NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY ALLIANCE



VOL 4 • ISSUE 1 • WINTER 2023

NWSA INVITED TO TESTIFY ON WRDA 2024

NWSA Executive Director Dave Mitamura has been invited to testify before the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on "Proposals for a Water Resources Development Act of 2024: Stakeholder Priorities." The subcommittee hearing will be held on Wednesday, December 13, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. ET, in the Rayburn House Office Building, Room 2167. The hearing will be streamed and recorded at https:// transportation.house.gov/calendar/ eventsingle.aspx?EventID=407033.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

MEMBER PERSPECTIVES

2

6

7

- ON CAPITOL HILL
- NWSA UPDATES



MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT KATHERINE ZITSCH

By Katherine Zitsch, Atlanta Regional Commission kzitsch@atlantaregional.org

As NWSA enters our seventh year of working together to protect water supply interests in Corps' reservoirs, it is a good time to reflect upon how far we've come and what is coming next.



In just six short years, we have grown our membership from the original 15 founding members to 36 full and affiliate members. A hallmark of our work together is meaningful dialogue among water suppliers

and with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Each member's voice is heard in these rich, dynamic discussions. We exchange valuable insights and collaborate to develop national solutions.

In an era in which headlines frequently highlight the consequences of droughts, the critical significance of an ample, clean water supply is increasingly evident. Amidst the challenge of drought, we're also grappling with disruptors – from the ever-expanding footprint of water-intensive data

centers to the emergence of green hydrogen as an energy source, with water as its fundamental component.

Against this backdrop, the essential role of federal reservoirs in our comprehensive strategy to secure a sustainable water future is clear. But we recognize most of the USACE reservoirs are multi-purpose, so USACE must balance their many roles – from water supply to navigation, hydropower to ecological services, flood control to recreation.

Key to NWSA's success is our ability to convene vital conversations with USACE. These exchanges foster a collaborative environment in which we – as water suppliers – collectively strategize about the multifaceted challenges and opportunities. "NWSA was formed to give water supply providers across the nation a unified voice to advocate for the preservation and enhancement of the nation's water supply, protection of traditional State authorities, and to ensure that water supply interests share equitably in the benefits provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers."

This is a particularly opportune moment as

Congress considers the potential to elevate water supply as a primary mission of USACE. This development underscores the increasing recognition of the fundamental importance of water supply. NWSA is actively engaged in this discussion, providing our membership with a united voice that would not have been possible just seven years ago.

Most importantly, thank you for being an essential part of our organization. Whether you're a new member or a founding member, your voice has made us effective. If you're considering joining, we'd welcome hearing from you. The success of our collective voice is intrinsically linked to our membership. I eagerly anticipate the exciting journey that lies ahead.



MESSAGE FROM PAST PRESIDENT DAN BUHMAN

By Dan Buhman, Tarrant Regional Water District

<u>Dan.Buhman@trwd.com</u>

Over the past decade I have been part of (and served in some leadership roles) in several national, state, and local advocacy organizations. I have learned that each of those organiza-

tions has a unique culture, purpose, and strengths. I was privileged to serve as NWSA's President for the past two years, and as a Board member since its inception, and learned that NWSA has several unique strengths.

First, NWSA enables deep relationship building. Because of my close relationships with many NWSA members, I understand na-

tional water issues at a much deeper level and have brought back more relevant information to my organization than is typical of some conferences I attend.

Second, NWSA is focused on a clear, concise mission. That mission clarity prevents dilution of effort. We get more accomplished because we only advocate for what is of central importance to our members.

NWSA has great staff. Dave Mitamura is effective, respected, and has elevated NWSA to ever-greater levels of influence. He has created a culture of partnership with other national associations, congressional staff, and federal agencies.

Lastly, I will point out that NWSA is growing. That growth is evidence of positive impact and value.

Being part of NWSA is a privilege because I get to interact with our industry's thought-leadership. I joined this industry because I truly cared about water resources and the life-changing effect clean, accessible water has on billions of people across the world. Thank you for being a leader in ensuring our friends and families have clean, reliable water to drink and enjoy.

MEMBER PERSPECTIVES

INTRODUCING NEW MEMBER, CONWAY CORPORATION



By Mark Ferguson, Conway Corporation Mark.Ferguson@conwaycorp.com

Conway Corp operates the city-owned utility systems in Conway, Arkansas, and provides electric, water, wastewater, video, internet, telephone and security services within the Conway community. The company's mission is to exceed customers' expectations and to produce and deliver safe, affordable, reliable, innovative and environmentally-sound utility and telecommunication services while enhancing the quality of life in the community. Conway is located near the center of the state approximately 30 minutes north of Little Rock. Conway Corp began operating the water system in 1930 and currently serves a customer population of 67,509.

Conway's original water source was Cadron Creek, which has a watershed of 775 square miles and flows into the Arkansas River. The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) built the McClellan–Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System from 1963-1970. The Toad Suck Ferry Lock and Dam built at Conway negatively influenced the City's water source, so in 1983 USACE constructed Brewer Lake in Plumer-ville, Arkansas (11 miles northwest of Conway) and a 36" raw water transmission line for the residents of Conway. Brewer Lake has a

watershed of 36 square miles, and also serves the Conway County Regional Water Distribution District (CCRWDD), a regional water provider serving a population of approximately 21,000. Brewer Lake's current firm yield is 19 MGD, which is projected to supply adequate water for the City of Conway through 2035.

Conway Corp is currently working with Community Water Systems (CWS), a regional water provider located in Greers Ferry, AR, to secure rights from USACE to withdraw water from Greers Ferry Lake to meet our combined long-term water supply needs. Collectively, Conway Corp, CCRWDD, and CWS serve a current population of approximately 161,000 Arkansans across five counties. In addition to the needed water intake facility, Conway Corp and our partners are seeking additional water allocations from USACE through Mid-Arkansas Water Alliance (MAWA), a cooperative effort of multiple water providers from nine central Arkansas counties to jointly acquire new long-term drinking water sources.

Conway Corp is looking forward to utilizing the resources and connections from the NWSA membership to further advance our goal of attaining a long-term water supply for our customers and partnerships.



MEMBER PERSPECTIVES

INTRODUCING NEW MEMBER, UPPER TRINITY REGIONAL WATER DISTRICT

By Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District <u>Ipatterson@utrwd.com</u>

In 1989, Upper Trinity Regional Water District (UTRWD) was created to provide cities, towns, and utilities with a sound, long-term water supply - - a resource needed by the growing North Texas cities and utilities. Currently serving over 400,000 people, UTRWD provides drinking water, wastewater treatment, and non-potable services, all on a wholesale basis to 29 cities and towns, 1 utility authority, 3 special districts, 4 water supply districts and Denton County. A priority mission of UTRWD is to ensure an adequate, long-term drinking water supply for its cities, towns, and utilities it serves.

Using state-of-the-art technology and processes, UTRWD prides itself in delivering superior quality drinking water and treating wastewater to higher standards than what is traditionally required by state and federal regulations. UTRWD's two award-winning water treatment plants have a capacity of 100 million gallons per day currently. UTRWD also owns and operates four regional water reclamation plants with a combined treatment capacity of 15.5 million gallons per day.

Groundwater (or water from wells) is limited in North Texas and, therefore the most reliable source of water today, and for the future, is surface water (water from lakes). UTRWD has developed a diversified and comprehensive portfolio of water supply sources, which includes water conservation and reuse. However, additional water supplies are needed to meet the fifty-year Texas state water planning mandate. ground in 2021 on one of Texas' newest water supply reservoirs to be built in over three decades ---- Lake Ralph Hall. The nearly 16,000-acre project will store approximately 180,000 acre-feet and will yield about 54 million gallons of water per day (including reuse). With UTRWD's service area expected to grow five-fold by 2070, Lake Ralph Hall will extend the available water supply to about the mid-2040s. UTRWD continues to coordinate with other regional partners to plan and pursue additional water supply projects that will help meet water needs in the years to come.

As North Texas continues to transform to more urbanized communities, conserving water and protecting water quality in the local water supply lakes is crucial. UTRWD provides education and outreach programs about native landscape techniques, irrigation practices, as well as more efficient water usage at home. UTRWD provides free irrigation system evaluations to residents -- identifying needed repairs and adjustments to save water and money. The evaluation provides residents with hands-on experience in setting their irrigation controller based on watering recommendations.

UTRWD has also developed regional programs to help preserve and protect natural features in local watersheds, including creeks, flood plains, riparian zones and wetlands. To protect these features in perpetuity, UTRWD created the Upper Trinity Conservation Trust, a 501(c)(3) land trust, to hold conservation easements and work with landowners to protect the riparian zones along creeks and streams. Through education and outreach, including social media, digital advertisements, and hands-on demonstrations, UTRWD works to safeguard the quality of life and water resources right where we live. For more information, visit <u>www.utrwd.com</u>.



After almost 18 years of planning and permitting, UTRWD broke



MEMBER PERSPECTIVES

BOIS D'ARC LAKE DELIVERS BENEFITS TO THE NORTH TEXAS REGION

By Billy George, North Texas Municipal Water District bgeorge@ntmwd.com

To North Texans, water is life. At the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD), we're closely collaborating with the communities in our region to meet our future water needs. While we vigorously promote conservation and a diverse portfolio of water sources for our service area, we also recognize new reservoirs are essential to support our fast-growing population.

As part of our plan to ensure a safe and reliable water supply for our region, NTMWD built Bois d'Arc Lake, Texas' first major reservoir in nearly 30 years. The lake, located in Fannin County, is now providing water to NTMWD's member cities and customers. NTM-WD wholly owns and operates the lake, a first for our District. The lake's firm yield of 82 million gallons per day serves as a cornerstone of NTMWD's long-range planning efforts.

Proactive work on the lake began in the early 2000s, and the permitting process started in 2006. For the permitting process, there was significant back and forth with numerous agencies and entities, including the Tulsa District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), and local authorities. The USACE issued a final permit for the lake in 2018.

Construction on the lake began in May 2018. NTMWD used low-interest financing from the TWDB State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT), funding the \$1.6 billion cost. SWIFT funding saved NTMWD and its member cities and customers over \$230 million during the project's life. In addition to building the 16,000+ acre lake and its associated infrastructure, the project required new untreated and treated water pipelines and a new treatment plant in Leonard, Texas. NT-MWD constructed 60 miles of new pipeline to connect Bois d'Arc Lake with our regional water system and the Leonard Water Treatment Plant became operational earlier this year.

Throughout the planning and construction process, NTMWD stayed focused on protecting the environment around the lake and ensuring compliance with the regulatory requirements. NT-MWD restored more than 17,000 acres of habitat in two nearby locations and on the lake's perimeter, including the previous Riverby Ranch. Efforts included improving more than 70 miles of stream, creating 8,500 acres of new wetlands, and planting over 6 million trees. This restoration effort was the largest in the nation for a single permitted project. NTMWD also actively engages in the watershed to help protect and improve water quality in the lake and its tributaries.

For the residents of Fannin County, Bois d'Arc Lake means more than just a new water supply. The lake is estimated to boost recreation and industry-related activity in the county by \$166 million a year, and spending by new residents is anticipated to increase economic activity by \$81 million annually. New residential development is already starting to occur along the shoreline.

At NTMWD, we're proud of the impact Bois d'Arc Lake will have on future generations of North Texans. The whole process, though long and challenging, has delivered a vital new water source for the people of North Texas.





MEMBER PERSPECTIVES



WATER SUPPLY FOR THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, GA

By Glenn Page, on behalf of the City of Gainesville <u>Glenn@gmpage.net</u>

The City of Gainesville, located in Hall County in northeast Georgia, is nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains immediately to the east of Lake Lanier, an impoundment of the Chattahoochee River created in 1956 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Lake Lanier is the largest and most upstream reservoir in the highly litigated Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint basin. Hall County is within the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District, a 15 County organization for water planning with the City of Atlanta in the center.

Gainesville has been called the "Poultry Capital of the World" because of its large number of poultry processing plants. Besides providing domestic use for residents of the City and most of the remainder of Hall County, Gainesville's water supply is crucial to the poultry industry and related food industries and supports the majority of all employment in Hall County.

Gainesville operates two water treatment plants that withdraw from Lake Lanier for municipal and industrial (M&I) use, as well as two wastewater plants that return reclaimed water to the lake. The contractual relationship between USACE and Gainesville is unique.

Prior to construction of Lake Lanier, the City used an intake on the Chattahoochee River to supply its drinking water system. Construction of the lake required Gainesville to relocate its intake, and, in 1953, USACE and the City entered into a Relocation Contract, entitling the City to a daily withdrawal not to exceed 8 million gallons per day (mgd) from the Lake. Purchase of storage was not required.

When the City began exceeding its withdrawal limit in the early 1970s, it appealed to USACE to consider the amount of water returned to the lake when determining how much was withdrawn on a daily basis. In a letter dated May 16, 1973, USACE informed Gainesville that "the word 'remove' as contained in the...agreement will be considered to pertain to net withdrawals." A 1972 memorandum attached to the letter states, "It will be immediately noted that the above determination assumes considerable significance since the majority of all water withdrawn by the City is returned to the project and is available for generation of hydropower." USACE's recognition of net withdrawals—that water returned to the source could offset additional withdrawals for supply—allowed Gainesville to meet growing demands without purchasing storage.

In 1987, USACE and Gainesville entered into an interim water withdrawal contract to provide additional water needed by the City. Construction of a re-regulation dam downstream of Lake Lanier was being considered at that time, and USACE did not want to enter into a permanent contract for storage until a decision was made. Instead, the interim contract granted Gainesville a temporary right to withdraw up to 20 mgd over the 8 mgd net withdrawal authorized by the Relocation Contract, for a cost of \$12.44/million gallons. As a result, in 1987 and subsequent years (through extensions allowed under the interim contract), Gainesville could make net withdrawals of up to 28 mgd from Lake Lanier without a storage contract.

In 2022, Gainesville entered into a Water Storage Agreement —but not with USACE. Gainesville's new contract is actually a subcontract with the State of Georgia under the State's 2021 Water Storage Agreement for Reallocated Water Storage Space in Lake Lanier with USACE. This subcontract arrangement is the first in Georgia for storage in a USACE project. Another subcontract agreement in Georgia is currently being completed for storage in Allatoona Lake under a new Relocation Contract there.

Through its Relocation Contract, a decision by USACE to allow wastewater return flows to offset withdrawals, and an unusual interim contract with USACE that provided for direct purchase of water, the City of Gainesville was able to meet M&I water needs without a storage contract until 2022. Gainesville's new subcontract with Georgia for storage in Lake Lanier will provide an assured water supply for decades to come.

ON CAPITOL HILL

UPDATES FROM WASHINGTON, DC

By Geoff Bowman, Van Scoyoc Associates gbowman@vsadc.com

There has been no shortage of activity in Washington, D.C. this fall. The House narrowly averted a government shutdown after former House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) worked with Democrats to pass a continuing resolution (CR) at the end of the fiscal year (FY) to fund the government through November 17th. The move upset conservative Members of the House, leading to a vote to oust Mc-Carthy from the position at the beginning of October, leaving the Chamber Speaker-less for twenty-two days as Republican Members worked to select a candidate the whole party agreed upon. On October 25th, the House elected Representative Mike Johnson (R-LA) as the new Speaker and went back to work immediately. Speaker Johnson laid out a list of legislative priorities, with passing the FY2024 appropriations bills at the forefront. On October 26th, the House passed the FY2024 Energy and Water appropriations bill, which provides \$9.57 billion for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), \$910 million above the FY2023 enacted level.

Additionally, Speaker Johnson's plans state the House will continue working on the rest of the appropriations bills through November 13th and propose the introduction of another CR to fund the government through January 15th or April 15th if needed before the current CR expires. While the House continues work on the annual appropriations bills, the bills face an uncertain future in the Democrat-controlled Senate. The Senate has completed its work on a "minibus" of legislation, including the FY2024 Military Construction-Veterans Affairs, Agriculture-FDA, and Transportation-HUD bills. Along with appropriations, some of Speaker Johnson's priorities include passing an aid package for Israel and continuing consideration of a backlog of legislation that has yet to be considered in the absence of a Speaker. Speaker Johnson also listed passing the Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (WRDA 2024) as a priority and highlighted expectations for the House to complete consideration of WRDA 2024 by May or June 2024.

The Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee kicked off the WRDA 2024 process with a hearing in July. The Senate EPW Committee accepted individual project requests from Senators for consideration of inclusion in WRDA 2024 through mid-October. Additionally, there are rumors the House Transportation & Infrastructure (T&I) Committee will open its WRDA 2024 project request portal to House Members on December 4th and likely close it in January 2024, though a final WRDA 2024 bill may not be enacted until late 2024. In addition to WRDA, VSA has heard reports that Representative Grace Napolitano (D-CA) is planning on introducing legislation that would make water supply one of the primary missions of USACE.

New Army Corps Water Infrastructure Financing Program

In September, USACE rolled out a notice of funding availability (NOFA) for the Corps Water Infrastructure Financing Program (CWIFP), a new Program providing \$7.5 billion in credit assistance for dam safety projects that are non-federally owned, operated, and maintained. Eligible projects can receive up to 49% of project costs or 80% for projects that serve disadvantaged communities. The deadline to apply for CWIFP funding is December 19, 2023.





ADVANCING THE INTERESTS OF WATER SUPPLY PROVIDERS

NWSA UPDATES

NWSA LEADERSHIP TO CONSIDER UPDATING THE STRATEGIC PLAN

In early January, the NWSA Board of Directors will convene a session to review the organization's Strategic Plan and update it as appropriate. The inaugural Strategic Plan provided a clear guide for enhancing NWSA's offerings to our Members, as well as increasing our visibility and presence in water supply policy making. Since then, NWSA has grown in membership by over 70%. The next Strategic Plan will focus on continuing our positive momentum by identifying additional goals and strategies to further elevate our influence and sustain steady growth.

NEW NWSA MEMBERS SINCE NOVEMBER 2022

Since the last NWSA newsletter, we have added eight new Members, helping to extend our reach and influence:

- SledgeLaw Group joined as a Class B (Affiliate) Member
- Carollo Engineers joined as a Class B (Affiliate) Member
- Freese & Nichols joined as a Class B (Affiliate) Member
- New York City Department of Environmental Protection joined as a Class A (Full) Member
- Conway Corporation joined as a Class A
 (Full) Member
- Upper Trinity Regional Water District joined as a Class A (Full) Member
- Caddo Lake Institute joined as a Class B (Affiliate) Member
- CDM Smith joined as a Class B (Affiliate) Member

You can find the complete list of NWSA members at <u>https://www.nationalwater-supply.org/about.</u>

PLANNING FOR THE DC SPRING MEETING IS IN PROGRESS

The DC Spring Meeting will be held on March 11-13, 2024, in downtown Washington, DC. The meeting will be held at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. NWSA is partnering with the National Waterways Conference (NWC) for this meeting. NWC is also focused solely on programs of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers but covers the full USACE portfolio (navigation, flood control, etc.). The agenda is under development, to include joint sessions as well as separate organization business sessions. Note that a hotel room block will not be available; the organizers highly recommend that attendees reserve hotel rooms as soon as possible due to the typical high demand for rooms in Washington, DC, during March.

Registration and agenda information will be available in the coming weeks at <u>https:// waterways.org/events-education/legislative-summit/</u>

NWSA members should register as a Member. Rate is \$450 Early Bird; \$650 for Regular.

NWSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTED, AND OFFICERS APPOINTED

On September 7, 2023, at the NWSA Annual Meeting in Denver, members voted to elect three candidates to fill three-year terms. Katherine Zitsch and Glenn Page were re-elected to three-year terms, and Matt Unruh was newly elected to a three-year term. These volunteer leaders play an instrumental role in shaping the organization as it continues to grow and increase our visibility and credibility with decision makers. They join their fellow Board members Dan Buhman, Darren Gore, Brad Brunett, Drew Dehoff, Jen Verleger, and George Otstott.

Subsequent to the elections, the nine members of the NWSA Board elected the following to one-year Officer positions:



Katherine Zitsch President



Brad Brunett Vice President



Jen Verleger Secretary



Drew Dehoff Treasurer

For brief biographical information on the Board members, visit the NWSA website at <u>https://www.nationalwatersupply.org/leadership.</u>



NWSA UPDATES

NWSA POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE

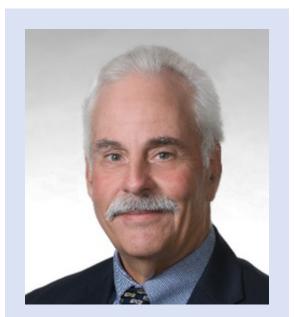
By John Fortuna, Jones Fortuna LP jfortuna@jonesfortuna.com

The Water Resources Development Act process is moving forward, and the Policy Committee has been active on multiple fronts.

Water Supply as a Primary Mission. During NWSA's September meeting, members had a robust discussion about legislation proposed by Rep. Grace Napolitano (D-CA) that would make "water supply" a "primary mission" of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Since the meeting, the Policy Committee has continued to engage with committee staff and other stakeholders regarding the proposal. NWSA has already made a difference — working with committee staff to revise the text to clarify that the bill does not affect States' authority to regulate water use and allocate water rights. The Policy Committee is continuing to track this potentially significant legislation, so look out for more updates as the WRDA process continues.

Applicant-Prepared Reallocation Studies. NWSA members know that the resources devoted by the Corps to water supply are limited, and that reallocation studies take far too long to complete. NWSA has proposed legislation to expedite the study process and harness the resources of water suppliers across the country. Building on similar revisions to the National Environmental Policy Act, NWSA's proposal would allow water supply interests to fund and conduct the studies the Corps requires, and to receive a credit against future charges if the reallocation is approved. Members have submitted the proposal to their respective Senate offices, so the focus is now on the House, where the WRDA portal is expected to open later this year. The reallocation proposal is revised from our proposal submitted for the previous WRDA cycle. The current reallocation proposal can be reviewed at <u>https://www.nationalwatersupply.org/WRDA-2024</u>.

Finally, the Policy Committee is tracking several legislative proposals that could affect water supply or interfere with future water supply reallocations at Corps projects. While these proposals are in their early stages, the Committee will continue to work with the Board and NWSA's Executive Director to protect the interests of NWSA's members. If you are interested in joining the Policy Committee, please contact *John Fortuna*, Policy Committee Chair, or *Dave Mitamura*.



A HUGE LOSS FOR NWSA

Greg Volkhardt, a staunch member of NWSA, passed away on October 2, 2023, in Olympia, WA. Greg served on the NWSA Board of Directors for four years, including two years as an Officer. He was dedicated to NWSA's mission and enjoyed meeting members over the years.

Greg is sorely missed by NWSA leadership. His laid-back demeanor and thoughtful messaging helped to keep the organization on a steady and stable path. He worked for Tacoma Water for the past 15 years and managed the Source Water and Treatment Operations Division.



Executive Director Dave Mitamura attended the Chief of Engineers' holiday reception at Fort McNair on December 4, 2023. Despite his facial expression, he was honored and delighted to represent NWSA. (Pictured L-R: Command Sergeant Major and Mrs. Douglas Galick, Dave Mitamura, Lieutenant General and Mrs. Scott Spellmon)



NWSA UPDATES

NWSA COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CONTINUES TO DEVELOP BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS

By James McCarty, Beaver Water District JMcCarty@bwdh2o.org

The NWSA Communications Committee had a successful first year and has been working diligently to improve member communication. The goal of the Committee is to 1) enhance connections between our members- especially newer individuals- and cut down on the time needed for them to find resources within the organization; and 2) to help navigate the confusing and complicated bureaucracy that is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

To help increase member connection and resources, the Committee started a directory where a member can learn about other NWSA members, including the organization they represent and their key issues. The member webpage is on the NWSA website at: <u>https://www.nationalwatersupply.org/members</u>. If you have not submitted your member information yet and would like to be included on the page, please reach out to <u>davem@nationalwatersupply.org</u> for the member information template.

To improve our understanding of USACE, the Committee began a USACE 101 series of presentations, the first of which was given at the annual meeting in Denver. This presentation, given by Meredith LaDart, the Technical Director of the USACE Water Management and Reallocation Studies Planning Center of Expertise, covered basic USACE organizational structure, USACE budgeting and funding, and a little more detail of the USACE water supply mission and reallocation and storage considerations. The presentations from the annual meeting in Denver are located on the NWSA website at: <u>https://www.nationalwatersupply.org/annual-meeting-2023.</u>

The Committee is also working on developing several additional presentations that will come in the form of webinars in late winter and spring of 2024. Some potential topics include a detailed look at the USACE annual budget cycle, the studies process, and key contacts within USACE for addressing member issues. These are initial ideas, and the Committee would really like to hear from NWSA members on the type of information that might be helpful to them and their organizations.

Lastly, as a Committee with a focus on increasing member connection and resources, if you have any ideas of how to better facilitate that goal, we would love to hear from you. Please feel free to reach out to James McCarty, Chair of the Communications Committee, at *jmccarty@bwdh2o.org*.



National Water Supply Alliance Dave Mitamura, Executive Director P.O. Box 342396, Austin, TX 78734 (512) 608-7742 www.NationalWaterSupply.org

Design and layout by Teel Design Group



Full Members

Atlanta Regional Commission Tarrant Regional Water District Murfreesboro, TN Water Resources Kansas Water Office Cobb County-Marietta Water Authority North Dakota Department of Water Resources Susquehanna River Basin Commission Consolidated Utility District of Rutherford County City of Gainesville Beaver Water District Clarence Cannon Wholesale Water Commission **Gwinnett County Water Resources** Brazos River Authority North Texas Municipal Water District Tacoma Water Gulf Coast Water Authority **Riverbend Water Resources District** Central Arkansas Water Northeast Texas Municipal Water District Anderson Regional Joint Water System Dallas Water Utilities San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District State of South Dakota New York City Department of Environmental Protection Conway Corporation Upper Trinity Regional Water District

Affiliate Members

Burns & McDonnell Caddo Lake Institute Carollo Engineers CDM Smith Freese & Nichols Jones Fortuna LP Sabine River Authority SledgeLaw Group PLLC SWMO Water Texas Water Conservation Association