MEETING MINUTES
AZ Water Association Wastewater Treatment Committee
October 26, 2016, noon - 1 p.m.
Maricopa County Environmental Services Department Room 200
1001 North Central Avenue; Phoenix

Participants: Miguel Ayala, Jesse Black, Tyson Glock, Kelly Hanzel, Bill Kenning, Doug Kobrick, Dean Moulis, Karla Guerra, Mike Weber

Recorded: Doug Kobrick, committee chair

Issued: January 8, 2017

1. Member news. Tyson Glock reported he has a potential new recruit for the committee. Mike Weber reported that he has not been getting the new-member emails and Bill Kenning indicated he could fix that [it is now fixed].

2. Annual Technical Seminar III. Doug Kobrick gave a report on the Technical Seminar, which was held the day before. The seminar was once again a success, which was a relief because registrations had been lagging and the program still had some gaps just a few weeks prior to the event. We were fortunate that this worked out and need to stay on top of it better next year.

Ultimately we wound up with 55 paid registrations, six sponsors, and a total attendance of about 80. Our seminar evaluations were very positive, as in the past, perhaps somewhat lower ratings but still very solid. The major issue with the event itself was the venue; we were in the much larger meeting hall next door at the Pera Club and the sound quality was challenging for some of the presentations. In the end we offered a very good day of training and netted about $3000 in revenue for AZ Water so the event definitely qualifies as a success.

One of the challenges associated with the seminar was the AZ Water calendar, which turned out to be quite crowded during the month of October. In addition to the annual WEFTEC and Tri-State Seminar which are held in the month preceding our event, there were other regional conferences, AZ Water events including a collection system seminar and a biosolids webinar, and a national algae conference in the weeks prior to our event. As AZ Water becomes increasingly active, this will continue to be an issue that needs to be managed, and the overall organization will need to look at better-coordinating the calendar. From the standpoint of the wastewater treatment committee, the best thing to do is get ahead of the event with plans, program and advertising in place earlier in the year.
Matt Tsiouris suggested that we develop an AZ Water master calendar so that all of the committees can coordinate their events. Doug Kobrick will bring this to the Board for discussion.

3. **Plant tours, math workshops update.** The Sedona WWTP tour was held on October 12, drew about 25 participants and also included a math workshop that had good attendance. Thank you Kelly Hanzel for making the arrangements and to the math amigos for presenting the workshop. The Yuma tour was coming up on November 17 [but was ultimately cancelled due to weak registrations].

4. **Mentor Bank.** Doug Kobrick distributed a flyer that was to be distributed at the Technical Seminar.

5. **Kachina News.** The members were reminded that the *Kachina News* is always looking for content and it is a great opportunity to get an article published if one has a good topic.

6. **Social media.** Doug Kobrick provided a review of AZ Water’s efforts in social media including our Facebook page and Twitter posts. The Association has hired a social media consulting firm, “red balloon” to handle these activities. The metrics collected by red balloon show steadily increasing engagement (activity) with the Facebook page, etc. as part of the Association’s efforts to have more outward communication with the rest of the state beyond just our profession.

7. **Lunchtime Operator Forum.** Dean Moulis will set up an Operator’s Lunchtime Technical Forum to held at Pima County’s Agua Nueva WRP on January 27 [tentative date, has now been changed to February 3]. Chris MacDonald offered that Construction Product Marketing would sponsor lunch for the event.

8. **Meeting schedule.** The members were reminded that, due to the holidays, the next two upcoming meetings would be held one week earlier than usual to avoid schedule conflicts.

Next meeting: November 16, 2016 – noon at MCESD