



**TACWA Meeting Minutes
San Antonio, Texas
September 21, 2018
9:00 a.m.**

The Texas Association of Clean Water Agencies (TACWA) meeting of September 21, 2018, was hosted by San Antonio Water System (SAWS) and sponsored Archer Western Contractors, Arcadis, Freese & Nichols, and Hazen & Sawyer.

Those in attendance included:

Magda Alanis - City of Houston; Ron Patel - City of Dallas; Bill Gase - City of Garland; Julie Nahrgang - WEAT/TACWA; Gordon Pederson - GCA; Raj Bhattarai - City of Austin; Lisa M. Boatman - City of Austin; Carol La Breche - City of Houston; Walid Samarneh - City of Houston; Leonard Levine - GCA; Jeff Haby - SAWS; Marco Ramos - SAWS; Michael Galindo - SAWS; Pete Chavol - SAWS; Temple Williamson - SAWS; Jody Zabolio - UTRWD; Chris Pasch - APAI; Chris Young - APAI; Jessie Guerra - APAI; Mary Portillo - APAI; Peggy Glass - APAI; Rex Hunt - APAI; Charles Schoening - Arcadis; Gopal Guthikonda - CP&Y; Marisa Vergara - CP&Y; Philip Topek - CP&Y; Ted Stawasz - CP&Y; John Manning - FNI; Mark Graver - FNI; Raymond Longoria - FNI; Robert Jenkins - FNI; Greg Swoboda - Garver; Brandt Miller - Hazen & Sawyer; Dwayne Amos - Hazen & Sawyer; Marcela Sion - Hazen & Sawyer; Jonathan Vorheis - Jacobs CH2M; Jason Bybel - Kennedy/Jenks; Daniel Dow - LAN Inc; Nathan Vassar - Lloyd Gosselink; Sara Thornton - Lloyd Gosselink; Enrique Valdez - LNV, Inc; Stephanie Silvia - LNV, Inc; Randy Palachek - Parsons; Janet Sims - Perkins Engineering; Mark Perkins - Perkins Engineering; Ashok Varma - RPS; Luis Cuellar - RPS; Andrew Swirsky - Stantec; Tevor Stokes - Stantec; David James - Wastewater Training & Compliance; Sam Irrinki - Weston Solutions

Business Meeting:

- President Alanis opened the meeting, welcomed guests and thanked San Antonio Water System (SAWS) for hosting and the sponsors. Informed attendees about the future meetings this year.
- Welcome – Steve Clouse, Senior Vice President & Chief Operating Officer of SAWS
 - Mr. Clouse shared thoughts on Raj Bhattarai's retirement and talked about the good things happening at SAWS and in San Antonio.
- Approved the July 27, 2018 Meeting Minutes.
- President Alanis shared thoughts on Raj Bhattarai's retirement.
- Raj Bhattarai shared a few words of wisdom. He is retiring but will not be fading away. This is his last meeting as a member but he will attend future meetings as an affiliate and will stay involved with this industry.



- Members approved updating the TACWA Website.
- A Motion was made, seconded and approved by members to nominate Wes Kucera, Managing Director Water & Wastewater, City of Garland for a three year term as Board Member representing Region 6

Peggy Glass:

TDS Coalition Update: On Wednesday 9/19 additional information about the practices of additional Western states with respect to determining Reasonable Potential and setting permitted effluent quality limits for dissolved salts was sent to TCEQ. We are currently discussing with TCEQ on whether or not to use the Harmonic Mean for Mass Balance calculation for the allowable discharge concentration for a dissolved salt. We don't believe the Harmonic Mean is appropriate and haven't been able to find any other state using Harmonic Mean for salts. We will be meeting with the state to get on the same page regarding the way TCEQ might implement this change and other potential changes in the way dissolved salts are managed in Texas. After that, we will then request a meeting with EPA Region 6. EPA Headquarters has been an issue, we would like to move to the method Iowa has developed. We are working through NACWA to set up meetings with the EPA. The EPA is now moving the salt discussion to the front of the line to finalize their position.

Janet Sims:

The TCEQ Water Quality and Monitoring Assessment Group met and discussed how to incorporate drought issues into their review of water quality data to develop the Integrated Report. How to identify and evaluate data collected during a drought was a specific topic of discussion at the meeting, and TCEQ put forth specific questions to participants requesting their recommendations. Comments have been prepared and were submitted earlier today (9/21/2018). Status update of the 2016 Integrated Report, should have been settled two years ago. The 2018 Integrated Report should have been out this past April (April 2018). TCEQ is running behind and are not wanting to make a lot of changes with assessment methods.

Julie Nahrgang:

Nothing to update on the legislative front. There is still a lot of uncertainty. No one knows who will be the next Speaker of the House. Interim Committee Reports are due in Dec or Jan. In regards to TCEQ, there has been a lot of changes in leaders at the agency. On the Federal front, the Blending Rule Roundtable is scheduled for October 15 and a new rule is expected next year. Speaking about uncertainty, there is uncertainty about the status of WOTUS, still no clear indication on what is what with respect to the 2015 rule.

The November TACWA business meeting will be held during the Horizon Conference on November 8. Prefiling of bills in the state legislature begins on November 12. The next legislature session convenes on January 8.

Gordon Pederson (NACWA Update):

Nothing to report. The Fall Strategic Leadership Meeting will be in October.



Technical Presentations:

- “Resource Recovery – Your Path to Doing More with Less” – Brandt Miller, PE, and Dwayne Amos, PE from Hazen and Sawyer
- “Leon Creek Plant Improvements” - John Manning, PE, Freese & Nichols, and Pete Chavol, PE, SAWS
- “Biosolids Enhancements at the Dos Rio Plant – Blend Tanks & Centrifuges” - Garrett Kehoe, PE, Arcadis
- “SAWS SSO Program Achievements” - Mr. Jeff Haby P.E., Vice President, SAWS