MEETING NOTES –
Regional Water Efficiency Program Advisory Committee

Meeting called by: Program Manager
Type of meeting: Program Advisory Committee

Date: January 10, 2016
9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Location – Regional Water Authority
5620 Birdcage ST, STE 100
Citrus Heights

Call to Order at: 9:30 a.m.

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Attendees

Chris Nelson, Rex Meurer, Don Smith, Angela Frost, William Granger, Ryan Burnett, Ken Ingle, Bill Cassady, Sarah Jones, Dan Gwaltney, Greg Bundesen, Darren Van Dusen, Linda Yager, Jordan Power (City of Woodland), Laurie Sharp (USBR), Amy Talbot

2.0 Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2016
The notes were approved and will be posted online.

3.0 General Program Updates

RWEPAC Survey Results
Amy sent out a survey to all agencies inquiring about the status of the program and potential structural changes its management. Twelve agencies responded to the survey. The results are as follows:

- All agencies are very satisfied or satisfied with the current RWEPAC meetings.
- Agencies valued the program updates and timely decision topics more than networking and vendor presentations.
- Ten agencies voted to maintain the current RWEPAC meeting structure and not to return to the more formal structure of having an agency chair and co-chair facilitate the meetings.
- Several agencies expressed interest in contributing to the RWEPAC meetings, either during the meeting or in preparing for the meetings.
- The majority of agencies will be using the RWEPAC meeting attendance toward complying with their CEU requirements.

Brainstorm RWEPAC Speakers and Topics
The agencies brainstormed on topic and speakers they would like to see at the RWEPAC meetings in 2017. Suggestions include: landscape analysis presentation, billing insight when transitioning to budget based rates, water efficiency tour of Folsom sake, Crispin Cider or Sierra Nevada plant, tour of Delta Bay model, tour of UC Davis Arboretum, tour of Delta Blue Grass center in Stockton and tour of the Honda Smart Home in Davis. Agencies expressed interest in RWA hosting CEU training sessions, like irrigation webinars, during or after the RWEPAC meetings.

2017 Public Outreach Campaign
The RWA RWEPAC 2017 Public Outreach Campaign theme is “What do that say” and will feature a series of simple catchy lines like “Flip me off” followed with a water savings tip like “turn your sprinklers off in winter.” This campaign will launch in March and run through September 2017. Advertisements will be featured on local radio stations like Capital Public Radio and in online ads through FaceBook and Google.
| Emergency and Permanent Regulations | The Emergency Regulation is set to expire on February 28, 2017. The State Water Board (SWB) is hosting a workshop on January 18th to discuss the potential extension of the Emergency Regulation for another 270 days. RWA wrote a comment letter to the SWB and encourages all agencies to write their own letters and attend the January 18th meeting to provide additional comments. The Permanent Regulation (long term) report will be sent to the Governor’s office on January 20th and will likely be brought into a legislative process in 2017. RWA will continue to coordinate with ACWA, the region and agencies on this effort. |
| CUWCC | The CUWCC membership voted to transition to a new agency that focuses on member services such as assisting water agencies to meet state mandated conservation targets, research progressive water efficiency programs and products and market transformation for supporting water efficient landscapes and irrigation equipment. The transition will take place during 2017 with a transition Board. There are several open spots on the transition Board and candidates will be appointed by the Board soon. The voting structure of the transition and future Board has also changed to allowing for one vote per active Board member. Groups 1, 2, and 3 no longer exist. Furthermore, the BMP focused MOU has been memorialized and BMP reporting is no longer the focus of the organization. The search is on for a new name for the transition organization. This region offered up Water Efficient California (WECA) to the transition Board for consideration. |
| Water Taste Test Award | Angela Frost, City of Lincoln, was presented with the 2016 Water Taste Test Award plaque. Past winners include City of Folsom, Sacramento Suburban Water District and City of Roseville. The annual water taste test contest is held in at the summer RWEPAC meeting. |
| 4.0 Mini Discussion: Managing Customer Perception from Recent Media Articles | This item was deleted from the agenda. |
| 5.0 Agency Announcements | Agencies informed the group on upcoming events and program updates. |

Meeting Adjourned at 12:30 p.m.