



**TACWA Meeting Minutes
Flower Mound, Texas
March 23, 2018
9:00 a.m.**

The Texas Association of Clean Water Agencies (TACWA) meeting of March 23, 2018, was hosted by the Upper Trinity Regional Water District and sponsored by Alan Plummer Associates, Inc., Carollo Engineers, CDM Smith, and Stantec.

Those in attendance included:

Magda Alanis - City of Houston; Bill Gase - City of Garland; Julie Nahrgang - WEAT/TACWA; Wes Kucera - City of Garland; Lisa M. Boatman - City of Austin; John Byrum - City of Corpus Christi; Alex Stuart - City of Garland; Carol La Breche - City of Houston; Walid Samarneh - City of Houston; Leonard Levine - GCA; Steve Allen - Town of Flower Mound; Cynthia Robinson - TRA; Kevin Burks - TRA; Patty Cleveland - TRA; Tom Jacobs - TRA; Joan Hilton - UTRWD; Jody Zabolio - UTRWD; Kim Probasco - UTRWD; Michelle Carte - UTRWD; Todd A Williams - UTRWD; Alan Tucker - APAI; Betty Jordan - APAI; Chris Pasch - APAI; Chris Young - APAI; Ernest To - APAI; Jeff Caffey - APAI; Lauren Gonzalez - APAI; Peggy Glass - APAI; Farr Fakheri - Black & Veatch; Ignacio Cadena - Black & Veatch; Jonathan Shirk - Black & Veatch; John Awezec - Carollo Engineers; Sam Barraco - Carollo Engineers; Scott Hoff - Carollo Engineers; Justin Rackley - CDM Smith; Samir Mathur - CDM Smith; Megan Martin - CP&Y; Michael Graves - CP&Y; Randy Bush - CP&Y; David Jackson - FNI; Chad Simmons - Freese & Nichols; Daniel Ghobrial - GAI; George Luke - GAI; V.K. Gupta - GAI; Tina Hanson - Garver; Felix Carles - Gresham Smith & Partners; Tim O'Brien - Gresham Smith & Partners; Brandt Miller - Hazen & Sawyer; Chamindra Dassanayake - Hazen & Sawyer; Scott Hardy - Hazen & Sawyer; Dev Chelliah - HVJ Associates; Fadi Faraj - HVJ Associates; Nash Reddy - Jacobs CH2M; Mia Welch - Jacobs CH2M; Raj Mehta - Jacobs CH2M; Baker Ashiwaya - JONES | CARTER; Jason Bybel - Kennedy/Jenks; Nicole Conner - Kennedy/Jenks; Alberto Mercado Flores - LAN Inc; Tom Ray - LAN Inc; Clint Bissett - Pacheco Koch; Thelma Box - Pacheco Koch; Mostafa Hashad - Parsons; Janet Sims - Perkins Engineering; Mark Perkins - Perkins Engineering; Andre Garces - RPS; Ramon Salazar - RPS; Amy Campbell - Stantec; Art Umble - Stantec; Ashok Varma - Stantec; Sam Irrinki - Weston Solutions;

Business Meeting:

- President Alanis opened the meeting, welcomed guests and thanked the Upper Trinity Regional Water District for hosting and the sponsors. Informed attendees about the future meetings this year.
- Welcome – Larry N. Patterson, P.E., Executive Director, Upper Trinity Regional Water District
 - Mr. Patterson shared information about the Upper Trinity Regional Water District Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants.
- Approved the January 26, 2018 Meeting Minutes.



Peggy Glass:

The TDS Committee (Ashleigh Acevedo, Bill Gase, Chris Pasch, Janet Sims, Julie Nahrgang, Peggy Glass, and Raj Bhattarai) met with TCEQ (Jill Csekitz, Joe Martin, Kelly Holligan, Peter Schaefer, David Galindo, Gregg Easley, and L'Oreal Stepney) on February 12th of this year to discuss policy recommendations for dissolved salts water quality standards.

Regulation of dissolved salts to protect water quality is a national issue that is of interest to NACWA. On March 15, 2018, Chris Hornback with NACWA facilitated a meeting with EPA Headquarters Office of Science and Technology to discuss difficulties permittees are encountering, the status of criteria development, and alternatives when standards could not be met. Julie Nahrgang, Raj Bhattarai (by telephone), Peggy Glass, Chris Pasch, Chris Hornback (NACWA), Emily Remmel (NACWA), and by phone Jim Pletl (Hampton Roads Sanitation District) attended the meeting. EPA Headquarters was unaware that compliance with water quality standards for dissolved salts is a major issue for permittees across the country and that providing treatment is a major barrier. They also were not aware of the many different types of sources of dissolved salts that are a problem. They seemed open to a continuing dialog regarding how to approach standards and permits for dissolved salts while, and after, EPA Office of Research Development develops criteria. Following up on this may involve additional dialog on the variance process, and possibly the total maximum daily load (TMDL) process since this was also mentioned as a potential tool – in addition to the development of chloride and sulfate criteria.

Janet Sims:

The 2016 TCEQ Integrated Report (IR) may be out for public comment in a couple of months. The IR report summarizes the quality of the waters in Texas. The publication of the 2016 report is two years late because this is the first report that will include the assessment of nutrient data. There have been disagreements between TCEQ and EPA on how to assess the water quality data for nutrient. No resolution to this disagreement has been reached. However, TCEQ has discussed not waiting any longer to publish the report. The 2018 IR should be published soon as well. There will be a 30-day public comment period after each IR is published. It is recommended that the criteria and data in the reports be reviewed to verify the results of the assessments are correct.

Julie Nahrgang:

Texas Legislative Front – There is not a lot going on between sessions. Most committee hearings are focusing on Harvey related issues. Water issues may be coming up in the summer sessions.

Federal Front – WOTUS 2015 Rule was delayed until 2020 so that the EPA and rewrite the WOTUS. They have two years to rewrite WOTUS.

Upcoming events – TXWATER in April, NACWA/WEAT DC Policy Fly-In in April, and the Horizon Conference on November 8, 2018 in Austin. The next TACWA meeting is in Garland on May 25, 2018.



Technical Presentations:

- “Riverbend Water Reclamation Plant Expansion Using the CMAR Delivery Method,” - John Awezed, P.E. and Sam Barraco, P.E., Carollo Engineers
- “Using Advanced Water Quality Modeling to Support Renewal of Lakeview Regional Water Reclamation Plant Permit,” – Ernest To, Ph.D., P.E., Alan Plummer Associates, Inc.
- “Wastewater Centrate Treatment: Lessons Learned in Full-Scale Startup in Denver” - Dr. Arthur Umble, Vice President, Stantec
- “Trinity River Authority of Texas Starts Move from Lime Stabilization to Thermal Hydrolysis and Anaerobic Digestion” – Tom Jacobs, Trinity River Authority and Samir Mathur, CDM Smith