



Chair's Message

The Regional Wastewater Advisory Committee was involved in several important issues this year. This Annual Report for 2010/11 summarizes activities of this Committee.

One of the issues addressed by the Committee was the Proposed Marana 208 Plan Amendment. Updates on this amendment were given regularly but the Committee discussed the issue at length during two meetings in which presentations were provided by Pima Association of Governments, the Town of Marana and Pima County. In conjunction with the Proposed Marana 208 Plan Amendment, the Committee discussed Senate Bill 1171 and the impact this bill would have on the future of wastewater in the region.

A major activity this past year was the development and review of the 2010/11 Financial Plan. Committee members finalized their recommendations which were approved by the Board of Supervisors in June.

Committee members had the opportunity to tour the Ina Road Wastewater Reclamation Facility in order to view the progress of ongoing construction. The Committee was also invited to attend two RWRD ceremonies designed to mark major milestones for the Department including a ribbon cutting for the Plant Interconnect and a groundbreaking ceremony for the Pima County Water Reclamation Campus.

The Committee looks forward to continuing to address public concerns and issues for the wastewater system while providing leadership and education on these critical issues for the community.



Sheila Bowen, P.E., Chair



Mark Stratton, P.E., Vice Chair

Michael Gritzuk, P.E. Retires as Director

Michael Gritzuk, P.E. retired as Director of the Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department in January of this year. Fortunately for the Department, he will continue to work on a part-time basis to help oversee the ROMP project to completion. Mr. Gritzuk started with Pima County in July 2005 at a time when there were significant problems facing the Department and employee morale was low. During his tenure, many Capital Improvement Projects were initiated to improve and upgrade wastewater infrastructure. Communications within the Department were improved through bi-annual Department dialogue meetings, monthly publication of "The Pipeline" a newsletter for employees, and increased meetings at other departmental levels. Financial stewardship, roach and odor control were also top priorities.

Mr. Gritzuk was honored by the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) on May 11, 2011 in Washington D.C. when they presented him with the 2011 Distinguished Service Award. This award was a tribute to his 50-year career, most of it in public service, working to improve public health and the environment.

While Mr. Gritzuk has worked for over 20 years in Arizona, he also worked in New Jersey, Massachusetts, and Florida; and his expertise was welcomed internationally with countries such as Bulgaria, Cuba, and China seeking his assistance. It was an honor to have Mr. Gritzuk as the Director for the past six years, serving Pima County regional wastewater customers.



Jackson Jenkins New Director

Jackson Jenkins was appointed as the Director for RWRD after the retirement of Michael Gritzuk, P.E. Mr. Jenkins assumed the directorship on February 1, 2011. Mr. Jenkins had served as the Deputy Director of the Treatment Division for the past six years.

As Deputy Director, Mr. Jenkins launched the Multi-Skill Program; a program that reclassified the operations and maintenance (O&M) personnel in the treatment division into a new Multi-Skill classification. The O&M Technicians operate the wastewater reclamation facilities and handle the preventative and routine maintenance. The objective of the program is to efficiently operate and maintain the facilities with a smaller, more flexible, and highly skilled workforce. The result will be a significant cost savings for RWRD and allows employees to increase their skills, knowledge, certifications and pay. After a pilot program was begun in 2009, the program took effect for approximately 85 treatment division staff in July 2010.

Prior to joining Pima County, Mr. Jenkins worked for over 20 years in the mining industry. His responsibilities during this tenure included managing annual budgets in excess of \$120 million for operations and maintenance activities and he was involved in many capital projects, some of which were over a billion dollars.

Mr. Jenkins brings a great deal of experience to the Department to help meet the many challenges the Department faces while striving to protect the public health, safety and environment and deliver great service and value to the community.

The Department saw several other changes in staff and organizational structure. Kathy Chavez, P.E. became the head of the newly created Water Resources Unit which will streamline all the water resource activities that RWRD is involved with into one centralized function. Some of the activities this unit will be responsible for are water rights, joint recharge activities and ecosystems restoration. This area will coordinate with other Pima County departments that are also involved in water resource issues.

John Sherlock was promoted to Deputy Director for the Treatment Division when Mr. Jenkins left the post to become RWRD Director. Mr. Sherlock has over 14 years of experience with RWRD and has worked in several areas within the department. Mr. Sherlock holds the highest-level state certification in water and wastewater treatment. He has worked on numerous projects and served on several committees including the Safety Committee, Quality Council, and Unit Process Startups.

RWRD also announced the untimely passing of Willie Hanson, GIS Manager, in late December 2010. Mr. Hanson was a 28-year employee at RWRD.

Director's Message

Since my appointment as the Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (RWRD) Director in January 2011, the remainder of this fiscal year has been an interesting and exciting learning experience. I quickly discovered the considerable support and assistance to the Department that the Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee (RWRAC) has provided. Our discussions in the Committee have included the ROMP program, the Design-Build-Operate program for the New Water Campus, the Multi-Skills program in the Treatment Division, the Department's budget and financial plan, our CIP program and the proposed Marana 208 Plan Amendment, as well as odor related topics and many other important discussions.

We have advised the Committee in monthly updates that the ROMP is proceeding on schedule and is currently under budget. For example, the Plant Interconnect was completed in December 2010 ahead of schedule and under budget.

The Committee had a tour of the Ina Road upgrade and expansion project in October 2010 when the site improvements had been excavated and construction on the improvement was just beginning, our subsequent tour in May, 2011 showed how rapidly the Ina Road project is proceeding to fill the excavations with concrete and rebar. The Central Laboratory is scheduled for completion in December, 2011. The Water Reclamation DBO project had its ground breaking on June 28, 2011 with completion scheduled for August of 2014. The Committee also discussed the 2010 Financial Plan which contained the rate increases authorized in the 2009 Financial Plan, principally to finance the construction and debt service of the ROMP program. RWRD appreciates the assistance and support of the committee in reviewing the Financial Plan.

The Committee's oversight and support has assisted the Department to meet our goals of protecting public health and the environment. The Department appreciates the Committee's guidance and I personally look forward to our continued work with the Committee in the coming year.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jackson Jenkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jackson Jenkins, Director

Regional Optimization Master Plan



Proposed Ina Road Facility

Work on the Regional Optimization Master Plan, to upgrade and expand the regional wastewater treatment facilities, continues. The planned improvements will allow RWRD to meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Ina Road WRF Upgrade and Expansion

The work at the Ina Road Facility is in full swing under the supervision of MWH Constructors, Inc. There are approximately 250 workers on site, along with heavy-duty trucks, cranes and equipment. The most impressive fact is that this project is being conducted on an existing and functional facility. The first four Guaranteed Maxim Price packages (GMP) are complete and three more are well underway. All of the projects are on schedule, or a little ahead of schedule. In addition to upgrading the facility for regulatory compliance, a major objective is to increase the treatment capacity from 37.5 million gallons per day (MGD), to 50 MGD. The expected completion date is October 31, 2013.

Plant Interconnect

The plant interconnect between Ina Road and Roger Road facilities was completed in December 2010 and is fully functional. This five-mile long (48 - 72 inch diameter) sewer pipe is the first completed component of ROMP.

Water Campus

The Roger Road facility has been in operation since the 1950's. Replacement of the facility is another component of ROMP and has been named the Water Reclamation Campus. The Design-Build-Operate (DBO) phase of the Water Reclamation Campus is 90 percent complete. Construction is at 4 percent completion with massive excavation and laying of pipes. Expected completion date for the treatment facility is August 2014.

Central Lab Complex

Also, as part of the Water Campus, a new state of the art laboratory is being built. The new Central Laboratory will house the Compliance and Regulatory Affairs Office (CRAO) as well as the Industrial Wastewater Control section, Training Department personnel and the training center. The building is on schedule to be operational in December 2011.

2010/11 Financial Plan

The Committee heard several presentations from the Finance and Risk Management Department regarding the Fiscal Year 2010/11 Financial Plan. Pima County's Finance Department determined that RWRD would need \$699.4 million in funding over the next five years to cover its capital improvement program. This figure includes any funding necessary for the ongoing ROMP. Methods for providing this funding include the issuance of new debt as well as the continuing implementation of the adopted fee structure with the scheduled annual increases through July 1, 2013.

Because the capital costs shown in the current Financial Plan are lower than were projected in the 2010 Financial Plan, the issuance of new debt was delayed and is now projected to take place in early to mid Fiscal Year 2011/12. The cost savings to the Department are due in large part to the fact that several construction contracts that were awarded during the past year came in significantly under budget thereby reducing the overall cost of the ROMP and other capital projects by more than \$60 million.

On March 9, 2010, the Board of Supervisors adopted an automatic increase of fees that became effective on July 1, 2010 to be continued through July 1, 2013. The two main fee structures within RWRD are sewer user fees and sewer connection fees and while the adopted increase in these fees shows that user fee revenue will be up in the coming years; connection fees are dependent on the construction and real estate industries which have taken a down turn in recent years. The increase in revenues for the Department is anticipated to come from user fees which are projected to account for 89 percent of total revenues from the system.

The Department's Operation and Maintenance expenses for the last fiscal year were lower than projected in the 2010 Financial Plan and this trend is projected to continue into the current fiscal year with costs expected of \$72.3 million, more than \$10 million less than last year's projections. Future planning of O&M expenses assumes a 3.4 percent maximum increase as set by the Board of Supervisors on March 9, 2010.

Capital Improvement Program

The committee heard several presentations regarding the RWRD's Capital Improvement Plan; the most comprehensive of those occurring in June 2011. Outside of the Regional Optimization Master Plan, Pima County RWRD maintains several other capital programs and projects. The three ongoing CIP programs include Conveyance Rehabilitation, Conveyance Augmentation and Utility Modification. These three programs were established as a method to address any ongoing maintenance or system upgrades required over time. The programs do not have an end date but rather are intended to continue with the life of the system. Funding for these programs is provided by Sewer Revenue Bonds.

Two other significant programs run by the Department are the Security Master Plan and the SCADA Master Plan. These programs are designed to address specific and limited challenges currently facing RWRD. The Security Master Plan came out of a study that was conducted by RWRD to find the best method to upgrade security at all of the facilities including pump stations and any outlying facilities. Information from the SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system is used to optimize the system down to an almost minute scale creating efficiency by improving process control. Both programs are also funded by Sewer Revenue Bonds.

The Department's CIP also includes many independent projects such as the Santa Cruz Interceptor, the Capstan Lift Station and the Tanque Verde Interceptor: Tucson Country Club to Craycroft. By the end of Fiscal Year 2010/2011, RWRD completed \$33.5 million in Non-ROMP work. The capital program is under constant evaluation in hopes that the Department can fine tune any future expenses and RWRD has worked to adapt a business model that will change the maintenance culture so that future needs can be better projected.

Completion of Plant Interconnect

On March 31, 2011 a dedication ceremony was held for the Plant Interconnect; the first completed component of the ROMP Program. The Plant Interconnect is a five-mile long (48 - 72 inch diameter) gravity sewer line that runs between the Ina Road WRF and the Roger Rd WRF. This sewer line will allow the flows to be diverted between the two facilities as needed. It is also equipped with state-of-the-art odor control features. In cooperation with Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation, a paved and striped bike path was constructed along the finished Plant Interconnect. This path provides recreational access as well as access to RWRD service vehicles when necessary.

The construction of the Plant Interconnect began in April 2009 and was completed at the end of 2010. On March 3, 2011, RWRD received approval from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to begin operations. The original budget for the Plant Interconnect project was \$41.1 million but the project was completed on-time and under budget by \$7 million. The Department received \$2 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds that do not have to be repaid; and \$8 million in low interest loans by the State of Arizona Water Infrastructure Finance Authority.

To commemorate the completion of the Plant Interconnect, a news conference was also held during the dedication ceremony. This provided an opportunity for the news media to report on the progress of ROMP to the community.

Southeast Houghton Area Recharge Project

The Southeast Houghton Area Recharge Project, (SHARP), is a joint constructed recharge project endeavor between Pima County and the City of Tucson to build a mutually beneficial recharge facility. This facility will allow both entities to store water in the southeast Houghton area for replenishment of the aquifer and for potential future use. The intergovernmental agreement for this project was approved by the County Board of Supervisors in February 2011 and by the Tucson City Mayor and Council in April. The project is being supervised by a Joint Recharge Oversight Committee comprised of both County and City employees.

The estimated seven-year project will have a targeted minimum recharge capacity of approximately 4,000 acre feet per year with each entity contributing up to 2,000 acre feet per year. Each party is contributing equal funding to construct, operate and maintain the facility.

Various locations for the facility have been evaluated by a committee comprised of RWRD and Tucson City Water staff. A site was selected and is located in the vicinity of Irvington and Houghton. A Request for Proposal returned several bids for geophysical testing of the site and a contractor has been chosen to conduct the geophysical recharge feasibility investigation. Currently, testing is being performed to determine the existence of any barriers to infiltration.

In addition, an archeology survey of the site is being completed to collect information about the area and to determine the possible existence of past human cultures in the area. The City of Tucson Cultural Resources Department, with the assistance of Pima County Cultural Resources, is completing this evaluation.

Plant Interconnect Pipes



City/County Water & Wastewater Infrastructure, Supply, and Planning Study (WISP)

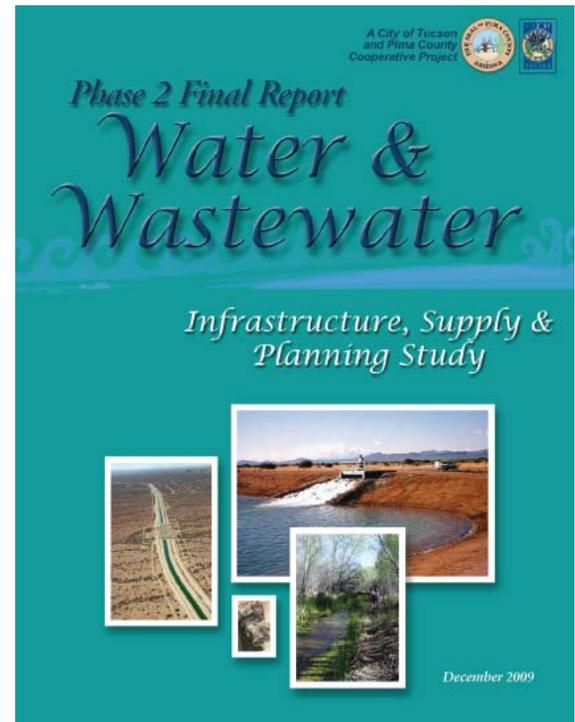
In November 2010, the City/County Water & Wastewater Infrastructure, Supply and Planning Study (WISP) presented its 2011 – 2015 Action Plan for Water Sustainability to the Pima County Board of Supervisors and the City of Tucson's Mayor and Council. The WISP Action Plan consists of four elements: Comprehensive Integrated Planning (CIP), Respect for the Environment (RFE), Water Supply (WS) and Demand Management (DM). The Action Plan includes 88 activities grouped into 14 programs within the four elements.

Following the Board's and Mayor and Council's adoption of the Phase II Report in January 2010, teams of staff from several City and County departments met intensely over a number of months to develop the Action Plan. Opportunities for public participation in the development of the Action Plan included stakeholder reviews, presentations to citizen oversight committees and a 3-week public comment period.

The Action Plan is designed to be carried out over five years and while most activities were designed to be implemented with existing resources, a few may require additional funding. Of the Action Plan's 88 recommended activities, 57 of them have been accomplished or are under way. The activities will involve multiple departments within the City and County. A core committee made up of City and County staff from key departments was formed to oversee development of the Action Plan. The Core Committee will remain in existence during the five-year period in order to ensure progress is made on the activities as proposed, and to consider modifications to the activities if necessary.

The intended outcomes of the Action Plan include:

- Water, wastewater and stormwater resources are planned in an integrated fashion.
- Increased renewable water resources including effluent, reclaimed water, stormwater, rainwater and greywater are put to use in an efficient manner.
- Water resource policies help further economic goals.
- Collaborative efforts are undertaken to acquire new water, to achieve greater flexibility in use of existing supplies, and to align and enhance standards for water use efficiency.
- Improved water quality resulting from regional wastewater treatment facility upgrades (i.e. the Regional Optimization Master Plan or ROMP) is matched to the needs for recharge, environmental restoration and public amenities such as parks, golf courses and ball fields.
- Land use, infrastructure and water resources planning are linked and foster optimum use of renewable water resources in future growth areas and increased water and energy efficiency outcomes in new development.
- Water is dedicated and allocated to environmental needs, sensitive riparian ecosystems are preserved and maintained, and cost-effective and collaborative environmental restoration projects are advanced.
- Public values are considered in water resources planning and public awareness of the environmental and human benefits of water use efficiency is increased.



City and County WISP representatives continue to meet and exchange information on successes, completions and the progress of WISP projects. The Core Committee is in the process of preparing a mid-year report on the activities in the Action Plan. An annual report will be provided to the Board of Supervisors and Mayor and Council at the beginning of 2012.

Phases I and II of WISP have been completed and the five-year Action Plan has been put into action. The next phase of the Plan is for Pima Association of Governments (PAG) to convene a regional water and wastewater study process. The Regional Water Assessment Task Force has been formed and "Think Tank" sessions have occurred resulting in the Regional Water Assessment Task Force Think Tank Report. Links to this report are available on the PAG website.

Town of Marana and Regional Wastewater

The Town of Marana continued its efforts to become a Designated Management Agency for their projected planning area by submitting a revised Proposed 208 Plan Amendment to Pima Association of Governments (PAG). PAG reconvened the Scope of Work Task Force in November 2010 to review the Proposed 208 Plan Amendment. The Task Force had been on hiatus since September 2009 to allow the pending litigation between the Town of Marana and Pima County to be considered in Maricopa Superior Court.

The Scope of Work Task Force held a total of 20 meetings since the initial Proposed 208 Plan Amendment was submitted in October 2008. The Proposed 208 Plan Amendment was also discussed in length at the Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee meetings in December 2010 and January 2011. The Proposed 208 Plan Amendment moved through PAG's Watershed Planning Subcommittee in January 2011 and the Environmental Planning Advisory Committee in February 2011. It was then forwarded to PAG Regional Council in April 2011 where it was decided that further study was needed. On June 9, 2011 the Proposed 208 Plan Amendment was not approved by the Regional Council by a 4-3-1 (one abstention) vote.

While the Proposed 208 Plan Amendment process was taking place in PAG, the Arizona State Legislature introduced Senate Bill 1171. This bill would allow a city or town to acquire existing wastewater infrastructure from a county under certain conditions. The city or town would pay any outstanding debt on the acquired infrastructure. The bill moved through the State's legislative subcommittees and passed both the House of Representatives and the Senate. The bill was signed by Governor Jan Brewer in April 2011. This legislation could potentially result in eight different wastewater utility systems in the region. Pima County is continuing to review the bill and its impact on the regional wastewater reclamation system.

Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee

In FY 2010/11, the Committee was pleased to welcome two new members: Robert Iannarino, appointed by Board of Supervisors member Ann Day, District 1 and Amy McCoy, appointed by the Citizens' Water Advisory Committee.



District 1
Barbee Hanson
Robert Iannarino

District 2
Sheila Bowen
Armando Membrilla

District 3
Brad DeSpain
John Lynch

District 4
John Carlson
Bill Katzel

District 5
Rob Kulakofsky
Ann Marie Wolf

Citizens' Water Advisory Committee
Amy McCoy

AZ Water Association
Mark Stratton

Ex-Officio
Jackson Jenkins

Director, RWRD
Jeff Biggs, Administrator, Tucson Water

The Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee (RWRAC) was established by the Pima County Board of Supervisors in 1986 to act as its official advisory body on wastewater management matters. As the regional wastewater reclamation management agency for most of Eastern Pima County, the Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department (RWRD) provides wastewater collection, treatment and disposal services.

The RWRAC is charged with advising RWRD on program and policy decisions, as well as short- and long-term operating capital program funding needs and the annual Financial Plan. The Committee holds monthly meetings to accomplish these functions. During the last fiscal year, the RWRAC discussed and acted upon a number of issues of importance to Pima County as described in this report.

Wastewater Management Advisory Committee Activities

July 2010 – June 2011

July 2010 : No meeting

August 2010: The Committee learned that RWRD had received a national award from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) for the ROMP Program. An update was given on the Multi-Skilled Program which became effective in the current fiscal year. The Committee was also given updates on the ROMP, RWRD financials, Odor Control, Conveyance, Treatment and the Capital Improvement Program.

September 2010: The Committee recognized members Corey Smith, Adam Bliven and Marcelino Flores, who had recently left their posts on the Committee. New Committee member, Bob Iannarino was welcomed as a representative of District 1.

October 2010: The Committee was given a tour of the Ina Road Wastewater Reclamation Facility following a facility overview and summary of construction activity given by Mandley Rust.

November 2010: The Committee received an overview of the Marana Wastewater Reclamation Facility Purchase Offer and any actions by Pima County and the Town of Marana thus far. Dr. Robert Arnold from the University of Arizona gave a presentation on the future of water resources in the West.

December 2010: The Committee learned Jackson Jenkins had been appointed as the new director of RWRD and would officially take this position in January 2011. The Committee presented retiring director, Michael Gritzuk, with a certificate of recognition for his service to the County, the Department and the Advisory Committee. The Committee heard presentations from Pima Association of Governments, the Town of Marana and Pima County regarding the Proposed Marana 208 Plan

Amendment.

January 2011: The Committee continued discussion of the Proposed Marana 208 Plan Amendment. Dennis Froehlich gave an update on the System Wide Odor Control Program. The Committee heard an update on the 2010/11 Financial Plan.

February 2011: The Committee heard an update on State Legislation primarily involving SB1171. An update on the RWRD Capital Improvement Program was given by Michael Kostrzewski.

March 2011: The Committee welcomed new member Amy McCoy who represents the Citizen's Water Advisory Board. The Committee received a budget presentation by the Pima County Director of Finance. An update on the Dispose-A-Med Program was presented highlighting the programs successful first year and a promising start to its second year.

April 2011: The Committee continued discussion on the budget and financial plan for Fiscal Year 2010/2011. An update was also given on the status of SB1171.

May 2011: RWRD Director, Jackson Jenkins, gave an update on ROMP stating that the project was on schedule and under budget. Deputy Director, John Sherlock, gave a Treatment Operational Update highlighting environmental compliance and the Multi-Skilled Program. Laura Fairbanks gave a presentation on the RWRD Public Outreach Program.

June 2011: The Committee heard an update on the Proposed Marana 208 Plan Amendment. Dr. Paul Green from the Tucson Audubon Society gave a presentation on the Economic Impact of Wildlife Viewing in Pima County.

Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee

Fiscal Year 2011/12 Meetings



July 21, 2011

August 18, 2011

September 15, 2011

October 20, 2011

November 16, 2011*

December 14, 2011*

January 19, 2012

February 16, 2012

March 15, 2012

April 19, 2012

May 17, 2012

June 21, 2012

Agendas and minutes are available on the Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee web page:

www.pima.gov/wwm/programs/rwrac

General Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department activities can be viewed on the Department's website:

www.pima.gov/wwm

Regional Wastewater Reclamation Advisory Committee meetings are generally held on the third Thursday of every month, in the Pima Association of Governments' 5th floor conference room, Transamerica Building, 177 North Church Avenue, Tucson.

Committee Coordinators:

Ed Curley 740-6500 (ed.curley@pima.gov)

Merva Douglas-Bridges 740-6552 (merva.douglas.bridges@pima.gov)