

Location: Virtual
Address: Zoom Call
Purpose: Bi-Monthly Meeting
Date and Time: June 9, 2020 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Distribution: Los Angeles WaterReuse Association Chapter Members and Supporters

Below is a summary of the highlight from the June 2020, bimonthly member meeting of the Los Angeles Chapter of the WaterReuse Association.

The presentations from this meeting can be found at:
<http://www.watereuse.org/sections/california/losangeles/meetings>

1. **Host Presentation: Recycled Water at the LA Stadium & Entertainment District (LASED) –**
(Jeremiah Shea/West Basin Municipal Water District)

Jeremiah Shea currently works as an Operations Analyst for the West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) including work focused on new recycled water customer development projects and existing recycled water site modifications to ensure the safe use of recycled water. Jeremiah holds a bachelor's degree in hydrologic science and water policy from the University of California Santa Barbara and a master's degree in environmental engineering from California State University, Fullerton.

West Basin is a public wholesale water agency, a member agency of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, has a service area located in the south bay of Los Angeles, and provides imported drinking water to nearly 1 million people in 17 cities. In addition to imported drinking water, West Basin also produces approximately 40 MGD of recycled water for several uses including irrigation, refinery cooling towers and boiler feed and to provide a seawater barrier to protect against seawater intrusion to groundwater resources. West Basin's recycled water distribution network extends from the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant to the LA Stadium.

The LA Stadium is located within Inglewood, California and incorporates a shopping center near its perimeter containing a lake impoundment feature to be filled and landscaping to be irrigated with recycled water. The recycled water demand is predicted to be 80 AFY during the first year in service and 150 AFY or greater as the ultimate demand. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) contributed to the project with significant plan review and health inspections during construction. West Basin has been supported by consultants including Tetra Tech with planning review and design support and AKM with on-site inspections. The project scope is to inspect construction to ensure proper installation of pipelines within the project site including public roadways. A loop system for the new PVC recycled water pipeline, ranging in size from 6 inches to 8 inches in diameter, was designed and connected to an existing recycled water line at two points in Prairie Avenue. In addition to the new recycled water distribution network, there will be seven new recycled water metered sites totaling to 30 AFY of recycled water demand. The addition to the recycled water distribution system, cistern structures were also designed and installed to collect stormwater runoff for use as landscape irrigation. The separate irrigation system was inspected to ensure there were no cross connections with the recycled water system.

The major challenges to the project were the large project site, as well as the COVID-19 pandemic where onsite construction and inspection procedures were adapted to enforce a minimum 6 feet of separation, wearing of proper PPE including masks, temperature screening for each individual

entering the project site and communication to staff of those testing positive for COVID-19 in accordance with tracing procedures. On average, there are over 1,000 workers on the project site each day. The project construction completion date is projected to be in July or August of 2020, in time for the new NFL season, with the last piece of purple pipe installed in May 2020 and current preparations underway for the testing and pressurizing of the pipeline.

Jeremiah can be contacted via JeremiahS@westbasin.org for any further questions.

2. **Technical Topic: WRF Update on State Water Board Funded DPR Research** (*Julie Minton/Water Research Foundation*)

Julie Minton has worked for the Water Research Foundation (WRF) for 11 years working in different capacities for water reuse and currently is the Research Unit Leader managing a team of program research managers. Julie holds a Bachelor of Arts from Saint Mary's College of Maryland. She is currently the Project Director for the \$4.5 million grant from the California State Water Board and is responsible for leveraging this grant and expanding its impact across the United States and beyond.

The California State Water Board (SWB) has two grants supporting recycled water research. Grant 1 is \$1.4 million extending from 2018 to 2020 for five projects recommended by the Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) expert panel for developing regulations in California. Grant 2 is \$3.1 million extending from 2019 to 2023 for 20 projects recommended by WRF's Water Reuse Advisory Committee and the SWB. Grant 1 involves a research oversight and communication plan where interaction between the SWB's Division of Drinking Water (DDW), a coordinating committee, technical working group (TWG) and research team. The teams host monthly coordination calls. SWB Grant 1 involves five projects targeted to protect public health including research on pathogen removal from wastewater. The TWG is working to respond to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Laboratories were asked to volunteer and over 90 labs reached out to aid with research and data collection. The Grant 1 projects will be wrapping up in 2020 and will be reported on in March 2021.

SWB Grant 2 is for 20 projects to holistically move recycled water forward with approximately 80% dedicated towards potable reuse and often DPR efforts. There are two open RFPs with deadlines of late June including RFP 5047: "Guidelines for the Demonstration of Pathogen Log Removal Credits in Wastewater Treatment"; and RFP 4019: "Benefits and Challenges in Pathogen Removal when Blending Advanced Treated Water with Raw Water upstream of a Surface Water Treatment Plant in DPR". There are over 9 partners including the SWB and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. WRF graciously thanks all those participating.

3. **Water Recycling Legislative/Regulatory Updates** (*Raymond Jay/MWD*)

California Legislation

The COVID-19 pandemic has compressed the legislative calendar and limited the legislation from which they have had to prioritize certain measures. Due to the economic outlook, future bonds and funding have been reduced or removed.

Climate Resiliency Bonds – needs 2/3 of the vote to be on the November 2020 ballot

- SB 996 (Portantino) – Establish CEC Drinking Water Program at SWB and expected reintroduction in 2021 since it was removed from consideration in 2020 due to COVID-19

California Water Resilience Portfolio

- California Budget impacted by COVID-19 where an estimated \$6 billion surplus is expected to become a \$56 billion deficit
- New Wastewater Change Petition, Section 1211 Checklist – comments being received
- Public comment period for plumbing code for use of change over devices with public hearing to be held on July 14th
- SWRCB proposed adopting FY20-21 Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Intended Use Plan (IUP) – WRCA has prepared draft comment letter; SWB hearing to be held on June 16th; similar concerns for Drinking Water SRF, although backlog less significant

Federal update

HEROES Act passed by the House, to address potential funding shortfalls by ratepayers and by local and state governments; seeking \$1 billion for state and local governments and individuals to help pay rates.

EPA is testing sewage for COVID-19.

National Water Reuse Action Plan was released on February 27, 2020.

FY 2020 Appropriations enacted:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| • CWSRF = \$1.638B | Aquifer Storage = \$10M |
| • DWSRF = \$1.126B | Innovative Water = \$1M |
| • Title XVI = \$63M | Stormwater Reuse = \$25M |
| • WINN = \$20M | Research Program = \$6M |
| • WIFIA = \$60M | Desalination = \$20M |

FY Appropriations enacted with the FY 2021 initial Appropriations request were significantly reduced.

- S. 3590 & S. 3591** – Water Resource Development Act – Drinking Water Infrastructure Act (Barrasso) & American’s Water Infrastructure Act (Barrasso) – no schedule for full Senate to vote, and House is preparing language and collecting member support.
- S. 3590** Drinking Water Infrastructure Act (Barrasso) – Will amend the Safe Drinking Water Act, provide funding to disadvantaged communities, establish competing grant program to assist small, medium and large community water systems capital improvements and meet compliance challenges and includes \$300 million for groundwater clean-up. Requires EPA to set a drinking water standard for PFOA and PFOS within two years.
- S. 3591** American’s Water Infrastructure Act (Barrasso) – authorizes \$17 billion in new water infrastructure projects, reauthorizes and increases funding for CWSRF and WIFIA where the CWSRF increases funding from \$2 billion to \$3 billion per year from 2022 to 2024 and the WIFIA authorizes \$50 million per year from 2022 to 2024. A pilot program for alternative water source projects authorizes \$25 million per year from 2022 to 2024. This bill would create for a Water Reuse Interagency Working Group and provides funding for research on quagga mussel prevention and invasive species control in the Colorado River.

HR 1162 – Water Recycling Investment and Improvement Act (Napolitano)

Title XVI increase appropriation from \$50M to \$500M and federal funding ceiling from \$20M to \$30M – Delete funding priority for projects identified by U.S. Drought or as a disaster area for the past 4 years – Last Action 06/13/2019 Subcommittee Hearings

S. 1932 – Drought Resiliency and Water Supply Infrastructure Act (Gardner)

Authorizes for Fiscal Years 2020 to 2024 \$640M for Surface and Groundwater Storage, \$100M for water recycling and reuse, and \$60M for desalination. Authorizes for Fiscal Years 2021 to 2025 \$150M and deauthorizes for water recycling projects – Last Action 07/18/2019 Subcommittee Hearings

HR 5302 – Western Water Recycling and Drought Relief Act (McNerny)

Amend Title XVI to add projects to Congressional Approved List – Authorizes appropriations for 12 projects (11 for Northern California and 1 for HI) – Limit Federal cost shares to 25% – Last Action 12/13/2019 Introduced Legislation

HR 3723 – Desalination Development Act (Levin)

4. Regulatory Agency Update

a. Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (*Steven Webb/Danielle Robinson*)

For the Indirect Potable Reuse projects that currently have permits with the LA Water Board, the monitoring and reporting program amendments are going to be sent out for a 30-day public comment period. The amendments are for creating consistency between the permits and the Recycled Water Policy CEC requirements. After the 30-day public review, the LARWQCB will be responding to the comments and issuing the amendment with the Executive Officer signature.

b. LA County Department of Public Health (*Robert Bueras/Glenn van Eekhout*)

COVID-19 precautions have been active since mid-March at the LACDPH. As of June 8, 2020, there were 64,644 positive COVID-19 cases and a total of 2,655 deaths in Los Angeles County. The Safer at Home Health Officer Order (HOO) for Control of COVID-19 Revised Order was issued on May 29, 2020, Stage 2. Since March 16, 2020, Cross Connection field staff activities have been limited. All backflow testers with appointments for certification prior to their expiration dates were granted an extension until further notices. All County employees become Disaster Service Workers (DSW) where temporary reassignments may be necessary depending on the needs of the County. A large percentage of the County staff have been teleworking. There has been an inundation of email and phone call complaints; selected programs have been set up to enforce the HOO and address each of the complaints. Employees are being sensitive to the needs of the public knowing that the public and businesses are stressed while trying to uphold safety procedures.

Honorable Mention Alternate Water Projects:

- Los Angeles Stadium in Inglewood for irrigation using recycled water, rainwater and treated lake water

- LAX Terminal 1.5, 3, New Midfield Satellite Concourse, New LAWA Police Station, Automated People Mover including the Maintenance & Storage Facility, Metro Hub Station where recycled water is dual plumbed for train wash and irrigation

Amendment to the 2016 California Green Building Standards Code including LAGBC 05.305.2: 99.05.305.2 (Recycled Water Supply to Fixtures).

5. California State Section Update (*Evelyn Cortez-Davis*)

- Last WaterReuse CA Board of Trustees Meeting was held on May 8, 2020
- State Water Board Factsheet on COVID-19 7 Recycled Water
 - Existing stringent state standards protect public from COVID-19
 - https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/publications_forms/publications/factsheets/docs/covid-19/recycled_and_treated_ww_safe_from_covid19_factsheet.pdf
- Governor's Climate Bond
 - Bond measures deadline for November ballot is June 25th
 - April 24th Coalition Letter to Governor Newsom focused on economic stimulus including recycled water projects
 - May 6th letter coordinated by WaterReuse with 35 co-signers from water agencies across the state
- County of Maui vs Hawaii Wildlife Fund
 - U.S. Supreme Court ruled that groundwater discharge must be regulated as surface water discharge (if former is functionally equivalent to latter)
 - WaterReuse will be coordinating with members on how to better define water resources and whether or not exceptions will be included
- Plumbing Code Update – Recycled Water Provisions
 - Draft Title 24 Plumbing Code update to Building Standards Commission: July 14th
 - Includes changeover devices or swivel ell for dual plumbed buildings
 - WaterReuse to work with the SWB to ensure that definitions and requirements for the changeover devices are aligned as well as the handbook.
- Communications Collaborative Group
 - San Diego Reader article “Toilet to Grave”
 - No reference to State Board fact sheet on COVID-19 and recycled water
 - <https://www.sandiegoreader.com/news/2020/may/01/ticker-covid-19-turn-san-diegos-water-toilet-grave/>
- Southern California Water Coalition – Recycled Water Task Force
 - Task Force led by LADWP's Paul Liu and Dan Ferons, Santa Margarita Water District
 - Task force will create videos on recycled water with the following objectives:

- Promote recycled water
- Highlight large scale projects in SoCal
- Health and safety of current and future RW supplies
- **WaterReuse CA virtual conference is coming up June 24-25, 2020**
 - Over 50 presentations - many of which were originally scheduled for the original conference
 - Presentations as well as live Q&A for better engagement for participants
 - Hawaiian shirt-themed President's reception
 - Registration closes Wednesday, June 17, 2020
- 2021 WaterReuse CA Conference to be hosted in Los Angeles: September 12-15, 2021
- LADWP's Amy Webb will be retiring – member of the recycled water community

6. Chapter Updates (*Judi Miller*)

The February 2020 Member Meeting Summary was approved. Announcements from the member committee included:

- Member survey (*Nicholas Chow*)
 - Everyone interested in having virtual meetings with most voting for Zoom as the platform to use
 - Our members who completed the survey included those from recycled water wholesalers, consulting firms, recycled water users, etc.
 - Primary reasons listed to attend WaterReuse meetings are networking and understand latest projects and regulations
 - Technical presentations and regulatory updates were a priority to attendees
 - PFAS is an item that people will want to learn more about
 - Many have had to transition to telecommuting; there have been hiring freezes and project holds
- Member montage (*Sam Landsman*)
 - Sam compiled photos sent to him of our LA Chapter members to help us see (and remember) each other.
 - *Our members are involved in lots of fun hobbies outside and inside during these interesting times which keep our mental health and morale up!*

Membership is at the national level of the WaterReuse Association. While most of our LA Chapter participants are members via their employer, participation in the Chapter is not contingent on WaterReuse membership. However, certain activities (such as voting and holding leadership positions) are restricted to members only.

If you would like further information about your organization becoming a WaterReuse member, please contact Erin DiMenna, Director of Membership at edimenna@watereuse.org or 571.445.5505.



7. **Membership Roundtable** (*Jared Lee*)

The Membership Roundtable is an opportunity for agencies to share their accomplishments and challenges with, or seek input from, the LA Chapter WR members.

Seeking featured member agency for the next meeting in August: Great opportunity for agencies that would like to host but have had lack of space to allocate for all members in the past in-person meetings.

a. **Long Beach Water Department – Dean Wang**

Most of LBWD staff are teleworking. Most are full-time teleworking and some staff have to come into the office to process paperwork. For staff working outside of the office, masks and distancing as well signs indicating “please stay 6 feet apart” are maintained. Staff seating has been rearranged and plexiglass separators have been put up for staff that are seated close together at the switchboard. Limiting to one person per vehicle. If not enough agency vehicles available, then staff can use personal vehicles to submit for reimbursement.

b. **LADWP - Jesus Gonzalez**

Maintaining current safety practices for COVID-19 that are similar to Long Beach’s. Similar measures to limit social distancing. The water system has 2,000 employees. Almost half are field staff. LADWP is minimizing in-person interactions and has shifted to Zoom and Webex calls when meetings are conducted. At construction sites, the field crews go directly to the sites to limit exposure. Non-essential activities have been postponed and future activities may be limited or deferred; large congregations of staff have been eliminated altogether. Two people per vehicle is the maximum due to a large number of staff in the construction workforce. For those that work from an office and commute to work, LADWP has provided parking permits so they can drive directly to the facility instead of using public transit. Throughout the facilities are signage for social/physical distancing. Plexiglass is placed in locations to reduce exposure. The filtration plant has a control room and needs to be operated by operators 24/7. Only operators are physically present in the control room and their temperature is checked whenever they leave.

8. **Next Meetings**

- August 11, 2020 – Virtual Meeting
- October 13, 2020 – Virtual Meeting
- December 8, 2020 – Virtual Meeting

9. **Adjournment** 1:00 p.m.

Los Angeles Chapter Officers for 2019/2021

Fred Geringer, President	626-319-1107
Jared Lee, Vice President	626-379-8443
Judi Miller, Secretary/Treasurer	213-228-8236
Evelyn Cortez-Davis, Chapter Trustee	213-367-1014
Raymond Jay, Past-President	213-217-5777

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JLee@burbankca.gov
judi.miller@jacobs.com
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rjay@mwdh2o.com

Meeting Attendees

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	ORGANIZATION
Abundez	Tracy	Metropolitan Water District
Ahmad	Shahnawaz	SA Associates
Alonzo	Kira	Metropolitan Water District
Arm	Jessica	MWD
Avila	Erik	LADWP
Barajas	Berenice	LADWP
Bensch	Erika	LACSD
Brown	Suzanne	Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Burkhard	Jamie	West Basin
Burrola	Flor	LA Sanitation & Environment
Chang	Susan	City of Los Angeles/ Environmental Monitoring Division
Chau	Paul	Kennedy Jenks
Chow	Denise	City of Los Angeles
Chow	Nicholas	UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation
Christopher	John	WaterReuse
Collins	Heather	MWD
Cortez-Davis	Evelyn	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Dakak	Nataly	LA Sanitation & Environment
Daly	Roy	LG Chem
Daniel	Uzi	West Basin MWD
Dinh	Tracey	LADWP
Dorsey	Zachary	WaterReuse Association
Ferguson	Everett	WRD
Ford	Hannah	Brown & Caldwell
Friedman	Steve	HDR
Fuchs	Frank	West Basin Municipal Water District
Gerringer	Fred	Hazen And Sawyer
Gonzalez	Jesus	LADWP
Heil	Ann	LACSD
Horton	Nichole	City of Pomona
Houston	David	SWRCB
Huang	Jinny	Long Beach Water

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	ORGANIZATION
Jacobus	Jennifer	ESA
Johnson	Darrell	Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Kang	Jinho	West Basin Municipal Water District
Kung	Jason	West Basin Municipal Water District
Landsman	Sam	CDM Smith
Lee	Jared	Burbank Water and Power
Lee	Tricia	California State Water Resources Control Board
Lee	Elisa	Woodard & Curran
Lei	Qiong	LA Sanitation
Li	Susanna	West Basin Municipal Water District
Liang	Sun	MWD
Lockett	John	LADWP
Lynch	Scott	West Yost Associates
Maurizio	Danielle	Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Meschino	Paul	Sanexen Water
Miller	Judi	Jacobs
Miller	Scott	Black & Veatch
Minton	Julie	Water Research Foundation
Moisio	Dusty	Rowland Water District
Morales	Monica	Jacobs
Mouakkad	Sarah	LADWP
Ortega	Celina	State Water Resource Control Board - Water Recycling Funding Unit
Palmquist	Linda	MNS Engineers
Panasyan	Mariam	City of LA Sanitation
Pirijanyan	Adelina	Stantec
Plancarte	Brianna	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Razavian	Noosha	MWD
Rhee	Heather	Long Beach Water Department
S	DeShawn	West Basin Municipal Water District
Sala	Elizabeth	West Basin MWD
Saneie	Shahrouzeh	City of Los angeles
Shea	Jeremiah	West Basin Municipal Water District

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	ORGANIZATION
Snyder	Karen	Katz & Associates
So	Amy	LADWP
Spano	Sarah	ESA
Stewart	Kevin	LADWP
Tabannaj	Belal	LA County Waterworks
Taffler	Dawn	Kennedy Jenks
Tanuwidjaja	Dian	Long Beach Water Department
Tsunehara	Yoshiko	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Van Eekhout	Glenn	Los Angeles Department of Public Health
Wang	Dean	Long Beach Water Department
Webb	Steven	Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
Webb	Amy	LADWP
Yazdani	Azita	Exergy systems
Yim	Jason	SCVWA
Zabalza	Christina	LASAN
Zapata	Graciela	Glendale Water & Power
Zaragoza	Alex	Rowland Water District
Zhao	John	LVMWD
Zimmer	Rick	Eurofins
Zornes	Greta	CDM Smith

TOTAL: 84