



**Minutes of
February 14, 2007 Meeting
Littleton/Englewood WWTP**

In Attendance:

Mary Gardner	L/E WWTP
David Meyer	Westminster
Sharon Davis	Metro Water Reclamation District
Claudia Cummins	Aurora Water
Paul Grundemann	Centennial Water & Sanitation District
Dennis Stowe	L/E WWTP
Amy Woodis	Metro Water Reclamation District
Ray Cook	Silverthorne/Dillon JSA
Stewart Fonda	Littleton/Englewood
Todd Dahlberg	Colorado Springs
Blair Corning	SACWSD
Andrew Ross	CDPHE - WQCD
Tim Woodard	Westminster
Chris Laroe	Bear Creek W & S District
Bret Linenfelser	Boulder
Holly Brown	CDPHE - WQCD
Tim Holbrook	IFE
Tim Grotheer	PCWA
Martha Hahn	PCWA
Max Dodson	Retired from EPA Region VIII
Bruce Suchomel	EPA Region VIII
Paul Ferraro	Ferraro Associates, Inc.

I. EPA Activities, Review of 35 Years, Max Dodson, USEPA Region VIII

Max Dodson retired in early January 2007 after 40 years of federal service - 5 years military and 35 years at EPA, Region VIII. He discovered Colorado while stationed at Lowry. He then attended CU where he obtained a Masters degree.

He applied for a job at the expanding Denver EPA office in December 1970 and started work in the summer of 1971. In March 1972, Paul Ferraro was his supervisor for a couple of years in water quality planning. He became a supervisor in 1974. Then in 1978, he worked in the newly formed Montana office and became the office director in 1982.

In 1983, he was selected to become the Director of the Region's Water Division.

Highlights:

- In the early 1970's, Max recalls how we were doing actual work. For example, the Planning group did the Water Quality Plan for Dillon Reservoir, including waste load allocations for each discharger to the Reservoir.
- Over the years, EPA only did oversight, not actual work.
- Presently, the Agency has a lot of administrative duties, including data gathering. He estimates that 25% of the employees are involved in administrative functions. The Region has 800 employees.
- Problem decisions by the Agency:
 - In 1995, the Regional Administrator reorganized Region VIII. Max has always considered it to be a dumb decision.
 - He also disagreed with the Agency's decision to leave the hazardous waste on site at the Shaddock Company site which is near Santa Fe Highway. Eventually, the materials were moved.
- He was involved with the Summitville Gold Mine (the clean up is still underway), Brownfields and Wetlands Protection.
- He sees the Agency putting more emphasis on Energy, Water Quality and Interstate issues.
- Projects:
 - Best - Gold Mine in Montana near Yellowstone National Park
 - Most Stressful - Dealing with asbestos.
 - Most Rewarding - Rocky Flats clean up.
 - Most Difficult - Resolving the Lowry Landfill.
 - Most Unexpected - Removal of dam in Montana.
 - Best Bosses - Paul Ferraro and Regional Administrator, Jim Scherer.
 - Biggest Change - From a senior partner in cleaning up environmental problems to a minor partner.
 - Employees changes - Region VIII workforce 51% female and ethnically diverse.
- What CWWUC Might Want to Consider in the Future: Smart Design and Sustainability, including cost, benefits and comparative risks.
- In closing, Max thanked the Council for its work and having him speak today. Also, he said that he is enjoying retirement.

II. EPA Awards, Bruce Suchomel, USEPA Region VIII

Bruce gave an overview of the EPA Clean Water Recognition Awards. His PowerPoint presentation is attached.

BACKGROUND:

CWA Section 510(e) and 40 CFR Part 105 establish general requirements for the administration of the EPA's CWA Recognition Awards. Recognition offered by these awards is also consistent with our National Pollution Discharge Elimination (NPDES) regulations.

The O&M Awards category encourages public support for effective operations and maintenance activities at wastewater treatment facilities. Recognition is made for outstanding innovation of processes and practices at wastewater treatment facilities. A list of suggested topics is contained in the questionnaire. These awards recognize communities that continue to meet water quality permit requirements. Additionally, the O&M category recognizes the Most Improved Plant (MIP) which demonstrates the effectiveness of the CWA Section 104(g)(1) program. "The best candidates are those that have shown substantial improvements in effluent quality and overall operation and maintenance, that have built a strong foundation for long term, sustained permit compliance and have overcome obstacles in reaching compliance goals."

AWARDS CRITERIA:

Secondary Treatment Plant: Small, Medium, and Large plant capacity categories.

Advanced Treatment Plant: Small, Medium, and Large plant capacity categories.

Non-Discharging Plant: Small and Large plant capacity categories.

Most Improved Treatment Plant: Eligible if less than 5.0 mgd.

O&M AWARDS SUMMARY - COLORADO

First Place Large Advanced Plant

- 1993- Drake Water Reclamation Facility, Fort Collins
- 2001- L/E Wastewater Treatment Plant, Englewood
- 2005- Metro Wastewater Reclamation District, Denver

Second Place Large Advanced Plant

- 1996- L/E Wastewater Treatment Plant, Englewood
- 1997- Metro Wastewater Reclamation District, Denver

First Place Medium Advanced Plant

- 1987- Wastewater Reclamation Facility, Breckenridge
- 1992- Louisville WWTP, Louisville
- 19980 Fremont Sanitation District, Florence
- 2000- Plum Creek Wastewater Authority, Castle Rock
- 2002- City of Louisville WWTP, Louisville

Second Place Medium Advanced Plant

- 1990- Aspen Consolidation Sanitation District, Aspen
- 1995- Blue River WWTP, Silverthorne
- 2004- Breckenridge Sanitation District, Breckenridge

First Place Small Advanced Plant

- 1988- Snake River WWTP, Dillon
- 1989- Snake River WWTP, Dillon
- 1994- Pinery Water Reclamation Plant, Parker

2001- Pinery Water Reclamation Plant, Parker

First Place Large Secondary Plant

1990- City of Greeley Water Pollution Control Facility, Greeley

Second Place Large Secondary Plant

1993- City of Greeley Water Pollution Control Facility, Greeley

First Place Medium Secondary Plant

1991- Broomfield WWTP, Broomfield

1997- City of Fort Lupton, Fort Lupton

2005- Fountain Sanitation District, Fountain

Second Place Medium Secondary Plant

1992- Big Dry Creek WWTP, Westminster

First Place Small Non-Discharging Plant

2005- S. Blue River WWTP, Breckenridge

Second Place Small Non-Discharging Plant

1990- Skier's Edge/Quandary Condo WWTP, Breckenridge

1999- S. Blue River WWTP, Breckenridge

Most Improved Plant

1999- 1st Place National Winner, Town of Cedaredge

NATIONAL EXEMPLARY BIOSOLIDS MANAGEMENT AWARDS - COLORADO

1st Place

2004 tie Metro Denver Wastewater Reclamation District - Metro Gro, Denver

2004 tie Parker Ag Services - NYC Program, Lamar

2003- Littleton/Englewood, WWTP, Englewood

2005- Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

1999- Littleton/Englewood WWTP (Dryland Wheat), Englewood, CO

Special Recognition

2001- Climax Mo. Company, Summit Co. Biosolids Producers

Honorable Mention

- 1996- Littleton/Englewood WWTP (Dryland), Englewood
- 1996- Louisville WWTP, Louisville

PRETREATMENT PROGRAM

National Winners

- 1993- 1st Place - City of Fort Collins
- 1997- 1st Place - City of Fort Collins
- 1998- 1st Place - City of Broomfield
- 1998- 2nd Place - City of Boulder
- 1999- 1st Place - Littleton/Englewood WWTP, Englewood
- 2000- 1st Place - City of Greeley
- 2000- 1st Place - Metro Wastewater Reclamation District
- 2003- 1st Place - South Adams County W & S District, Commerce City

III. Updates

- RMWEA Liaison Report. Tim Holbrook is the Co-Chair of the AWWA-RMWEA Small Systems Committee and he attended the CWWUC February meeting. The committee has put together a 1-day workshop for wastewater and water operators on March 9th in Montrose.
- CWUC Report. No report.
- Mentoring. Paul F. reviewed the revised Water and Wastewater Mentoring Program online. Visit the new site - <http://www.cwwuc.org/mentoring> and send your comments to Jeannie (admin@cwwuc.org).
- Legislative Report. Amy distributed a copy of the WQCD draft fee bill. The key provisions follow:
 - Provides for 5 additional FTE, 3.5 Drinking Water, 1.5 Clean Water
 - Addresses stormwater/wastewater fee inequity issue by eliminating use of revenue from stormwater fees to fund wastewater program activities
 - Does not change the fees charged for pretreatment, CAFO and HCSFO permits
 - In addition to current authority to charge domestic (municipal) dischargers for determination of Preliminary Effluent Limits (PELs), allows division to charge industrial dischargers requesting a PEL which would allow them to understand treatment requirements at the "scoping" stage of a project rather than when the permit is written.
 - Allows assessment of fees for wastewater site applications and design reviews (fee for service) to fund the entire existing Division effort

- Creates a treated wastewater reuse annual permit fee to fund the Division's current effort plus one half additional FTE
- Establishes a fee for new individual sewage disposal systems to fund the Division 's current effort (0.1 FTE) plus one new FTE
- Reestablishes a drinking water system fee to fund the 3.5 new FTE requested; drinking water system fees sunset on June 30, 2005 with the expiration of SB-276
- Provides a permit fee fund balance of 4% at end of FY2009
- Changes in these fees as a result of this proposed bill as drafted result in:
 - a 19% reduction in current stormwater permit fees
 - approximately a 40% increase in current wastewater permit fees
 - drinking water system fees that are 68% of what they were prior to the sunset of SB-276

IV. Open Discussion

- Andy Ross to send us the link on the Monitoring Guideline. Comments are due by the end of February.
- Nancy to send a letter (prepared by Dennis) to EPA regarding the proposed NPDES Permit Fee Incentive Rule.
- Paul G. mentioned that the court in New York is saying that water transfers from one basin to another will require an NPDES permit. He will monitor this since it will have an impact in Colorado.
- Tim G. mentioned that an April hearing is set regarding changes to the water and wastewater certification requirements - fee increase and changing to four levels for collection systems.
- Sharon mentioned that the members should review the Water Quality Forum workgroups especially the Spill Workgroup. Also she recommended that there be an item on the March agenda for a discussion on Council funds for the Monitoring Council.
- Mary needs pictures of members' facilities, and by March 14 submit to her articles for the next *The Confluence*.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 P.M.

Next Meeting: March 14, 2007 @ 1 PM at L/E WWTP

CLEAN WATER ACT OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE AWARDS PROGRAM

Bruce Suchomel
February 14, 2007

Program Importance

- Authorized by the CWA
- Recognizes outstanding and innovative achievements
- Increases public awareness

Program Authority and History

- CWA Section 510(e)
- 40 CFR Part 105
- Initiated in 1985
 - To recognize municipalities and industries
 - To increase public awareness
 - First awards presented in 1986

Awards Criteria

- Secondary Treatment Plant
 - Small, Medium, and Large Capacity Categories
- Advanced Treatment Plant
 - Small, Medium, and Large Capacity Categories
- Non-Discharging Plant
 - Small and Large Capacity Categories
- Most Improved Treatment Plant
 - Eligible if less than 5.0 mgd

Awards Process

- Budget for Award Plaques and Travel
- Receive and Distribute Application Guidance
- Receive Nominations from the State
- Review Applications for Eligibility
- Recruit Evaluators
- Review and Score Applications
- Tally Results
- Recommend Regional Award Winners
- Regional 1st Pl. Winners to HQ for National Consideration
- Purchase Award Plaques
- Present Awards On-Site.

Partners

- States
- 104G Contacts
- State Water Environment Associations and WW Utility Councils
- RUMBLES

Key Players

- HQ – Bill Hasselkus
- CO – Cary Pilon
- MT – Bill Bahr
- ND – Gary Bracht
- SD – John Ullmann
- UT – Kim Dyches
- WY – Kim Parker