MEETING NOTES
Regional Water Efficiency Program Advisory Committee (RWEPAC)

Date: September 10, 2019
9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Location – Sierra Health Foundation
1321 Garden Highway
Sacramento, CA 95833

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

Call to Order at: 9:34 a.m.

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Attendees
Marcy Goodman, Don Smith, Bobby Alvarez, William Granger, Ryan Burnett, Bill Cassady, Sarah Jones, Robert Barragan, Dan Gwaltney, Greg Bundesen, Ken Kirkland, Christina Perez, John Shannon, Sara Feusi, Cassandra Barnhill, Gayleen Darting (Regional San), Lakshmi Jayaprakash (Regional San), Cheryl Buckwalter (Landscape Liaisons), Ryan Ojakian, Amy Talbot, Monica Garcia

2.0 Meeting Notes
The July 9, 2019 notes were approved and will be posted online.

3.0 Program Updates

Upcoming Trainings
A list of current training events was discussed.
- QWEL (Wednesdays, October 2019)
- Controller (November 2019)
- Landscape Imagery Budgets (Q1 2020)
- Watershed Wise Landscape Professional Certification Training (November 7th and 8th)

Fall Public Outreach Campaign and Activities
- Fall Public Outreach Campaign: we will continue with last year’s “Hibernate” theme and will ads start next month.
- Check and Save will continue into 2020. The materials will be refreshed with some updated images. The customer focus group research will be scheduled to do a deeper dive into irrigation habits.
- Is there a need for multilingual documents? A survey will be sent out to the agencies for addition input.
- There are two upcoming RWA events: Farm to Fork and the Day without Water. The City of Sacramento has scheduled a two-day event and is calling it Water Discovery Day. If you are interested in joining the City of Sacramento on this event, let us know.
- Moisture meters will be considered for 2020. They were hugely popular and we mailed out 2,000. There is a direct correlation between ads and requests. A customer survey is being conducted. Results will be presented at the next RWEPAC.

Agency Public Outreach Videos and Ads
RWA has completed our new videos series: Rivercats, Seasonal Adjust, and Ask the Expert. The experts are The Plant Lady, Green Acres, and Sacramento Tree Foundation.

State Regulation Update
There is a water loss meeting in September. The State Water Board is creating an economic model with UC Davis to derive cost effectiveness. Overall there is great regional representation within the state’s many workgroups. All the workgroups are public meetings and you can participate even if you are not an official member.
Sprinkler Scheduler Debate
The Great Sprinkler Debate has been settled. There was some question on how effective it was and after a quick survey it was deemed to be effective.

Job Descriptions Request
The Dropbox link we sent out contains job descriptions from twelve agencies from a wide variety of locations. AWE and AWWA CA-NV are considering a National Certification for Water Use Efficiency Practitioners. AWWA CA-NV has just revised their Water Use Efficiency Practitioner Grade 1 materials and exam and is working on revising the Grade 2 materials.

4.0 Presentations
Rachio
RWA’s Regional Smart Controller Program by Clay Kraus

Valley Soil
Valley Soil, Inc.: A Water Conservation Company by Eric Anderson

After the grant funded pilot ends, if multiple agencies want to continue the joint Rachio/Valley Soil program, it will be a subscription program. Gen Phase 2 Rachio controllers are being phased out but they will continue to be supported and are available with a discount to the customer.

5.0 Group Discussion: New Spray Sprinkler Body Efficiency Standards
Agencies are going to wait and see customer reception of new standard. The customer will be affected at checkout when purchasing new nozzles. Clay recommended calling the Energy Commission and becoming involved.

6.0 Agency Announcements
RWEPAC 2020
The 2020 RWEPAC schedule was shared and there are three openings for agency hosts. Let Amy or Monica know if you would like to volunteer.

SSWD
Greg is interested in conducting a study on how water conservation saves money at water agencies by reducing the amount of infrastructure changes needed and ultimately saves money. Contact him if you are interested in participating. The City of Sacramento, City of Folsom, and the City of Roseville are interested at this time.

7.0 Lunch

Meeting Adjourned at 12:00 p.m.