



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

Allison Fore

Public and Intergovernmental Affairs Officer

312.751.6633

public.affairs@mwrdr.org

100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611

For immediate release

June 12, 2015

MWRD commissioners, staff attend WEF Residuals and Biosolids conference in Washington, D.C.



Commissioner Kari Steele (on the left) joined Commissioner Frank Avila on a session regarding nutrient recovery at the Water Environment Federation/International Water Association Residuals and Biosolids Conference in Washington D.C.



MWRD Senior Civil Engineer Matthew McGregor (from left), Supervising Environmental Soil Scientist Lakhwinder S. Hundal, Commissioner Frank Avila, Managing Civil Engineer Daniel Collins and Principal Civil Engineer Ahmad Laban attended the Water Environment Federation/International Water Association (WEF/IWA) Residuals and Biosolids Conference in Washington, D.C.

In the rapidly-evolving field of residuals and biosolids, water treatment industry leaders actively pursue the latest and best practices of reuse and disposal. As a result of these efforts, waterways that were once a dumping ground for biosolids and residuals are now being cleaned and made safer for recreation and for fish populations.

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) staff along with Chairman of Finance Frank Avila and Commissioner Kari Steele are staying informed with the latest advancements in residuals and biosolids with other water leaders from across the world. The group represented the MWRD at the annual Water Environment Federation/International Water Association (WEF/IWA) Residuals and Biosolids Conference held in Washington, D.C. this week. Participating MWRD staff included Senior Environmental

Soil Scientist Lakhwinder S. Hundal, Managing Civil Engineer Daniel Collins, Senior Civil Engineer Matthew McGregor and Senior Civil Engineer Ahmad Laban.

“Working together, scientists, engineers and other professionals in the field of water treatment have banded together to learn how we best manage these products. Sharing in this knowledge has led to new advancements in the field, and our environment has benefited greatly,” said Commissioner Avila. “Three decades ago, this was all going straight into our waterways. Now, we are not only finding legitimate reuse, but also making the world around us a healthier place to live.”

The WEF/IWA conference, themed “The Next Generation of Science, Technology, and Management,” offered comprehensive information on industry hot topics,

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advancements in residuals and biosolids technologies and management, and valuable learning opportunities to both seasoned biosolids professionals and newcomers to the field. The technical program this year highlighted nonprofit organizations serving people in Third and Fourth World nations through the development of clean water, sanitation and micro-business projects and programs and related services.

Other sessions and workshops focused on sustainable dewatering processes and practices, nutrient management and resource recovery, anaerobic digestion processes and composting advancements.



While attending the non-profit exhibit section of the Water Environment Federation/International Water Association Residuals and Biosolids Conference in Washington D.C., Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago Chairman of Finance Frank Avila met the WEF mascot and also Kelly Latham, Director of Program Quality International Programs for Water for People.

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Recovering Resources, Transforming Water

Established in 1889, the MWRD (www.mwrd.org) is an award-winning, special purpose government agency responsible for wastewater treatment and stormwater management in Cook County, Illinois.