

FY 2019: YOUR ACWA DUES AT WORK

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

As your voice in Washington, DC, ACWA's staff serves as the primary liaison between states, the federal government, and national municipal, industrial, and environmental stakeholder groups on national water quality issues. ACWA's staff works to facilitate state-to-state information exchange, regulatory and policy input, and technical transfer. The Association continues to be a preeminent source of information relied upon by the Administration, Congress, and other stakeholders for objective and expert input on issues, innovations, options, and trends in water quality management and regulation.

HOW WE WORK: Through Leadership

ACWA works through our dynamic state/interstate-led Committees, Task Forces, and Workgroups. These groups are open to all state and interstate staff.

To maximize your ACWA membership, your staff should join relevant groups via Member365, our State/Interstate-Only Web Portal.

Committees & Chairs:

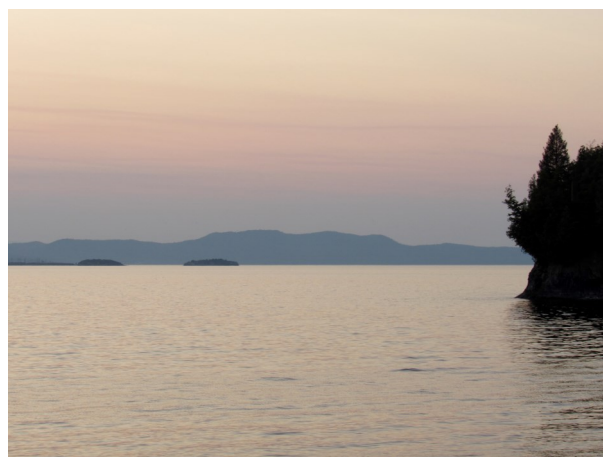
- ◆ **Funding & Congressional Relations**
Shellie Chard (OK)
- ◆ **Legal Affairs**
Carin Spreitzer (NY), Bob Brown (MA)
- ◆ **Monitoring, Standards & Assessment**
Tom Frick (FL), Connie Brower (NC)
- ◆ **Nutrients Policy**
Adam Schnieders (IA), Trisha Oeth (CO)
- ◆ **Permitting, Compliance & Enforcement**
Melanie Davenport (VA)
Tom Stiles (KS)
- ◆ **Watersheds**
Traci Iott (CT), Jeff Berckes (IA)
- ◆ **Water Resources Management**
Jeff Manning (NC), Mick Kuhns (ME)

Workgroups & Chairs:

- ◆ **Pretreatment**
Jennifer Robinson (UT)
- ◆ **Rural**
Kent Woodmansey (SD),
Bruce Yurdin (NM)
- ◆ **Stormwater**
Alicia Good (RI)
- ◆ **Cooling Water/Steam Electric Workgroup**
Jason Knutson (WI),
Michael Moe (OK)
- ◆ **319/Nonpoint Source**
Tom Frick (FL), Jaime Gaggero (KS)

Federal Support: Cooperative Agreements with USEPA

ACWA continues to work on the activities associated with the five year Cooperative Agreement from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) Office of Water that was awarded last year. Work under this agreement is scheduled to continue until 2021 and symbolizes USEPA's continued commitment to supporting the work of the organization by renewing their financial commitment to cooperative federalism. Under the agreement, ACWA will continue to provide technical assistance and facilitate improved communication, knowledge transfer, and identification of challenges and implementation opportunities in the clean water programs. Areas of focus include permitting, compliance, TMDLS, WQS, monitoring and assessment, nonpoint source pollution reduction, source water protection, stormwater program management, nutrient reductions, modelling, contaminants of emerging concern, CWA jurisdiction, and electronic reporting.) ACWA also spent this past year planning and hosting several coregulator meetings in the following areas: stormwater, pretreatment, NPDES program management, and nutrients permitting. This fiscal year, ACWA held five meetings under these Agreements. We believe this relationship with EPA helps states better serve the public by supporting effective actions to protect public health and the environment. Enhanced involvement of states/interstates in policy, regulatory, and associated initiatives results in a shared vision and common understanding of priority areas for the nation's clean water program.



Lake Champlain, Burlington, Vermont
Photo by Katie Foreman, ACWA

Dues at Work highlights accomplishments to date in Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 (July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018). We hope this shows the value of your participation in the Association, and assists you as you process the attached FY2018 dues invoice.

A NATIONAL VOICE FOR STATES & INTERSTATES

Regulatory Activities:

ACWA provided comments to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on:

- ◆ Priorities for State Water Quality Programs in the New Administration
- ◆ NPDES Updates Rule
- ◆ Proposed Rule: Definition of “Waters of the United States” - Recodification of pre-existing rules
- ◆ §404 Program Assumption
- ◆ Permit Streamlining
- ◆ Water Quality Standards development
- ◆ Funding

Legislative & Funding Activities:

ACWA tracks and engages in Congressional activity relevant to state programs. Examples include:

- ◆ Submitted joint letter on Vessel Incidental Discharge Act
- ◆ Submitted comment letter on Hydropower Modernization Act of 2017
- ◆ Developed and promoted a set of state priorities for the Farm Bill
- ◆ Provided testimony on Clean Water Act coverage of “Discharge of Pollutants” via direct Hydrologic Connection to Surface Water

Policy & Guidance Activities:

- ◆ Coordinated cross-program discussions on implementation of the 303(d) Long-Term Vision
- ◆ Promoted the use of State/EPA Technical Committees to engage on NPDES eReporting Rule
- ◆ Supported release of Nutrients Reduction Progress Tracker and published a report on the data received.
- ◆ Promoted Water Quality Trading Toolkit templates and fostered state information sharing on trading.
- ◆ Assisted states with implementation of rules including:
 - ◆ 316(b) cooling water intake rule
 - ◆ Steam electric rule
 - ◆ Coal combustion residuals rule.
- ◆ Provided updates on important legal issues and cases affecting states.
- ◆ Provided updates on federal budget development
- ◆ Convened a special Waters of the US workgroup to discuss role of states
- ◆ Created TMDL Modelers workgroup



Boise River, Boise, Idaho,
Photo by Katie Foreman, ACWA

AN EFFECTIVE PARTNER, BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

Collaboration:

ACWA uses its presence in the nation’s capital to collaborate and work with many organizations with like goals and priorities, as well as to build bridges with others. These include, but certainly are not limited to:

- ◆ Federal: United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), and Department of Interior (United States Geological Survey, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Forestry Service).
- ◆ State Associations: Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, the Association of State Wetlands Managers, the Coastal States Organization, the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities, Environmental Council of the States, Groundwater Protection Council, the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, the National Conference of State Legislatures, the National Governor’s Association, and the Western States Water Council.
- ◆ Local Government Organizations: National Association of Counties, National Association of Towns and Townships, National League of Cities, and United States Conference of Mayors.
- ◆ Municipal Groups: National Association of Clean Water Agencies, National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies, Water Environment Federation, and Water Environment Research Foundation.

Communication with Our Members:

Our top priority is communicating with our members. We strive to develop quality communications and timely updates, as well as to offer insight and guidance. In addition to the Committee and Workgroup work, some of the ways we reach out to our members include:

- ◆ Our new website, www.acwa-us.org.
- ◆ Twitter feed—follow us @cleanwaterACWA
- ◆ Friday e-newsletter, *The Weekly Wrap*.
- ◆ E-mails to our Members, Committees, Work Groups, containing the latest information from EPA and other sources.
- ◆ Our new State/Interstate Only Web Portal, Member365.
- ◆ Regulatory and legislative alerts and updates.
- ◆ Surveys and reports on important topics.
- ◆ 2018-2022 Strategic Plan was finalized and is available on our website.
- ◆ ACWA live-streamed several of its meetings this year.

The ACWA Board of Directors adopted a new strategic plan in August 2017. The FY2018 – FY 2022 Strategic Plan is organized around 4 overarching goals:

- Goal 1: Provide High Quality Member Services
- Goal 2: Voice of State & Interstate Clean Water Administrators
- Goal 3: Enhance Membership Development
- Goal 4: Promote a Culture of Organizational Excellence

There are numerous action items associated with each of these goals and members can download a copy by visiting the ACWA website.

Professional Networking, Development, & Recognition:

ACWA holds two face-to-face meetings a year to allow our members to meet with their peers, facilitate conversations with EPA Headquarters and Regions, recognize achievements, and to collaborate with organizations with similar and differing water quality goals. **Mark your calendar for the 57th Annual Meeting to be held in Portland, Oregon from August 13-15, 2018.**



Washington, DC, 2018 ACWA Mid-Year Meeting
Photo by Katie Foreman, ACWA

HOW DO STATES PAY ACWA DUES?

ACWA was founded in 1961 and has achieved tremendous success in consistently securing base operational funds from membership dues. By relying on member dues, the Association has been able to remain independent and fully represent the membership in Washington, DC on various water quality issues. This success is due in part to the creative and diverse approaches the membership has utilized to ensure their ACWA dues are paid annually. In communicating with members over the years, we have learned they take varying approaches to dues payments, including:

1. § 106 Grant Funds
2. CWSRF Administration Funds
3. State General Revenue Funds
4. State Agency Appropriated Funds
5. Water Program Specific Funds
6. NPDES Program Funds
(including permit fees and enforcement fines)

ACWA, as a 501(c)(3) organization, is limited in the amount of lobbying it may conduct and is required by law to report all such activity. In consideration of the federal grant funding source used by some members to pay dues, ACWA has been very diligent in further limiting lobbying, even beyond that



Lake Champlain, Burlington, Vermont,
Photo by Katie Foreman, ACWA

ACWA can track, report, and certify that a particular state or interstate's dues have not been utilized for lobbying. Should a letter of documentation be helpful or necessary, please contact Annette Ivey, Director of Operations, at (202) 756-0602 or aivey@acwa-us.org.

After extensive review and consideration, the Board of Directors approved a new dues structure that was phased in over a three (3) year period beginning in FY2016. FY2018 marked the final year of this dues restricting effort. The Board of Directors also decided that starting in FY2019, the Executive Director in consultation with the Treasurer, would annually assess and propose to the Board whether a consumer price index (CPI) related dues increase was needed as part of the overall budget proposal.

WHO'S WHO AT ACWA

National Office Staff:

Julia Anastasio	Executive Director & General Counsel
Sean Rolland	Deputy Director
Annette Ivey	Director of Operations
Julian Gonzalez	Environmental Program Manager
Patrick McGuire	Environmental Program Manager
Frances Bothfeld	Environmental Analyst
Katie Foreman	Environmental Program Associate

2017-2018 Leadership:

President	Jennifer Wigal (OR)
Vice-President	Allison Woodall (TX)
Treasurer	Andrew Gavin (SRBC)
Secretary	Peter Goodmann (KY)
Past President	Pete LaFlamme (VT)

Board Representatives:

Region 1	Alicia Good (RI)
Region 2	Koon Tang (NY)
Region 3	Melanie Davenport (VA)
Region 4	Peter Goodmann (KY)
Region 5	Tiffani Kavalec (OH)
Region 6	Caleb Osborne (AK)
Region 7	Jamie Gaggero (KS)
Region 8	Karl Rockeman (ND)
Region 9	Krista Osterberg (AZ)
Region 10	Heather Bartlett (WA)
Interstates	Susan Sullivan (NEIWPCC)

Year	Lobbying \$\$	% of FY Expenses
FY2013	\$155	0.001%
FY2014	\$605	0.006%
FY2015	\$1,106	0.001%
FY2016	\$524	0.001%
FY2017	\$0	0.000%