MEETING MINUTES
AZ Water Association Wastewater Treatment Committee

May 24, 2017; noon - 1 p.m.
Maricopa County Environmental Services Department – 2nd floor conference room
1001 North Central Avenue; Phoenix

*Participants:* Doug Berschauer, Barry Carroll, Nathan Ellis, Tyson Glock, Kelly Hanzel, Jim Huchel, Jason Joynes, Bill Kenning, Doug Kobrick, Dean Moulis, John Pinkston, Zac Sharp, Jeff Tilleman

*Recorded:* Doug Kobrick

*Issued:* June 27, 2017

1. **Member news.** Doug Kobrick mentioned to the group that we have approximately 137 members on the committee. This count is based upon people who have signed up for us as a “special interest” group within AZ Water. Many of these are not “real” members; they have simply expressed interest in wastewater treatment. Mike Weber is working through the list of each member who expresses interest to determine which ones actually want to join the committee.

2. **Annual AZ Water conference.** The results of the AZ Water Conference were reviewed. Overall, the move to downtown Phoenix was very successful. The Wastewater Treatment Committee was very well-represented on the conference program and in the preparations for this year’s event. There was excellent attendance, about on a par with last year’s record-setting attendance in Glendale. There were more exhibitors thanks to the much larger space. The “beer truck” drew a lot of interest despite the absence of beer. The golf tournament was a sell-out and raised about $24,000 for scholarships. Meter Mania continues to expand. The technical program was solid. The operations training track led by committee member Doug Berschauer with participation by many WWTC members was very well-attended. Our tours for middle and high school students got a lot of favorable notice and we will expand that for next year.

3. **Plant tours update.** We confirmed that we will be having a dual tour in Flagstaff on July 26, covering both the Rio de Flag and Wildcat Hill WWTPs, thanks to committee member Jim Huchel. Jim is moving from Flagstaff to Sedona. Doug Kobrick is working to set up a tour in Payson at the Northern Gila County Sanitary District WWTP in August. Tyson Glock offered to set up a tour at Big Park DWWID south of Sedona, possibly in September.

4. **School outreach.** We will be continuing this effort this fall. The visit to the conference by the students was very well-received. Some comments/suggestions discussed by the group: we need to arrange for bus parking; kids cannot bring outside lunches into the hall, need a plan to address that next year; Dave Iwanski’s impromptu speech to the group was very good; we
should pick some vendors in advance as planned stops on the kids’ tour of the exhibition; emphasizing ones that will be accessible and interesting to the kids; a scavenger hunt might be good way to get the kids engaged with the exhibition.

5. **I&C workshop.** Jeff Tilleman has offered to present a hands-on workshop for I&C personnel at Rosendin Electric’s training facility in Tempe. Excellent idea! This will be on August 17 from 4 to 7 p.m.

6. **Annual Technical Seminar IV.** A sizable group of committee members has offered to assist in preparing for this year’s event, which needs to happen soon. A separate planning meeting will be held on June 7 at lunchtime at Hazen and Sawyer.

7. **Operator training.** Gary Whitten will be reactivating this effort. A re-kickoff meeting needs to be held.

   Jesse Black mentioned there is an effort underway to get the City of Surprise team sponsored to go to the WEFTEC conference and compete in the Top Ops challenge.

8. **Mentor Bank.** Doug Kobrick will work with Bill Kenning and Noah Adams of ADEQ to get this some more publicity, and hopefully more participation.

9. **Lunchtime technical seminars.** Jason Joynes offered to host one for central Arizona utilities in the fall. Karla Guerra has offered to host one at West Area WRF.

10. **Annual Report.** There were no volunteers among the group to assist the chair with preparation of the Annual Report.

11. Next meeting: June 28, 2017 – noon at MCESD