



**TACWA Meeting Minutes**  
**North Texas Municipal Water District, Wylie, Texas**  
**September 22, 2017**  
**9:00 a.m.**

The Texas Association of Clean Water Agencies (TACWA) meeting of **September 22, 2017**, was hosted by the **North Texas Municipal Water District** and sponsored by CH2M, Carollo Engineers, and HDR Inc.

**Those in attendance included:** Raj Bhattarai – City of Austin; Wes Kucera – City of Garland; Bill Gase – City of Garland; Ron Patel – City of Dallas; Ana J. Pena-Tijerina – City of Fort Worth; Jerry Pressley – City of Fort Worth; Jenna Covington – North Texas Municipal Water District; Bret Ellis – North Texas Municipal Water District; Rocio Galindo – North Texas Municipal Water District; Mike Rickman – North Texas Municipal Water District; Morgan Dadgostar – North Texas Municipal Water District; Shela Chowdhury – North Texas Municipal Water District; Ken Wesson – North Texas Municipal Water District; Denise Hickey – North Texas Municipal Water District; Phil Spitzer – North Texas Municipal Water District; Janet Rummel – North Texas Municipal Water District; Larry Patterson – UTRWD; Ellen McDonald – APAI; Janet Sims – APAI; Peggy Glass – APAI; Lauren Gonzalez – APAI; Chris Pasch – APAI; Jeff Cafey – APAI; Betty Jordan – APAI; Neepa Shah - Hazen and Sawyer; Scott Hardy - Hazen and Sawyer; Chamindra Dassanayake - Hazen and Sawyer; Brandt Miller - Hazen and Sawyer; Jay London - Hazen and Sawyer; Noel Pattengale – Arcadis; Sam Irrinki – Weston Solutions; Randy McIntyre – Garver; V. K. Gupta – Gupta and Associates; Ashok Varma – Stantec; Varsha Wylie – Stantec; Joel Cantwell – HDR; Ahsan Moeen – 2M Associates; Steve Frost – Carollo; Rudy Kilian – Carollo; Thelma Box – Pacheco Koch; Mia Welch – CH2M Hill; Eric Redmond – CH2M Hill; Samir Mathur – CDM; Smith Justin Rackley – CDM Smith; Mostafa Hashad – Parsons; Andre Grace – RPS; Santiago Velez – Gresham, Smith and Partners; Erin Flanagan – Freese and Nichols; Grace Sober – LAN;

**Business Meeting:**

President Kucera opened the meeting, welcomed guests and thanked the sponsors, and then requested introductions from all the attendees.

**Peggy Glass:**

Work is continuing on developing a coalition to work with TCEQ and EPA to develop a more scientifically sound method of regulating dissolved salts in surface waters. Both a national and a State strategy are needed.

The possibility of working through NACWA to approach EPA on a national level will be explored at the NACWA Fall Strategic Leadership Meeting on October 24-25. The objectives of this effort would be to get EPA to accept application of the Iowa criteria for chloride and sulfate on a national basis (at



present some regions have accepted this approach and others have not) and to convince EPA that Total Dissolved Solids and conductivity are not good criteria for protecting aquatic life.

The possibility of expanding the coalition to include the Texas Water Conservation Association will be explored at its Fall meeting October 25-27. Efforts on the State level would focus on developing interim solutions that can be applied until EPA revises its approach to the dissolved salts criteria; insuring that efforts in Texas and at the national level are coordinated; and determining how to address Texas-specific issues, such as how to set standards for West Texas waters that are naturally high in dissolved salts.

**Janet Sims:**

The Proposed revisions to the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards of the Title 30 Texas Administrative Code were published on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Comments to the proposed revisions are due October 17<sup>th</sup>. A public hearing on the revisions will be held at TCEQ on October 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00.

Proposed changes include numerous revisions to toxic criteria. Four new chemicals were added to the list for the protection of human health. How these chemicals will impact POTWs with pretreatment programs is a concern. The report with the proposed revisions does not address implementation of the new criteria.

It was agreed that a comment letter will be drafted and submitted to TCEQ on behalf of TACWA and WEAT.

**Raj Bhattarai:**

During the NACWA Water Quality Committee meeting at the NACWA Conference in St. Louis, Missouri in July, I briefed the committee members and NACWA staff about the TDS, chlorides and sulfates challenges facing TACWA members and non-members alike in Texas. The Committee members and staff were very interested in the topic. Their interest is reflected in the fact that Peggy Glass has been invited to be a panelist in a panel discussion entitled "*Addressing Arid State & Water Quantity Issues – We're All in this Together*" during NACWA's Fall Strategic Leadership and Board of Directors Meetings in Salt Lake City next month.



## **Technical Presentations:**

- NTMWD Public Awareness Campaign – Janet Rummel and Denise Hickey, NTMWD
- NTMWD's Approach to Long-Term Water Resource Recovery Planning – Shela Chowdhury, NTMWD and Mia Welch, CH2M
- Wilson Creek RWWTP Expands to Accommodate Rapid Growth – Bret Ellis, NTMWD and Steve Frost, Carollo
- CMOM Implementation Ramps Up: Lift Station Condition Assessment and Electronic O&M Manuals – Scott Hoelzle, NTMWD and Joel Cantwell, HDR