WRCA Board Activities

Dawn Taffler, PE, LEED<sup>AP</sup>
NorCal Chapter Trustee on the WRCA Board
WRCA Board Activities (2016)

- **New Leadership**
  - Mike Markus (OCWD) = Past President
  - Grant Davis (SCWA) = Current President
  - Rich Nagel (WBMWD) = Vice President

- **WRCA Dues Renewal for 2016**
  - Reminder = Please submit to Erin Dimenna
    Edimenna@waterreuse.org
WRRC Board Activities (2016)

- **WRFF–WERF Merger**: WateReuse Research Foundation and Water Environment Research Foundation
  - Recognizes the evolution of the water market into a one water market
  - Voted unanimously – effective May 6th
  - Benefits of Merger
    - Provide a more integrated approach to research
    - Greater value and return on investments for utilities
    - More access to research ($200 mil)
    - Discounts on webcasts and conferences

- **NEW NAME**: Water Environment & Reuse Foundation
WRCA Recent Activities

- **WRCA Annual Conference** – Vineyard Hotel in Santa Rosa March 13–15
  - Co-Chairs = Jennifer Burke (Santa Rosa), Barry Dugan (SCWA), Sanjay Reddy (B&V)
  - Support from so many others from NorCal Chapter

- **STATS**
  - Highest Attended in NorCal (487)
  - High Sponsorship ($>110,000)
  - First-ever Advanced-Purified Water Taste Test!
  - Impressive # of Abstracts (130 submitted)
  - Impressive # of Awards Submissions (30 submitted)
WRCA Recent Activities

- WRCA–WateReuse January 28 webinar on potable reuse communication to
  - 65 participants at $99 pp
  - In lieu of workshop
  - Went out through national website capabilities

- WRCA–CASA Joint Public Policy Forum in Sacramento
  - 75 participants
  - First “legislative day”
  - Legislators spoke in the morning
  - Set up legislative appointments for the afternoon
WateReuse Upcoming Events

WRCA
- Aug 25 – WRCA one day workshop in Monterey on Increased Reuse for Agriculture
- Aug ‘TBD’ – Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR) in Sacramento – one day workshop on RW (potable and non-potable) + greywater
- Potential future webinar or face-to-face workshop on potable reuse

National WateReuse
- May 23–24, 2016 = 20th Annual WateReuse Research Conference, Denver CO
- Sep 11–14, 2016 = 31st Annual WateReuse Symposium, Tampa, FL
- October 17–18, 2016 = 2016 WateReuse Potable Reuse Summit, Oklahoma City, OK
Other Tidbits
May 9th Governor Proclamation

- Yes... we are STILL in a Drought!
- 2014 Emergency Proclamations remain in “full force and in effect except as modified”
  - Call for reduction but not removal of conservation requirements
  - USE WATER MORE WISELY
  - ELIMINATE WATER WASTE
  - STRENGTHEN LOCAL DROUGHT RESILIENCE
  - IMPROVE AG WATER USE EFFICIENCY AND DROUGHT PLANNING
Recycled Water Survey

- WRCA/CASA met with Dan Newton in April
- SWRCB – DWR are working cooperatively to update the 2009 survey (showing 700,000 AFY)
- Anticipated to go out in May 2016 from SWRCB
- WRCA will be encouraging participation from membership
  - Voluntary, but highly encouraged
  - Potential to increase frequency in the future
WRCA Leg/Reg Update
2016 Recycled Water Legislation

- SB 163 – WWTP: Recycled Water – OPPOSE/AMEND
- SB 919 – Recycled Water – Energy – SUPPORT
- AB 1463 – Onsite Recycled Water – AMEND
- AB 1738 – Building Standards: dark graywater – CONCERN/AMEND
- AB 1749 – CEQA Exemption for RW Pipelines – NO POSITION
- AB 2022 – Advanced Purified Demonstration Water – SUPPORT
- AB 2076 – Water Recycling: Beer and Wine – OFF TABLE
- AB 2438 – CEQA Exemption for Recycled Water Pipelines – NO POSITION
- AB 2601 – Building Standards: residential graywater – NO POSITION
- AB 2890 – Drinking & Wastewater Operator Certification – WATCH

See Detailed Handout from Raymond Jay, President LA Chapter WRCA
Declares ocean wastewater discharge a “waste and unreasonable use”
- Requires ocean dischargers to reuse >50% by 2026
- Prohibits ocean dischargers after 2036.

WRCA opposes the mandate in the bill but continues to express interest in meeting with the author and sponsors to seek other legislative solution that might help expand recycled water.

April 2016 Opposition letter: CASA, IEUA, ACWA, City of San Diego, CMUA, IRWD, SFPUC, EBMUD

April 2016 Opposition Unless Amended letter: WateReuse

Hearing anticipated in June 2016
CEQA Exemption for RW Pipelines (AB 1749 and AB 2438)

- Existing law exempts recycled water pipelines from CEQA during declared drought or until January 1, 2017.
  - **AB 1749** bill to extend exemption until the state of emergency is terminated or Jan 1, 2018.
  - **AB 2438** bill tried to streamline CEQA exemption for pipelines < 8 miles. Contains many CEQA-like caveats. Not a clean exemption.

- WRCA Board decided not to take a position on CEQA exemption bills for recycled water.
- These bills come up every year and most agencies are not seeking a CEQA exemption.
- Also when a project is CEQA exempt it loses the ability to get funding from the Clean Water SRF Program.
- Potential public perception issues
- There does not appear to be great interest in pursuing this route
AB 2022 – Advanced Purified Demonstration Water

- WRCA–OCWD–OCSAN District bill
- Authorizes operator of advance purified demonstration water to bottle and distribute samples for educational purposes
- Stipulations on WQ, quantity per bottle and per year, and sales

Status
- The bill cleared its first policy committee in the Assembly with broad support from the RW and Env communities.
- It is expected to clear the Appropriations Committee and go to the Assembly Floor for a vote in the next couple of weeks
- The Senate will be more of a challenge.
- DDW has expressed concerns but has no official position.
2016 Important Regulatory Dates

- Recycled water general permit Hearing 6/7/16
- Surface Water Augmentation regs. by 12/31/16
- DPR feasibility study to legislature by 12/31/16
  ◦ Draft DPR Report in September
  ◦ WRCA Announcement and Event to be Planned
- Evaluate Recycled water use for animals by 12/31/16
- Develop RW Building Standards -> 2016 adoption cycle
- Title 17 and 22 changes -> TBD
  ◦ Title 22 may open up to incorporate RW use for animals and SW Augmentation
  ◦ Potential to amend other non-potable definition changes at that time

See Detailed Handout from Raymond Jay, President LA Chapter WRCA
Surface Water Augmentation regs. by 12/31/16

- Regulations will be out for public comment in September.
- Expert Panel formed at request of DDW to review SWRCB criteria in context of protection of public health
- Draft Criteria
  1. Minimum Retention Time of 6 months
  2. Dilution and Mixing Options
  3. No alternative permitting process

- WRCA conversations with the SWRCB board members and regulatory staff continue.
  - Focus on Alternative Clause
  - DDW continues to resist
- WRCA funded a White Paper on Alternatives Clause (Trussell, Feb 2016)
DPR feasibility study to legislature by 12/31/16

- DPR Feasibility Report will be out for public comment in September
  - Expert Panel = DPR Briefing Papers by June
  - Advisory Group = written recommendations by June

- WRCA Board approved the roll out of the draft report to the legislature on DPR.
  - Depending on its content, Jennifer will hire a PR firm and hold an event and media availability.

- WRCA discussion about seeking legislation in 2016 or 2017 that would clarify the definition of DPR and require that DDW establish regulation within some specified timeframe.
  - No decision was made but this is an active conservation within WRCA.

WRCA Announcement and Event to be Planned in September
THANK YOU

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