



2022 Fall Strategic Leadership & Board of Directors Meeting

November 14 – 15 | The Don CeSar | St. Pete Beach, FL

Δ Board of Directors Committees/Meetings

All Meetings are on the 5th Floor, unless otherwise noted.

Monday, November 14

Morning

8:00 – 10:00 Awards Committee Δ

*June Hurley Young,
Lobby Level*

10:00 – 11:45 Executive Committee Δ

*William Bowman Jr. Executive Boardroom,
Lobby Level*

Afternoon

12:00 – 1:00 Fall Strategic Leadership Meeting Networking Lunch

King Charles Lunch is available for all attendees.

1:00 – 5:00 Fall Strategic Leadership Meeting

King Charles

1:00-2:30 Ensuring Community Trust, Enhancing Your Agency's Reputation

There are unparalleled pressures today on clean water agency leaders that threaten to undermine the painstaking efforts their agencies have made to become local anchor institutions for their communities. Expectations have been raised to address environmental justice and diversity, equity and inclusion (DE&I) issues, but are these expectations clear and how will we know if they are being met? Similarly, fear about PFAS and emerging contaminants is at an all-time high, whether in drinking water, biosolids, or air emissions. How can the clean water community address these fears through both words and actions while also ensuring regulatory and permit requirements are reasonable? NACWA Board and Committee leaders will provide perspectives from their utilities on these issues and lead discussion on the following sub-topics:

- What challenges are threatening your reputation as a trusted local entity?
- How are you responding differently today versus in the past?
- How are events in places like Jackson, Mississippi, where ratepayers have simply lost trust entirely in their local, state and federal institutions, impacting your community and the water sector as a whole?
- What role, if any, can NACWA play to further enhance local utility trust within their communities or the clean water sector's reputation nationally?

Moderator

Mickey Conway, NACWA Secretary
Chief Executive Officer
Metro Water Recovery | Denver, CO

Discussion Starters

Allison Deines, Co-Chair, NACWA Water Quality Committee
Director of Research and Strategy Engagement
Alexandria Renew Enterprises | Alexandria, VA

Andrew Lee, NACWA Board Member
Co-Chair, NACWA Environmental Justice Committee
General Manager/Chief Executive Officer
Seattle Public Utilities | Seattle, WA

2:30-3:00 Break

3:00-3:45 Top Challenges for Utilities in the Sunshine State

Leaders from several Florida utilities (NACWA Members and Non-Members) will provide an overview of their top challenges including the aftermath of Hurricane Ian, keeping up with rapid growth, climate issues, aging infrastructure, workforce, water reuse and biosolids management. To set up the final discussion of the day, the panel will then explore whether the issues facing Florida utilities are national in scope, requiring national advocacy or mostly local or requiring more targeted, state-based advocacy. Participants will also discuss the role and efficacy of their state-based associations versus the role and efficacy of national associations, including NACWA, as well as what NACWA could do to be more responsive to Florida utility needs.

Moderator

Todd Swingle, NACWA Board Member
Executive Director
Toho Water Authority | Kissimmee, FL

Panelists

Megan Ross, Director of Utilities
Pinellas County Water/Sewer Utilities | Largo, FL

Ed Torres, Utilities Director
Orange County Utilities | Orlando, FL

Lisa Rhea, Water Resources Director
Hillsborough County Public Utilities | Tampa, FL

Kevin Carter, Assistant to the Director
Broward County Water and Wastewater Services | Pompano Beach, FL

3:45-5:00 NACWA's Role in State-to-State Advocacy and Collaboration with State Utility Groups

Key policy and legal decisions are increasingly being made by state legislatures, regulatory bodies and courthouses, which have enormous impacts on our utility members in those states and sometimes serve as national precedents. Recent examples include lobbying efforts by the private water sector with state legislatures to better enable the privatization of water systems and action by the

state legislature in Maine to ban biosolids land application due to the presence of PFAS, despite other states pursuing more reasonable approaches to PFAS. State court decisions on issues such as the collection of utility fees and wet weather management are likewise having increasing implications for our members and threaten to expand to broader regional or even national stages.

While these actions unfold, many state-based utility groups may be unwilling or unable to respond effectively. NACWA, meanwhile, does not have the resources to be a primary actor in 50 states. Building on the previous session, panelists will provide some perspective from their states and lead a discussion on how NACWA should 'pick its battles' and, perhaps more importantly, how the Association can collaborate with and create a sense of urgency for state groups to 'step into the breach' as advocates on behalf of our shared priorities and where and how it can best work with the more well-resourced and active state groups.

Moderator

Charlotte Katzenmoyer, NACWA Board Member
Chief Executive Officer
Capital Region Water | Harrisburg, PA

Discussion Starters

Josh Schimmel, NACWA Board Member
Executive Director
Springfield Water & Sewer Commission | Springfield, MA

Robert Ferrante, NACWA Board Member
Chief Engineer & General Manager
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts | Whittier, CA

Evening

5:30 – 7:30 Leadership Social Event

North Terrace
Veranda

Tuesday, November 15

Morning

8:00 – 9:00 Audit Committee Meeting Δ

Buena Vista

8:00 – 9:00 Affordability Task Force Meeting Δ

June Hurley Young,
Lobby Level

8:00 – 9:00 Fall Strategic Leadership Meeting Networking Breakfast

King Charles Breakfast available for all attendees.

9:00 – 11:30 Fall Strategic Leadership Meeting

King Charles

9:00-9:30 Reactions to Day One Discussions

9:30-11:00 **Charting a Path Forward for the Next 50 Years of Clean Water Success . . .
Discussions to Inform NACWA's Strategic Planning**

Topic 1

Taking a Larger Leadership Role on Water Quantity/Scarcity Issues

As growing climate issues generally and the extreme drought in the Southwest most acutely demonstrate, water scarcity issues will be an increasing major focus of national policy discussions. Other associations are focused on these issues, including on the role that water reuse will play, but should NACWA add focus and value to the national discussion on these issues and if so, how? Utility leaders working on reuse or dealing with arid region issues will provide perspective on what the core focus areas for a NACWA agenda on these issues would look like and how the Association can meaningfully engage on behalf of the large and growing member base for whom this is a – if not the – top priority.

Discussion Leaders

Wes Kucera, *NACWA Board Member*
Managing Director, Water & Wastewater
City of Garland | Garland, TX

Roger Bailey, *NACWA Board Member*
General Manager
Central Contra Costa Sanitary District | Martinez, CA

Topic 2

The Role of Technology & Technology Providers in Advancing Clean Water Success

Technology will play an important role in the next 50 years of the Clean Water Act, helping utilities achieve even greater successes than in the past five decades. NACWA has fully embraced the important role of technology, with the Board recently endorsing a policy statement on how to promote the adoption of new and innovative technologies through its advocacy initiatives.

The goals and interests of public sector clean water utilities, however, may not always align with those of private sector technology providers seeking to sell their products and services. What should NACWA's appropriate role be in the technology space moving forward, especially when it comes to federal regulatory and policy initiatives and possible competing interests between the public and private sectors? Also, with enormous workforce challenges being faced by utilities and the private sector alike, how can technology potentially fill the workforce gaps that may be more permanent than in the past?

Discussion Leaders

Susan Pekarek, *NACWA Board Member*
General Manager
Johnson County Wastewater | Olathe, KS

Logan Olds, *Co-Chair, NACWA Utility and
Resource Management Committee*
Interim Managing Director – Utility Operations
Clean Water Services | Hillsboro, OR

11:00-11:30 **Discussion Wrap-Up and Next Steps**

11:30 Fall Strategic Leadership Meeting Adjourns

Afternoon

11:45 – 12:15 Board of Directors Luncheon Δ

Del Prado

12:30 - 2:00 Board of Directors Meeting Δ

Del Prado