



Date: November 14, 2017

8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Location – Sacramento City Hall, 915 I Street, Sacramento, CA

**MEETING NOTES –
Regional Water Efficiency Program Advisory Committee (RWEPAC)**

Meeting called by:

Program Manager

Type of meeting:

Program Advisory Committee

Call to Order at: 8:30 a.m.

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Attendees

Chris Nelson, Don Smith, Bobby Alvarez, William Granger, Ryan Burnett, Ken Ingle, Bill Cassady, Jeffery Peterson, Linda Yager, Dan Gwaltney, Greg Bundesen, Ken Kirkland, Christina Perez, Marty Ricci, Andrew Spittler, Sharon Fraser, Kurt Elvert (SJWC), Cheryl Buckwalter (EcoLandscape), Jordan Power (City of Woodland), Laurie Sharp (USBR), Amy Talbot, Monica Garcia

Meeting Notes

The September 12, 2017 notes were approved and will be posted online.

2.0 Facility Tour

Golden 1 Center Tour

The Arena is the first indoor sports venue to earn LEED Platinum Designation, the highest level of global recognition for environmentally conscious buildings and organizations.

4.0 Program Updates

EcoLandscape Contract Update

The Program will fund \$5,000 for the Green Gardener Program.

Landscape Professional Training options

In addition to the Green Gardener Program, we are working to bring (Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper (QWEL) to the region. The curriculum/website has been updated and there are two instructors in the region that are qualified to teach the program. To participate, RWA needs to update the first chapter of the training with regional information, submit an application to QWEL and EPA WaterSense, and pay initiation fee. There will also be an annual fee to continue with the program. The current fee structure is based on retail/wholesale agencies, RWA is working with QWEL leadership to develop a pricing structure for RWA (not retail/wholesale agency). We will continue bringing the Certified Landscape Irrigation Auditor (CLIA) training to the region.

Each of the above training opportunities has a different strength/focus and targets a different audience. The Green Gardener Program is targeting the beginner professional and is very popular with landscape architects, water agency staff, etc. with a focus on the watershed approach. QWEL targets water agency staff and auditors and focuses on both the watershed approach and landscape audits/irrigation. CLIA is specifically targeting landscape auditors. Next year we should add funding to outreach in order to market the programs to the associated professionals.

The City of Roseville has contracted with EcoLandscape to provide the Green Gardener program to staff. There are a few openings that are available to other agency staff. Classes will be held on Wednesdays for four weeks. Contact Amy if you are interested.

Coordinating Regional/Local Workshops and Events	Sharon will contact all agencies with the goal of compiling a list of local workshops/events and a list of instructors.
Grant Update/Subcommittee	<p>A grants update handout was distributed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional San/RWA Agreement – Started as of July 1, 2017 and will end May 31, 2018. If the funds are not utilized, they are not available for next year. • Prop 84 Drought Grant –Scheduled to end on June 30, 2018. Many agencies still have funds available. • Prop 84 Round 3 – If your agency has expended its funding, contact Monica to submit invoices for reimbursement. <p>We want to be prepared for new grant opportunities. If your agency is interested in guiding the process, contact Amy to participate in the grants subcommittee. There are application fees (to be paid by participating agencies) to apply for grants. There are project management and local match funding requirements for participating agency should a grant be awarded.</p>
Public Outreach 2018 Messaging	<p>RWA will host a focus group to ask questions about lawns, watering, what motivates people to keep their lawn and what problems are encountered with lawn care. Focus group will be held in early 2018. Contact Amy if you are interested in attending.</p> <p>In 2018, we will focus on a single message to solve a problem (identified by the focus group). All outreach materials will support that one message. For example, the message could be: “Check your lawn before you water.”</p>
SMUD Pilot Update	<p>The SMUD pilot program is currently exceeding expectations. Once the customer receives the incentive, SMUD will call them to verify installation. Once the \$2,000 RWA contribution is used, SMUD may add additional funding.</p> <p>The SMUD Clothes Washer rebate processing is open again. Agencies that used to participate will be contacted about renewing.</p>
AWE Drought Study	AWE has contracted with Maddaus Water Management to conduct a study on drought patterns. The study will be looking at restrictions, drought watering, and drought pricing in four states: Arizona, California, Colorado, and Nevada. RWA, city of Sacramento, and Sacramento Suburban Water District are participating agencies.
CalWEP Update	<p>The next membership meeting is on December 13th at the Chino Basin Water Conservation District. Greg, William, and Amy are planning on attending.</p> <p>Additionally Mary Ann mentioned the AMI Interoperability Study. The goal is to develop national standards for AMI. The cost is \$5,000 to participate.</p>
SB555/ACWA Water Loss Summit	The ACWA Regulatory Summit was held on October 17, 2017 in Sacramento. The focus was on water loss and the implementation of the recently passed SB 555. Many of our agencies attended.

NAWL 2017	The North American Water Loss (NAWL) Conference will be held on December 3-5, 2017 in San Diego. The conference will include discussions on developing water loss policies, auditing your system, reducing apparent losses, controlling leakage, managing pressures, and documenting water loss progress. 14 contact hours may be earned.
State Water Board Permanent Water Waste Prohibition	<p>Draft Water Waste Prohibitions were released by the State Water Resources Control Board on November 1, 2017. Comments are due by December 26, 2017. Standard prohibitions include in the draft are mostly already implemented by water agencies; however, there is still discussion on additional prohibitions including medians, measurable rainfall, and verge areas (aka Devil Strips).</p> <p>During the drought, the State estimated that all the prohibitions from the applicable Executive Orders saved a total of 12,000 AF statewide.</p>

5.0 Agency Announcements

Agencies informed the group on upcoming events and program updates.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:30 p.m.