



# YOUR ACWA DUES AT WORK FY 2019

## 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), Nicole Rowan (CO)
- ◆ **Permitting, Compliance & Enforcement**  
Emilee Adams (VA), Tom Stiles (KS)
- ◆ **Watersheds**  
Traci Iott (CT), Jeff Berckes (IA)
- ◆ **Water Resources Management**  
Jeff Manning (NC), Erica Gaddis (UT)

### Workgroups & Chairs:

- ◆ **Pretreatment**  
Jennifer Robinson (UT)  
Vivian Zhong (NC)
- ◆ **Rural**  
Kent Woodmansey (SD)  
Bruce Yurdin (NM)
- ◆ **Stormwater**  
Alicia Good (RI)  
Melissa Wenzel (MN)
- ◆ **Cooling Water/Steam Electric Workgroup**  
Jason Knutson (WI)  
Michael Moe (OK)
- ◆ **319/Nonpoint Source**  
Tom Frick (FL)

## 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 three years ago. 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 investment in 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 received two cooperative agreements from the Office of Wastewater Management focused on several coregulator meetings in the following areas: stormwater, pretreatment, NPDES program management, and nutrients permitting. 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.



Top: Dixie Drain, ID, photo by Katie Foreman (ACWA),  
Bottom: Scioto River, photo by Katie Foreman (ACWA)

# A NATIONAL VOICE FOR STATES & INTERSTATES

## Regulatory Activities:

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

- ◆ NPDES Application and Program Updates Rule
- ◆ Discussed Peak Wet Weather Flow Management
- ◆ Permit Streamlining
- ◆ Water Quality Standards development
- ◆ §401 Certification Authority
- ◆ Peak Flows Management
- ◆ Discussed Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science

## 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 joint letter on the importance of §401 Certification Authority
- ◆ Submitted joint letter expressing concerns on Water Quality Certification Improvement Act of 2018 (S. 3303)
- ◆ Submitted letter regarding EPA's proposed budget
- ◆ Tracked Water Infrastructure Improvement Act

## Policy & Guidance Activities:

- ◆ Coordinated cross-program discussions on implementation of the 303(d) Long-Term Vision
- ◆ Continued to coordinate the Nutrients Working Group, a partnership focused on confronting the most pressing nutrients pollution-related challenges.
- ◆ Promoted the use of workgroups to engage OECA SNC Reduction Initiative.
- ◆ Supported the 2018 National Stormwater Roundtable.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Continued to monitor regulatory and legal developments regarding the definition of Waters of the US.
- ◆ Utilized TMDL modelers workgroup to begin building state modeling capacity.
- ◆ Created draft implementation guidance for new 304(a) recommended criteria.



Photos from top to bottom: Patrick McGuire at One Water Summit photo by US Water Alliance, Friends Dairy, Idaho photo by Katie Foreman (ACWA), Boise River photo by Katie Foreman (ACWA), 2018 ACWA Annual Meeting Awards Ceremony photo by Katie Foreman (ACWA), Yellowstone National Park photo by Katie Foreman (ACWA)

# AN EFFECTIVE PARTNER, BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

Boise River, photo by Katie Foreman (ACWA)

## 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 website, [www.acwa-us.org](http://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 State/Interstate Only Web Portal, Member365.
  - Members-only workspaces where state staff share ideas and documents
- ◆ 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 58th Annual Meeting to be held in Austin, Texas from August 27-29, 2019.**

## 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. ACWA has been very diligent in complying with these limits.

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%
FY2018	\$0	0.000%

ACWA can track, report, and certify that a 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](mailto:aivey@acwa-us.org).

### Dues:

Starting in FY 2019, the Executive Director in consultation with the Treasurer, will annually assess and propose to the Board whether a consumer price index (CPI) related dues increase is needed as part of the overall budget proposal. In December 2018, the Board of Directors approved a new dues analysis process that would allow the association to publish dues rates two years out, providing members greater certainty regarding dues amounts and much earlier than previously communicated. As you can see from the attached Dues Schedule, the total dues amount was increased 2% for FY2020 and 2% for FY2021.

## 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

### 2018-2019 Leadership:

President	Allison Woodall (TX)
Vice-President	Melanie Davenport (VA)
Treasurer	Andrew Gavin (SRBC)
Secretary	Peter Goodman (KY)
Past President	Jennifer Wigal (OR)

### Board Representatives:

Region 1	Alicia Good (RI)
Region 2	Koon Tang (NY)
Region 3	Lee Currey (MD)
Region 4	Peter Goodman (KY)
Region 5	Tiffani Kavalec (OH)
Region 6	Caleb Osborne (AR)
Region 7	Jaime Gaggero (KS)
Region 8	Karl Rockeman (ND)
Region 9	Krista Osterberg (AZ)
Region 10	Heather Bartlett (WA)
Interstates	Susan Sullivan (NEIWPC)