



CATHY A. RAEVSKY, DIRECTOR

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202 MIRA LOMA DRIVE, OROVILLE, CA 95965

## WASTEWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

# MINUTES

OCTOBER 7, 2014

CHICO ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS \*\* 1160 E. 1<sup>ST</sup> AVENUE, CHICO

### I. Preliminary Items

#### A. Call to Order

Nick called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

#### B. Role Call and Determination of Quorum

Nick Weigel, Wes Gilbert, Jan Hill, Lauralyn Lambert, Bill Dinsmore, DC Jones, and Will Arnold, were present.

Rick McCauley, Priscilla Rawlings (alternate), and Doug Flesher (alternate) were absent.

A quorum was established.

#### C. Introduction of Guests

Dom Lord, John Lang, Adalberto Correa, Don McDonald, John Hoffman, and Brian Cobb attended as guests. Brad Banner, Kristen McKillop, and Charlotte Walters attended the meeting on behalf of the Public Health Department.

#### D. Review of Minutes

The meeting notes from June 17, 2014 meeting were reviewed. Lauralyn made a motion to accept the minutes as written. DC seconded the motion and the motion passed with Wes abstaining..

#### E. Agenda Review

Eric corrected the agenda referring the water board's General Order. It is a State Board General Order and not a Regional Board General Order. No other changes to the agenda were requested.

#### F. Public Comments and Input

There was no public comment.

### II. Action Items

There were no action items on the agenda.

### III. Informational Non-Action Items

#### A. Part 4 of Onsite Wastewater Manual (OM&M)

1. Buddy led the discussion regarding a number of issues regarding Part 4 or the Onsite Manual involving OM&M. Issues discussed included:
  - a. COWA's classes, OM&M I and OM&M 2, should in Buddy's viewpoint be all that should be required to qualify OM&M service providers in Butte County. Brad noted that the LEA also requires demonstrated OM&M field experience and includes provisions for removing certification for unacceptable performance by the service provider.
  - b. Buddy asked if Butte County Environmental Health has established OM&M record keeping and reporting systems as specified in the Manual. Kristen reported on how the information is currently tracked and Brad noted that this is an area where more work by the LEA is needed.
  - c. Buddy suggested that site plans and system data should be stored on the site where the system is located: perhaps in an ABS tube next to the control panel. Others in the group suggested placement of a CD or a "thumb drive" with the data, or even a QR code that would link the service provider into a website with the site specific information.
  - d. Buddy recommended an OM&M site inspection and service be performed six months after a supplemental treatment system is installed and used so that its performance can be assessed after the bacteria have been established.
  - e. Testing for Dissolved Oxygen to detect a leaking septic tank was agreed by Buddy and the group as not being a practical or useful procedure for determining if groundwater intrusion into the septic tank is occurring.
  - f. Buddy noted that supplemental treatment systems other than sand filters do not effectively remove total and fecal coliform and sampling results invariably show "greater than 24 MPN." Therefore, the requirement for coliform testing accomplishes nothing and is an unnecessary cost to the homeowner.
  - g. Buddy suggested that field testing in lieu of laboratory testing should be more readily allowed to save the homeowner the cost of laboratory analysis of effluent samples. Buddy recommended that the field testing be allowed if the TSS and BOD are within acceptable limits when the system is first serviced after six months.
2. [Brad agreed to bring a number of these items back to the WAC as tracked edits to the Manual.](#)

#### B. LAMP Development

Eric reported on the LAMP development and review process and told that group that an updated checklist will be provided in the near future.

C. State Water Board General Order

1. Buddy and Nick reported on the recent State Water Board hearing and revision of the General Order.
2. The General Order will be used in place of some project-specific WDRs, which will streamline Regional Board reviews and no longer require applicants to provide CEQA review of individual wastewater systems.
3. Buddy expressed concern about the operator certification requirements, especially as they relate to small flow systems. He stated that not only will these requirements take work away from his business, there are likely to be very few certified operators to operate the systems because the operators will already be working at municipal sewage treatment plants. Buddy noted that the operator certification requirements will not apply however to wastewater systems with only subsurface dispersal. Nick and Brad pointed out that the General Order requirements, including the operator certification requirements, will not apply to systems regulated under LAMPS.

D. Workshop Planning

1. Kristen led the discussion on possible contractor workshop topics. The majority of WAC members and guests expressed strong support for field training in soil evaluation. Challenges with field soil evaluation training, however, include addressing liability issues and coordinating with the property owner, excavator, and trainers. Another idea supported by the group would be a workshop to explain permitting requirements and the role of various agencies involved in issuing permits and WDRs. A third suggestion was to select a site and go through a permitting process including application, site evaluation, design, design review, installation, and final approval.
2. Brad suggested that a training on the permit process and agency roles could be developed for December or January, with a soil training possibly developed for early Spring.

- E. Brad updated the group on the APN file scanning process that will impact document retrieval over the coming weeks.

**IV. Agenda Preparation for Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be scheduled by email, due to the necessity of vacating the meeting room before 5:00 pm.

**V. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.



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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

**Wastewater Advisory Committee**

**Sign-In Sheet**

Date: October 7, 2014 Location: Chico Association of Realtors

Name	Initials	Email (only for guests not on the WAC email address list)
Brad Bamer	<i>BB</i>	
John Ford	<i>JF</i>	
Nick WEIBEL	<i>NW</i>	
WILLIAM ARNOLD	<i>WA</i>	
John Lang	<i>JL</i>	
Adalberto Correa	<i>AC</i>	
D C JONES	<i>DCJ</i>	
LAVALYN LAMBERT	<i>LL</i>	
Eric Rappert	<i>ER</i>	<i>erappert@waterbearhs.ca.gov</i>
Kristen McKillop	<i>KM</i>	
CHARLOTT WATERS	<i>CW</i>	
Douglas <sup>Mason</sup> Const	<i>DM</i>	
Buddy Notting Lam	<i>BN</i>	

Wes Gilbert *wsg* on-site  
 John Hoffman *JH*  
 Jan Hill *JH*  
 Bill Dismore *BD*

BRYAN COBB BC

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