q2 for classified segments
 - Updates to ambient water quality appendix
 - Updates to threatened & endangered species table
 - Updates to MAL
 - Inclusion of bioaccumulation equivalency factors for furans and dioxins
- Multi-Sector General Permit for industrial stormwater electronic reporting
 - TCEQ will use NetDMR in collaboration with the EPA for reporting benchmark and effluent monitoring for the MSGP that was issued in August 2021



- Not yet online/available, but anticipated to be available February 2022
- The TCEQ Advocate for small businesses and local government assistance will be hosting a webinar – it is tentatively scheduled for February 7th.
- WEAT nutrient committee
 - White paper anticipated this spring
 - Committee is working with TCEQ on next steps
- PFAS on federal level
 - In October 2021 EPA announced the PFAS Strategic Roadmap for 2021-2024 that uses a research, restrict, and remediate strategy
 - A number of initiatives applicable to water are planned for the next couple years. A few that are planned for sooner rather than later include:
 - Establishment of a national primary drinking water regulation for PFOAS and PFOS – proposed rule 2022
 - Restriction of PFAS from discharges for NPDES permits under EPA jurisdiction and issuance of state permitting guidance
 - Publish a multi-laboratory method for 40 PFAS in Fall 2022
 - Recommend ambient water quality criteria for PFAS – Winter 2022

Janet Sims:

- Revisions to the Water Quality Standards will go to the Commissioners on 2/23/2022. This action will be to obtain approval to propose the changes. On 2/28/2022 the proposal will be published in the Texas Register. There will be a public comment period from 2/28/2022 to 4/18/2022. There will also be a public hearing to discuss the revisions. Some of proposed changes include updates to health criteria for some carcinogens, the cadmium criteria, and site-specific criteria for bacteria and DO. There will also be proposed revisions to the provision related to temporary standards.
- The proposed changes to the Water Quality Standards will have to have EPA's approval before TCEQ can implement the revisions in TPDES permits.
- The approval process for the revisions to the Implementation Procedures has been delayed.

Julie Nahrgang:

- WEAT, TACWA and TWCA met with TCEQ in December regarding the permitting streamlining effort. Comments from that meeting will be submitted to the SUNSET Commission.
- Legislators will not have interim charges until middle of March.
- Texas received \$15 billion from Federal funding. None is dedicated to water. Senator Perry is trying to get some of that money redirected. Looking for possibility of having a conversation with senator Perry's office to advocate for the re-direction of funds.
- Speaker of the House is interested in flood fundings, while Senator Perry and the Lt Governor are not interested in flood money.
- National Water week is April 24 – 30, 2022. National Water Policy Fly-in is April 26 in Washington, DC. WEAT & TACWA will have a delegation.



- TACWA & WEAT Apprentice Program: We received the first designation in Texas to operate the apprenticeship program through the Department of Labor. The program itself unlocks potential federal funding for any employer or operator which they call him apprentice and will allow the employer to have access to potential employment pool through the Texas Work Force Commission regional boards.

Wes Kucera (NACWA Update):

- NACWA's Winter Conference – NACWA Board in-person meeting in Phoenix, AZ
- Texas Water is first week of April in San Antonio. There will be a meet & greet after sessions.

Technical Presentations:

- "Overcoming WRRF wet weather treatment challenges" – Ed Becker, PE, ARCADIS
- "Utilization of Tier 4 Generators for Water/Wastewater Facilities - A Case Study" - Mazhar Hajizadeh, GAI, and Bill Gase, City of Garland
- "Nutrient Removal in Texas - Overview and Case Study" - Bethany Miller, PE, Jones|Carter
- "It Wasn't Me! Real-Time Monitoring and Forecasting of Odors" - Charlotte Smith, P.E., Perkins Engineering Consultants, Inc.
- "Climatological Impact on Wet Weather Management and a Resiliency Plan for Future Wastewater Operators" - Pawan Gunjur, P.E., and Mike Graves, P.E., CP&Y

Future Meetings:

- a. March 25, 2022 – Austin Texas (Austin Water)
- b. May 20, 2022 – Flower Mound Texas (UTRWD)
- c. July 22, 2022 – Houston Texas (City of Houston and Gulf Coast Authority)
- d. September 23, 2022 – San Antonio Texas (SAWS)
- e. November – WEAT/TACWA Horizon Conference

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM