



Date: March 10, 2020

9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

**Location – City of Sacramento
1391 35th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95822**

MEETING NOTES

Regional Water Efficiency Program Advisory Committee (RWE PAC)

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| Meeting called by: | Program Manager | Type of meeting: | Program Advisory Committee |
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Call to Order at: 9:35 a.m.

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| 1.0 Tour | Tour of City of Sacramento Water Efficiency Garden. |
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| 2.0 Welcome and Introductions | |
| Attendees | Karen Wilhelm, Marcy Goodman, Rex Meurer, Angela Frost, Bobby Alvarez, William Granger, Robert Barragan, Linda Higgins, Dan Gwaltney, Greg Bundesen, Ken Kirkland, Brady Chambers, Andrew Spittler, Scarlett Harris (City of Yuba City), Soleil Tranquilli (APLD), Cheryl Buckwalter (Landscape Liaisons), Amy Talbot, Monica Garcia |

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| 3.0 Meeting Notes | The January 14, 2020 notes were approved and will be posted online. |
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| 4.0 Presentation | Host Presentation by William Granger, City of Sacramento. |
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| 5.0 Group Discussion: Current water supply conditions and media coverage | |
| | <p>RWA received two media calls about the current dry year from KFBK and Sac News & Review. A dry year does not indicate a drought, it is part of the normal California climate. Data indicates we are dryer than normal; however, an atmospheric pressure system may bring additional rain before later spring/early summer.</p> <p>Agencies reported they have not received questions about a drought. The majority of their questions center on the COVID-19 emergency, such as “Will I get sick from my water?” Agencies will not discuss a drought with customers unless local conditions warrant it or the State decides it is an issue.</p> <p>PCWA is working on a video explaining the local hydrology that impacts their water system and their investments associated with water delivery.</p> |

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| 6.0 Program Updates | |
| SmartLandscape Partnership with UC Davis | Presentation by Dave Fujino, California Center for Urban Horticulture, UC Davis |
| Focus Group Results | Two customer focus groups were held on January 16, 2020 to gain insight on leaks and lawns. RWA uses the data obtained through the focus groups to develop our annual campaigns. During this process, we discovered no other agencies have done a focus group on leaks. The focus group results have been shared with WaterSense and other interested water agencies. |

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| <p>2020 Public Outreach Campaign</p> | <p>Briefing for Water Provider Communications and Conservation Managers on 2020 Outreach Plans/Tools was held on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at Fair Oaks Water District.</p> <p>The public outreach campaign will launch in April 2020. The toolkit was sent out to all agencies. We will be adding new “how to” videos. Some informational flyers are being translated into Spanish and will be available in the dropbox. If you are interested in participating in the Public Outreach Committee, feel free to attend the next meeting.</p> <p>Collateral orders are due March 10, 2020. Amy has updated the text on the dye tab postcard.</p> |
| <p>Legislative / Regulations</p> | <p>Annual Water Supply & Demand Assessment – Meeting on March 9th to explain new requirements for annual water supply and demand assessments and gather feedback on best practices for developing assessment reports. No outcomes at this time. There will be more meetings on this throughout 2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting – voluntary water supply and demand assessment reports are due by July 1st. It is not clear which dates are considered to be a “year”; water, calendar, fiscal, etc. It would also be helpful to correlate the data in the annual report with the UWMP data. It may be helpful to work on a regional template. <p>Urban Water Management Plan Guidance – There was a meeting on March 10th to explain changes in state law that impact UWMPs and gather feedback on developing guidance for these changes.</p> <p>Landscape Area Measurement – There was a meeting on February 12th in Sacramento to review developing DWR methodology for creating landscape water budgets and provide feedback on DWR validation and accuracy practices. Next meeting dates and locations: May 13th - Irvine Ranch Water District; August 20, 2020 - Sacramento; and November 19, 2020 - Irvine Ranch Water District.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The accuracy goal is 95% confidence level. The urban/rural boundary is the most difficult and there are no definite strategies to address this issue at this time. In addition, the process for addresses annual population/development growth has not been addressed. <p>Retail Water Loss – The official deadline for this regulation, which includes creating individual agency water loss performance standards (gallons per connection per day) is July 1, 2020. This deadline will not be met. The regulation originates from SB 555, but is also tied to SB 606/AB 1668 and is currently managed by the State Water Board.</p> <p>Legislation – Anticipated 2020 Legislative Focus will be on Water Bond, water quality, and water affordability.</p> <p><u>Active Bills</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AB 2324 (Friedman) spot bill related to water loss • SB 1217 (Dahle) strikes the 55 GPCD requirement in the water efficiency laws (SB 606 and AB 1668) and replaces it with a standard that complies with the urban retail water supplier’s own criteria for indoor residential water use. • AB 2656 (Eggman) intent bill to require wholesale water suppliers to conduct and submit annual water loss audit reports. |
| <p>AWE Drought Restrictions Study</p> | <p>This study was recently released and is an AWE/CalWEP member benefit. The Executive Summary and a webinar are available for free to all. The study features RWA, SSWD, and city of Sacramento data.</p> |

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| <p>Qualified Water Efficiency Landscaper (QWEL)</p> | <p>QWEL has released their 2019 Activity Summary. As of December 31, 2019, there were almost 1,500 QWEL Certified Professionals. The QWEL program has more certified professionals than any of the five EPA WaterSense irrigation system auditing programs.</p> <p>RWA is the PCO for American River College. This has increased our registered QWEL professional numbers to 115. The next QWEL class will be held at SSWD starting April 8, 2020. The fall class will start on October 7, 2020, location TBD.</p> <p>The SMART Controller Workshop was held on January 29, 2020 at the Maidu Community Center with 60 people in attendance.</p> |
| <p>Mulch Mayhem</p> | <p>This event will be held on Saturday, May 2 and 16, 2020. RWA will be providing regional marketing for this event. Contact Amy if you would like to participate.</p> |
| <p>CalWEP December Plenary Planning</p> | <p>RWA has volunteered to host the CalWEP December Plenary. City of Sacramento and city of Folsom were discussed as location options.</p> |

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| <p>7.0 Rachio Controller Program</p> | |
| | <p>The program is ready for a soft launch early April (BWS and limited FB ads). The full launch is scheduled for May 1st which will include a regional press release, FB and google ads, page on BWS.info, agency promotion, and an Eblast to BWS list. Distribution of controllers will be on a first come, first served basis and all WEP agencies are eligible. Agencies will be able to access a portal through Rachio to see installations in their service area. A webinar for more information for all agency staff is scheduled for May 12th from 1-2 pm. The customer website is rwa.rachio.com</p> |

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| <p>8.0 Agency Announcements</p> | |
| <p>Next Meeting</p> | <p>Will be held on May 12, 2020 at Soil Born Farms.</p> |

Meeting Adjourned at 12:45 p.m.