



Date: July 9, 2019

9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

**Location – San Juan Water District
9935 Auburn Folsom Road
Granite Bay, CA 95746**

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

Meeting called by:	Program Manager	Type of meeting:	Program Advisory Committee
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Call to Order at: 9:30 a.m.

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Attendees	Chris Nelson, Rex Meurer, Don Smith, Bobby Alvarez, Ryan Burnett, Bill Cassady, Chris Shepard, Dan Gwaltney, Ken Kirkland, Lance Eicher, Kurt Corothers, Lon Snegosky, Andrew Spittler, John Shannon, Sara Feusi, Lisa Brown, Gayleen Darting (Regional San), Cheryl Buckwalter (Landscape Liaisons), Sarah Foley (CalWEP), Amy Talbot, Monica Garcia
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2.0 Tour	Tour of San Juan Water District’s Water Efficiency Landscape Garden Presentation by Ken Kirkland.
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3.0 Presentation	<p>Regional Controller Program Design and Agency Funding Options by Amy Talbot</p> <p>The Regional SMART Controller Distribution Program (with optional install) is fully grant funded for \$100,000. The program will tentatively run from September 2019-September 2020, with option to renew. We are partnering with BAWSCA and are contracting with Rachio and Valley Soil. Rachio is building an online customer portal for this program.</p> <p>The online portal requires a unique code for each customer. There are two options on how to do this: Provide account numbers or provide unique codes for marketing or update Rachio with eligible accounts on a regular basis (this will allow you to target the customers you would like to participate, i.e. high-water users or specific neighborhoods). The portal will also contain the required terms and conditions customer agreement. The customer has the option to request a full landscape audit for \$150 or a mini audit and controller installation for \$195. The customer will pay Valley Soil directly for any installation or audit services.</p> <p>The total cost for Rachio 3 Controller is \$175 plus tax delivered (mailed direct to customer); Rachio recommends RWA paying \$75 and the customer paying \$100. RWA will not be pay for installation or audits services, due to the complexity of using grant funds and the added liability of entering customer premises.</p> <p>RWEPAC agencies recommended changing the cost to RWA paying \$100 and the customer paying \$75. Agencies use an audit/post-inspection as a method of verifying installation and partnering with their customers. They are concerned about losing that opportunity. In addition, there was concern about the customer changing the controller settings and having a smart controller with a inefficient/not maintained irrigation system.</p>
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4.0 Presentation	Integrated Regional Water Management Water Efficiency Grant Application, Projects, and Funding
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	The WEP is applying for two projects:
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	<p>Advancing Water Efficiency: \$1.2M grant, \$300k local match for: Toilet saturation study; Landscape imagery study; Focus group study/media buys; Indoor and outdoor rebates (irrigation efficiencies, Cash for Grass, and customer side water loss); and Commercial, Industrial, Institutional (CII) High User Incentive Program. There was a lot of support from the group for the toilet saturation study; CII program; media buys; focus group; irrigation rebates; and a landscape study.</p> <p>Regional Water Loss: \$1M grant, \$1M local match for: Regional meter test bench; Leak detection and pressure management loggers; Component Analysis; Leak Detection & Repair. Many agencies do not want to conduct leak detection in house due to the lack of leak detection focused trained staff and general staff capacity. There was a lot of support for pressure loggers and leak detection.</p>
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5.0 Group Discussion	
Water Efficiency Staff	Certification Employment Requirements for Water Efficiency Staff: What certifications are required? At what level? With what career advancement opportunities?
	At some agencies, water efficiency staff do not have the potential for advancement within their respective organizations. However, career development was recommended during annual staff evaluations and it is often up to the employee to take advantage of the opportunities provided. There does not seem to be much consistency with the certifications required for water efficiency staff throughout the region at this time. RWA will collect water efficiency staff job descriptions to help coordinate consistency.

6.0 Program Ideas and Updates	
Meeting Notes	The May 2019 notes were approved and will be posted online.
2018 Water Efficiency Program Annual Report	The report was included with the 2020 WEP invoices sent out in July 2019.
Mulch Mayhem	The event summary was included in the presentation. The event is very popular with customers but is agency staff intensive.

7.0 Agency Announcements

8.0 Lunch

9.0 Water Taste Test Results	
	<p>Congratulations to the San Juan Water District, which won the 2019 Water Taste Test with 22 votes.</p> <p>Thank you to the following participants: The City of Roseville, City of West Sacramento, City of Folsom, and Placer County Water Agency.</p>

Meeting Adjourned at 1:00 p.m.