



**TACWA Meeting Minutes
Austin, Texas
January 26, 2018
9:00 a.m.**

The Texas Association of Clean Water Agencies (TACWA) meeting of January 26, 2018, was hosted by the Austin Water and sponsored by Alan Plummer Associates, Inc., Black & Veatch, and Garver.

Those in attendance included: Magda Alanis – City of Houston; Ron Patel – City of Dallas; Bill Gase – City of Garland; Wes Kucera – City of Garland; John Byrum – City of Corpus Christi; Daniel Deng – City of Corpus Christi; Heather Cooke – City of Austin Water; Raj Bhattarai – City of Austin Water; Shannon Dunne – City of Houston; Cynthia Robinson – Trinity River Authority; Gordon Pederson – Gulf Coast Authority; Leonard Levine – Gulf Coast Authority; Denise Ehrlich – Gulf Coast Authority; Michelle Carte – Upper Trinity Regional Water District; Julie Nahrgang – WEAT/TACWA; Jeff Sober – Garver; Ashleigh Acevedo – Lloyd Gosselink; Lauren Gonzalez – Alan Plummer Associates; Randy Palachek – Parsons; Jaime Burke – AECOM; Ryan Pierce – Alan Plummer Associates; Chris Pasch – Alan Plummer Associates; Rex Hunt – Alan Plummer Associates; Janet Sims – Perkins Engineering; Raymond Longoria – Freese & Nichols; Greg Swoboda – Garver; David Briggs – CDM Smith; Eric Dawson – Parsons; Charles Schoening – Arcadis; Jason Bybel – Kennedy/Jenks; Matt Berg – CH2M Jacobs; Chris Young – Alan Plummer Associates; Ernest To – Alan Plummer Associates; Ian Clements – LNV, Inc.; Andrew Shaw – Black & Veatch; Peggy Glass – Alan Plummer Associates; Farr Fakheri – Black & Veatch; Sam Irrinki – Weston; Lynne Moss – Black & Veatch; Samantha Rodriguez – Black & Veatch; Jesse White – Schneider Electric

Business Meeting:

- President Kucera opened the meeting, welcomed guests and thanked the sponsors.
- President Kucera ended his term as President and passed over the leadership role to Vice President Alanis.
- Secretary Patel was then moved into the Vice President Role.
- Past President Kucera nominated Bill Gase with the City of Garland for the Secretary position. The nomination was approved and seconded. Bill Gase was elected by a voice vote by all of the members in attendance.
- President Alanis, requested approval of November 2017 Meeting Minutes, and then requested introductions from all the attendees.



Peggy Glass:

Reported that a meeting has been scheduled with L'Oreal Stepney at TCEQ on February 12 to present recommended revisions to the water quality standards and Implementation Procedures provisions related to dissolved salts (total dissolved solids, chloride, and sulfate). The recommendations for standards will be developed for inclusion in the next triennial revision, not the 2018 revision. The committee representing the TDS Coalition is recommending the following:

- Standards:
 - No standards for unclassified waters-quality is controlled by compliance with standards for first downstream classified water.
 - Chloride and sulfate standards based on Iowa approach (studies of ion toxicity to aquatic life) except where naturally occurring salt concentrations are higher.
 - No TDS standards except to protect water supply and agricultural uses.
 - No conductivity standards.
 - Exemptions during drought.

- Implementation Procedures:
 - Screen for need for permit limits based on median flow instead of harmonic mean flow.
 - Exempt domestic dischargers from potential limits if the increase in TDS in the effluent compared to the TDS in the water supply does not exceed 400 mg/L.
 - Exempt discharger from permit limits if discharge is passing Whole Effluent Toxicity testing.
 - Provide exemption based on net environmental benefit.
 - Provide for the establishment of a temporary standard for periods up to 20 years, with revalidation in 5-year increments.
 - Consider managing dissolved salts through a Pollutant Management Plan rather than numeric limits.

Raj Bhattarai:

Informed attendees of the opportunity to apply for a scholarship to be part of the U.S. delegation in attendance at [Singapore International Water Week \(SIWW\)](#), July 8 – 12, 2018. NACWA, the Water Environment Federation and The Water Research Foundation have partnered with the host utility, Public Utility Board of Singapore, to sponsor a U.S. delegation of high level utility managers supported by a scholarship to assist in funding international participation. If interested, NACWA member high level utility managers should **apply by the February 2, 2018 deadline**. For additional questions, please call Raj at 512-972-0075 or email him at Raj.Bhattarai@austintexas.gov.



Julie Nahrgang:

Gave a legislative update. Mentioned the upcoming November elections and the turnover of the leadership in the State House.

Technical Presentations:

- “TCEQ Water Quality Update” – David Galindo, Director, Water Quality Division, TCEQ
- “Fine Screens: Optimum Design for Maximum Results” – Jeff Sober, P.E. & Greg Swoboda, P.E., Garver
- “Dynamic Water Quality Model of Oso Bay: Not Your Father’s TCEQ Model (aka: A Year in the Life of a Bay)” – John Byrum, City of Corpus Christi, and Ernest To, Alan Plummer Associates, Inc.
- “Comprehensive Wastewater Master Planning – A Sustainable Approach for Future Growth” – Andrew R. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE, ENV SP, Black & Veatch