ACWA 2017 Annual Meeting
August 20-23, 2017
Hilton Burlington Hotel
Burlington, VT

Building Bridges for Water Quality

Sunday August 20, 2017

Board of Directors Meeting

Board of Directors/ Committee Leadership Social Activity
Coach Barn @ Shelburne Farms

DRAFT FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Monday August 21, 2017

OPEN To ACWA Members, Federal Partners, Stakeholder Groups, and Invited Guests

7:00-8:00 AM Registration
Continental Breakfast Available

8:00 – 8:15 AM Welcome
Pete LaFlamme, ACWA President

8:15 – 9:00 AM Keynote Presentation
Governor of Vermont
The Honorable Phil Scott (invited)

9:00 – 10:00 AM Integrated Planning & Permitting: Lessons from Region
In June 2012, EPA issued a framework promoting an integrated planning approach for wastewater and stormwater. The CWA, implementing regulations, and associated guidance provide flexibility to implement an integrated planning process, yet there are also still significant challenges associated with developing and approving an integrated plan/permit. Presenters from Region 1 will provide an overview of their experiences developing integrated plans.

10:00 AM BREAK

10:30 –12:00 PM Innovations in Water Infrastructure Funding & Financing
The CWSRF is an extremely successful federal-state-local partnership. Projects supported by the SRF deliver significant environmental, economic, and public health benefits nationwide. This session will highlight innovative CWSRF projects that show that the CWSRF is flexible, effective, and able to meet the complex and diverse water quality needs of communities of all sizes and levels of sophistication. A discussion on strengthening collaboration and coordination among water quality programs and state financing authorities will also occur.

12:00 –1:30 PM Lunch Provided for Attendees
Awards Ceremony

1:30 –3:00 PM Infrastructure Development & Permit Streamlining
Earlier this summer, President Trump unveiled a major effort for a $1 Trillion infrastructure program. As the effort continues to be debated, talk has turned to streamlining permits to accelerate infrastructure development across the nation. This session will discuss the infrastructure push as it relates to drinking water and wastewater infrastructure development and identify potential options for streamlining infrastructure permits.

3:00 PM BREAK

3:15 – 4:15 PM Water Quality & Farm Bill Reauthorization
Created by the 2014 Farm Bill, RCPP investments have already driven 199 partner-led projects by leveraging local leadership to establish partnerships that can include private companies, local and tribal governments, universities, non-profits and other non-government partners to work with farmers, ranchers and forest landowners on landscape- and watershed-scale conservation solutions that work best for their region. As Congress begins debating reauthorization of the Farm Bill, panelists will address strengths and weakness and opportunities for the next iteration of the program.

4:15 – 5:15 PM

Results of Assumable Waters Federal Advisory Committee

In a 2014 letter to U.S. EPA, three state associations requested the EPA to provide clarity on the question of over which waters a state or tribe may assume Clean Water Act section 404 permitting authority. In response, and for the purpose of making recommendations to EPA on how the agency might provide such clarity, EPA established the Assumable Waters Subcommittee under NACEPT and in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). In June 2016, The Assumable Waters Subcommittee to the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT) official submitted their final report to Administrator Pruitt for consideration. The Subcommittee came to a majority and minority set of recommendations, with all members but the USACE agreeing to the majority recommendations.

5:15 PM

Adjourn

6:00 – 9:00 PM

Reception

Sunset Cruise on Lake Champlain*

*RSVP Required at the time of registration

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Tuesday August 22, 2017

Closed Sessions – open ONLY to States and Invited Federal Partners
7:00 - 8:00 AM  Registration  
Continental Breakfast Available

8:00 - 8:30 AM  **Review of ACWA Priorities Developed during 2017 Mid-Year Meeting**  
At the 2017 ACWA Mid-Year meeting, attendees were asked to identify ACWA’s top priorities for engagement with EPA and our other federal partners, including Congress. We will revisit these priorities to set up the discussions for the remainder of the meeting.

8:30 - 9:00 AM  **Office of Water Update on Administration Priorities**  
At the 2017 ACWA Mid-Year meeting, the Office of Water provided updates on the Office’s top priorities for working with the states. Office of Water Leadership will join us to provide an update on these priorities now that it has been six months since Administrator Pruitt was appointed and announced the *Back to Basics Agenda.*

9:00 – 10:15 AM  **NPDES Updates Rule Next Steps & Opportunities for Working with States**  
ACWA has been deeply engaged with the Office of Wastewater Management as it developed a set of updates to the NPDES program. Representatives from the ACWA state technical workgroup and OWM to discuss the status of the rule, changes that have been made as a result of consultations with states and implementation concerns.

10:15 AM  BREAK

10:15 – 11:15 AM  **Nutrients, HABs & Water Quality: Activities Update from the Office of Water**  
Representatives from the Office of Wastewater Management, Office of Science and Technology and Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds will provide updates on how the Office of Water is working to address nutrient pollution and discuss opportunities for partnering with states.

11:15- 12:30 PM  **ACWA Nutrients Policy Committee Updates: Nutrients Progress Tracker V.1; POTW Optimization Survey**  
A joint state/EPA workgroup has been working over the past several years on providing a forum to help states and EPA better understand
varied challenges, limitations, areas for flexibility, and potential solutions for making more progress towards reducing nutrient pollution. As a result of this coordination, the workgroup has pursued several efforts including developing a Nutrients Progress Tracker and ACWA’s role in EPA’s National Study of Nutrient Removal and Secondary Technologies. This session will provide an overview and update on these efforts.

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<td>12:30 - 1:30 PM</td>
<td>Lunch – Provided for attendees</td>
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| 2:00 - 3:15 PM | **Data Advances for WQ: implications and status of WQF and ATTAINS advances for state and federal monitoring and assessment**
|             | This session will cover continued advances in the Water Quality Framework, including how the newly released ATTAINS will improve electronic reporting of water quality assessments, impaired waters decisions, and TMDLs. There will be additional discussion on both state and EPA advances in developing automated, open-source tools to perform water quality analyses. Lastly, there will be a discussion on effectively communicating the water quality story to the public and efforts under the Water Quality Framework to accomplish this. |

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| 3:30 - 5:00 PM | **Assessment & Decision-making: How do we create more robust Integrated Reports?**
|             | This session will explore the challenges and obstacles surrounding how states and EPA can build more robust integrated reports. Existing policies and methodologies may need updating based upon new information and/or technologies to ensure that states have adequate information for decision-making and that the policies are not dis- incentivizing data collection. |

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<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Wrap Up</strong></td>
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<td>6:00 - 8:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Reception: White Elephant</strong></td>
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The tradition continues! Bring an item (~$10) that represents your home state and if it has to do with water even better (hint, snowglobes) for our Annual Wild & Crazy White Elephant Swap!

**Wednesday August 23, 2017**

**Closed Sessions – open ONLY to States and Invited Federal Partners**

7:00 - 8:00 AM  **Registration**  
Continental Breakfast Available

8:00 - 8:30 AM  **Introduction to New ACWA Website and Member Portal**

8:30 - 9:00 AM  **Teller’s Report, Welcome of New Officers & Board Members**  
Martha Clark Mettler, ACWA Past President, Indiana Department of Environmental Management

9:00 – 9:15 AM  **Executive Director’s Report**  
Julia Anastasio, ACWA Executive Director & General Counsel

9:15 – 9:40 AM  **Treasurer’s Report**  
Carlton Haywood, ACWA Treasurer, Executive Director, Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin

**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING & MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP**

9:40 – 10:15 AM  **President’s Report & Remarks**  
Pete LaFlamme, ACWA President, Director, Watershed Management Division, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
10:15 – 10:30 AM  **Closing Remarks**  Jennifer Wigal, ACWA Incoming President, Water Quality Program Manager, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

10:30 AM  **BREAK**

10:45 – 12:00 PM  **Waters of the U. S.: State Input Session**  On February 28, 2017 to direct federal agencies to roll back and replace the Obama Administration’s Clean Water Rule – also known as the “Waters of the U.S.” or WOTUS. To meet the objectives of the executive order, federal agencies are following a two-step process that will provide as much certainty as possible, as quickly as possible, to the regulated community and the public during the development of the replacement rule. ACWA has been working with the Office of Water and trying to provide guidance and advice on development of a new rule.

12:00 PM  **Annual Meeting Adjourns**

*Thanks for joining us at the 56th Annual Meeting!*  
*Safe travels home and save the date for upcoming meetings & workshops!*

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**Water Quality Trading Workshop**  
June 27, 2017  
Hall of States, Washington, DC

**NPDES Program Managers Meeting**  
October 31 – November 2, 2017  
Tommy Douglas Conference Center  
Silver Spring, MD

**Storm Water Meeting**  
February 21-22, 2018  
Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott  
Atlanta, GA

**2018 Mid-Year Meeting**  
March 18-21, 2018  
Hilton Garden Inn, US Capitol Hill

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