



TACWA Meeting Minutes
Wylie, Texas
January 25, 2019
9:00 a.m.

The Texas Association of Clean Water Agencies (TACWA) meeting of January 25, 2019, was hosted by the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) and sponsored Alan Plummer (APAI), Arcadis, Black & Veatch, and Hazen & Sawyer.

Those in attendance included:

Magda Alanis - City of Houston; Ron Patel - City of Dallas; Bill Gase - City of Garland; Wes Kucera - City of Garland; Julie Nahrgang - WEAT/TACWA; Gordon Pederson - GCA; Alex Stuart - City of Garland; Carol La Breche - City of Houston; Walid Samarneh - City of Houston; Denise Ehrlich - GCA; Leonard Levine - GCA; Brooke Noack - NTMWD; Donna Long - NTMWD; Jenna Covington - NTMWD; Ken Wesson - NTMWD; Morgan Dadgostar - NTMWD; Phil Spitzer - NTMWD; Cynthia Robinson - TRA; John Bennett - TRA; Patty Cleveland - TRA; Michelle Carte - UTRWD; Ahsan Moeen - 2M Associates; Rami Issa - AECOM; Chris Pasch - APAI; Chris Young - APAI; Jeff Caffey - APAI; Peggy Glass - APAI; Ben Kuhnel - Arcadis; Charles Schoening - Arcadis; Noel Pattengale - Arcadis; Tongren Zhu - Arcadis; Sherri van der Wege - Atkins; Eric Redmond - Black & Veatch; Farr Fakheri - Black & Veatch; Ignacio Cadena - Black & Veatch; Jonathan Shirk - Black & Veatch; Laura Stratton - Black & Veatch; Alex Applegate - Carollo Engineers; Steve Frost - Carollo Engineers; Randy Bush - CP&Y; Walter Chiang - CP&Y; Daniel Ghobrial - GAI; George Luke - GAI; Puneet Gupta - GAI; V.K. Gupta - GAI; Edward Keenan - Garver; Mostafa Hashad - Garver; Chris Kaakaty - Gresham Smith; Tim O'Brien - Gresham Smith; Brandt Miller - Hazen & Sawyer; Chamindra Dassanayake - Hazen & Sawyer; Neeva Shah - Hazen & Sawyer; Scott Hardy - Hazen & Sawyer; Jennifer Henke - Jacobs CH2M; Jason Bybel - Kennedy/Jenks; Nicole Conner - Kennedy/Jenks; Grace Sober - LAN Inc; Jeremy Nakashima - LAN Inc; Sara Thornton - Lloyd Gosselink; Dean Vrla - Pacheco Koch; Allen Bud Beene - Parsons; Andre Garces - RPS; Ashok Varma - RPS; Ramon Salazar - RPS; Sam Irrinki - Weston Solutions; Eric Fields - EI2; Brett Woods - Evoqua;

Business Meeting:

- President Alanis opened the meeting, welcomed guests and thanked the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) for hosting and the sponsors. Informed attendees about the future meetings this year.
- Welcome – Tom Kula, Executive Director of NTMWD
 - Mr. Kula talk about NTMWD providing Water, Wastewater, and Solid Waste Services and shared thoughts about the greatest challenges of 2019. Asked audience to share their challenges.
- Approved the November 8, 2018 Meeting Minutes.



Peggy Glass:

TDS Coalition Update: Committee met with TCEQ in November 2018. Proposed revisions to the way TDS is handled in the Implementation Procedures. A different approach for assessing unclassified waters; use of median rather than harmonic mean for screening, and allowance of 400 mg/L increase in TDS for domestic users were proposed. Also, talked about the how to assess streams during periods of drought conditions. The committee is currently scheduling a follow-up meeting with TCEQ (most likely to occur in February 2019).

Implementation Procedures. TCEQ is continuing to work on the IPs. In the near term they anticipate adopting a revision that includes the policies that have been approved by EPA on dechlorination, WET screening, and pH. Any other revisions will be developed for adoption when the 2021 Water Quality Standards revisions are adopted.

Be aware that there are new parameters on the toxic chemical list. Not all of the added chemicals have an approved testing method.

Julie Nahrgang:

Gave an update on the 86th Texas Legislature. January 25th is the 19th day of the 140 days the Texas Legislature is scheduled to be in session this year. One can expect the House and Senate to work better together this session. The main items for this session are Public Education Funding and Property Tax Reform. This week the House Committee assignments were announced.

Filed Water Bills of Interest:

Flood Planning – SB 396, SB 397, SB 179 Mile,

Flood/Disaster Funding – HB 91 Martinez(D), HB 230 Krause(D), HB 274 Davis, HB 478 Phelan(R), SB 397 Perry

Disaster Alert/Preparedness, Dam Release Alert – HB 26 Metcalf(R); HB 34 Raymond(D); HB 91 Martinez; HB 137 Hinojosa(D); SB 180 Miles(D); SB 285 Miles()

State Agency Rules – HB 100 Johnson, HB 112 Swanson(R), HB 415 Guerra(D), HB 654 Dutton(D), SB 122 West(D), SB 180 Environmental Racism

Cyber Security/Attacks – HB 351 Blanco, SB Nelson(R)

Refiling bills (vetoed in the last session):

HB 720 (Larson) – Relating to appropriations of water for use in aquifer storage and recovery projects

HB 721 (Larson) – Relating to the duty of the TWDB to conduct studies of and submit reports on aquifer storage and recovery (ASR)

HB 722 (Larson) – Relating to the development of brackish groundwater

HB 723 (Larson) – Relating to a requirement that the TCEQ obtain or develop updated water availability models for certain river basins

HB 724 (Larson) – Relating to the authorization of the TCEQ of the discharge, diversion, and transfer or other reuse of treated brackish groundwater and return flows derived from treated brackish groundwater

HB 726 (Larson) – Relating to the regulation of groundwater



What to Watch

Produced Water/O&G/Injection Well Legislation

HB 1044 (Zwiener) – Relating to permits for certain injection wells that transect a portion of the Edwards Aquifer

Biosolids/DS Land Application Legislation - 7 bills in 85th Session

Gordon Pederson (NACWA Update):

Wes Kucera is going to be presented to the NACWA Board to be our representative on the NACWA Board during the Winter Conference the 5th through the 8th of February in Albuquerque New Mexico. PEAK Performance Award applications have now opened up and the deadline date is March 29, 2019.

EPA Administrative Order – The President has signed the Integrated Planning Bill. This bill codifies the US Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Integrated Planning (IP) approach into law, providing local communities with critical new flexibilities in meeting their Clean Water Act (CWA) obligations. There is a press release on the NACWA Website (<http://www.nacwa.org/news-publications/press-release/2019/01/15/president-signs-integrated-planning-bill-into-law-nacwa-touts-greater-long-term-certainty-for-clean-water-investments-in-communities>).

NACWA's Legislative Water Week (March 31 to April 6) conflicts with Texas Water. WEAT and TACWA will be joining TXAWWA in participating in AWWA's Legislative Water Week the last week in March (March 26 to 28).

Technical Presentations:

- "When Brew and Poo Mix – Craft Brewery Impact on Wastewater Treatment" – Chris Pasch and Ashley Lewis, APAI
- "How Innovative Tools and Use of Site-Specific Data Helped Save \$20 Million in WWTP Wet Weather Upgrades" – Donna Long, PE, NTMWD and Brandt Miller, PE, Hazen and Sawyer
- "Maximizing Plant Capacity – A BioMag Implementation" – Roshan Thapa, NTMWD, Noel Pattengale, PE, Arcadis and Tongren Zhu, PhD, Arcadis
- "Process Optimization to Increase Performance of Existing Infrastructure and Reduce O&M Costs" – Eric Redmond, Black & Veatch