

BACWA Recycled Water Committee Meeting Notes

EBMUD Headquarters – 2nd Floor Small Training Room

June 3, 2015

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

1) Introductions – Muñoz

Cheryl Muñoz - SFPUC

Lorien Fono - BACWA

Roanne Ross – Whitley Burchett Associates for Redwood City

Stephanie Olson – Dublin San Ramon Services District

Rhodora Biagtan - Dublin San Ramon Services District

Vince Christian – Regional Water Quality Control Board

Paul Gilbert-Snyder – EBMUD

Linda Hu – EBMUD

Dan Jackson – City of Benicia

David Williams – BACWA

Leah Walker – City of Petaluma

On phone

Ball Cha – Central Contra Costa Sanitary District

Jenny Gain – Brown and Caldwell

Anita Jain – Whitley Burchett Associates

Tom Hall - EOA

2) Update on Prop 1 – Muñoz/Hu

a. Prop 1

i. Chapter 9 – Water Recycling

1. *Increased budget – potential three year appropriation* – There is an additional \$475M in funding for recycled water projects in the new Governor's budget, with a new total of \$606M. This funding will be spent over three years.

ii. IRWM

1. A Public Scoping Meeting to seek input on program development will be held in Summer 2015, but no date has yet been set. This may be an opportunity to advocate for recycled water. There is \$65M for the Bay Area, with only \$3M for the first year. Linda and Cheryl will gather talking points to share with the Coordinating Committee liaison.
2. Coordinating Committee liaison, Carol Mahoney of Zone 7, will participate.

3) Update on Prop 84 2015 IRWM Round – Muñoz/Hu

a. Bay Area projects

The IRWM Coordinating Committee (CC) has finalized its list of proposed projects to be included in the Bay Area Regional Application to DWR (\$41M total). No recycled water or wastewater/nutrient projects were recommended. It may be possible that DWR will turn down one of the recommended projects, which could then be replaced with a recycled water project. The primary project (\$19M) in the Regional Application is a precipitation forecasting project, AQPI, to improve water resources planning such as reservoir management. The funds will be used to buy monitoring stations for three regions. DWR provided a support letter for the AQPI project.

The “truing up” of functional areas was the main driver for project selection and the reason that recycled water/wastewater was excluded. Recycled water projects were also excluded due to the perception that they can pursue Proposition 1 funding later this year. Rhodora Biagtan of Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) came to the last CC meeting to make the point that Prop 1 is not a solution for all recycled water projects. Proposition 1 Chapter 9 has limitations such as the fact that

construction of treatment facilities is the lowest funding priority. At least 50% of the capacity of the facility must be operational within the first year, which does not make sense for long-term facilities planning. Funding is geared toward pipeline expansion, followed by groundwater recharge. Proposition 1 is also very application intensive because projects need to go through the state revolving fund (SRF) process. There is still a large amount of funding through the SRF that the State wants to use up first, and projects will be offered a combination loan and grant package.

4) SWRCB Draft SRF Guidelines – Muñoz/Hu

a. *Scheduled for June 16 adoption by the SWRCB.*

5) Legislation and Regulatory Update

a. *Trailer Bill on CEQA exemption for recycled water (trailer bill is in budget process, not legislative) –* This is the way the administration introduces their legislation. There are several major policy items in the budget trailer bills this year. WaterReuse is generally supportive of the bills' content, but they are concerned about using the budget process to decide on policy issues.

- [831](#) CEQA Exemption for Drought Mitigation
- [832](#) CEQA Exemption for Water Recycling

b. Other bills?

6) Truck fill stations

a) *Presentation on DSRSD's Commercial and Residential Truck-Fill Station Program – Olson/Biagtan* Stephanie Olson gave a [presentation](#) on DSRSD water recycling program. They have a distribution system, as well as a commercial and residential truck fill program, which has grown due to the drought. She went through the process of how DSRSD got approval from the Division of Drinking Water and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) for implementation of their residential reuse program. DSRSD's residential fill program is free to all, not just to residents of their service area. They have a 1 gallon minimum and 300 gallon maximum fill requirement per trip, and the containers must have a lid, and be approved by District staff. On a customer's first visit, residents receive recycled water training, and a wallet card which can be scanned on future visits. DSRSD distributed over 2.3 MG of recycled water by the end of 2014, with 495 participants (beginning in June 2014). This year, they have over 1,200 customers, and have distributed over 3.075 MG since January. DSRSD will eventually have 26-28 fill stations at the Pleasanton Plant, and is planning an 8-station site in Dublin across from the District offices. They are being contacted by businesses wanting to deliver recycled water to residences, and are working out how to permit these businesses and train them to avoid cross-connections. The permitted businesses will be required to do inspections on their customers' properties.

There was a discussion about the cost associated with these truck fill programs. It isn't necessarily a cost-effective way of delivering recycled water, but is a community benefit, allows residents to become more comfortable with recycled water, and there are positive media coverage which are benefits that are hard to quantify. Stephanie Olson and Rhodora Biagtan are interested in bringing the presentation to a BACWA Executive Board meeting as part of a larger discussion of the cost-effectiveness of water reuse programs.

- b) The State Water Board sent out a letter providing guidance to Regional Water Board staff on how to regulate recycled water haulers. Cheryl will distribute this letter to the committee.
- c) The RWQCB has asked BACWA to put together a letter outlining guidance for trucking water across jurisdictional boundaries. Linda Hu will work with Lorien Fono to draft a letter for RWQCB approval. The letter will ask for blanket permission for recycled water to be hauled outside of agencies' service areas, pending permission from the water/wastewater agencies involved.
- d) Roanne Ross proposed updating the BACWA Truck Fill survey since the drought continues, outdoor potable water use restrictions have been put in place, and agencies have expanded their programs since the survey was published.

7) Committee Succession Planning

There was a discussion about implementing a regular succession plan for the committee leadership. The Chairship isn't necessarily coupled with representing the committee on the IRWM committee. Cheryl and Linda offered to continue their IRWM roles, but will be stepping down as chair and vice chair by July. There are some potential candidates for taking on the Chair and Vice-Chair positions.

8) Announcements/Agency Updates – All

WaterReuse Leg/Reg meeting will be meeting on June 5. Cheryl will send the agenda to the committee distribution list.

9) Next Meeting – July 1, 2015 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, 2nd Floor Small Training Room at EBMUD Headquarters.