



Date: March 14, 2023

9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Location – Sacramento Suburban Water District – Antelope Facility

MEETING NOTES

Regional Water Efficiency Program Advisory Committee (RWE PAC)

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	Amy Talbot, Karen Wilhelm, Chris Nelson, Christina Perez, Don Smith, Jason Duckworth, Bobby Alvarez, Justin Black, William Granger, Ryan Burnett, Bill Cassady, Joe Wicks, Travis Franklin, Robert Barragan, Linda Higgins, Dan Gwaltney, Jacob Ingle, Greg Bundesen, Devon Barrett, Joanna Solias (UC Cooperative Extension), and Monica Garcia
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2.0 Meeting Notes

The January 10, 2023 notes were approved and will be posted online.

3.0 Sacramento Suburban Water District Host Presentation, Presentation by Greg Bundesen

4.0 Nonfunctional Turf Legislation

AB 1572 and AB 1573 (Friedman) were discussed. The current focus is on AB 1572 which includes defining nonfunctional turf, the inclusion of CII and multifamily customers, a customer certification processes, tiered implementation timeframe, and state and local enforcement options. AB 1573 is still in development but expected to focus more on increasing native plants in landscapes but will still contain an nonfunctional turf definition.

RWA created a small work group to dive into the non functional turf details such as enforcement, ensuring 50% living material in replacement landscape materials, tree health variance/exception, DAC property options, and MWELO references. In addition, there has been discussion on relating the development of CA laws to previously established Nevada laws/restrictions.

RWA is coordinating with ACWA on both bills.

5.0 General Program Updates

Urban Drought Grant	RWA was awarded \$3M from the 2022 Urban Drought Grant including \$2.1M is for DAC direct install, \$340,000 for public outreach, and \$500,000 for turf removal/irrigation efficiencies. This is a 3-year grant. Program Agreements will be distributed in the future.
WEP Dues Increase	There was a recommendation to increase WEP dues by 3%. This will be the first dues increase since 2017. RWA will not be increasing their dues for FY2023/2024. This will be discussed further at the May meeting.
RWA is Moving	The RWA office is moving to 2295 Gateway Oaks Drive, Sacramento. The current lease expires in August 2023. There will be a conference room available to host meetings. Large meetings will need to be held at a different location.
General Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WEP 2022 Annual Report will be completed and distributed in April 2023.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WaterSense Awards application deadline extended to March 31st. • RWA Indoor and Outdoor Studies are ongoing with summer release of draft data. • RWA is looking into two new potential CIMIS sites in the Lincoln/Auburn and Elk Grove/Unincorporated Sacramento County areas. We will send site recommendations to DWR for consideration. Thank you to the city of Roseville for assisting in this effort. • BEF CII Outdoor Rebate Report will be released on AWE website in May. • Joanna Solins, Environmental Horticulture Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension, is soliciting potential workshop ideas. Ideas included: learning about other agency programs; cooling tower programs; calculating GPCD; and Prop 218. • WSI Conference will be held October 3-5th in Las Vegas. Abstract acceptance will be sent by May 2023. • Water Spots Video Contest video submissions review this Friday! Less videos this year. We need to evaluate continuing the contest in the future. • River Cats/Sac Republic Partnership exploration/negotiation is ongoing. River Cats were purchased by the Sacramento Kings and partnership costs have increased. • Requests have been received for internship leads. If your agency has any openings to share, contact Amy. • The Rachio Program is ongoing. If you would like to join, contact Amy. • Water Taste Test will be held at the May 9th meeting. First time since 2019! More details to follow. • We would like to schedule information tours in 2023. Contact Amy with any recommendations. We are currently working on the Nippon Shokken Factory in West Sacramento and a participating brewery from our CII Indoor Rebate Program. • Networking Lunches have been scheduled. Look out for the calendar invites to save the dates.
Brewery Partnership	WEP has reached out to breweries to offer participation in the RWA CII Indoor grant program. Amy, Christine and William will attend the Craft Brew Summit next week to conduct research and start developing relationships with local breweries.
PIO Briefing	The PIO Briefing is scheduled for April 11 th at 10 a.m. at the RWA office. The 2023 campaign has changed from Drought Tough to Summer Strong. Updated materials will be available in the toolkit after the briefing.
Save Our Water (SOW)	SOW has updated their logo to incorporate the star and bear from the California Flag. There is swag available with their older branding. Contact Amy if you are interested in receiving SOW swag. It is available on a first come, first served basis. SOW is also offering an advertising funding match for 2023 with suppliers on a 50/50 cost basis. WEP will be participating. Contact Max for more info: mmcslavkin@fionahuttonassoc.com
Indoor Direct Installation Program Launched	The DWR Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Grant is funding this program, which will include multifamily, commercial and institutional DAC customers. The goal is to install 1,400 fixtures including toilets, urinals, showerheads, and aerators. Total budget is \$500,000 and will run from March 2023 through December 2024. We are currently working on contracting with Webers Water Conservation (WWC), Inc., who was selected as our contractor after a competitive bidding process. Send any potential customers contacts to Amy to provide to WWC.
2023 AWE Research Projects	<p>AWE is looking for participants and funders for the next round of research projects!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluating & Optimizing Large-Scale Landscape Irrigation Management and Transformation Strategies • A Practical Primer on the Many Uses of AMI in Water Conservation & Efficiency • Evaluating Changes in Peak Demand and How that May Affect the Choice, Design, Management, and Evaluation of Demand Management Strategies

	Email Liesel@a4we.org with any questions.
AWE Water Efficiency & Conservation Symposium	The national symposium will be held August 2-3, 2023 in Chicago, IL. Abstracts are due by March 31 st . Information on the event and registration: https://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/members/2023symposium
Leadership Team	The leadership team meets every other month and provides guidance to the Program Manager on developing our meeting agendas. Current members are Chris Nelson, Don Smith, William Granger, and Greg. New member are Bobby Alvarez, Ryan Burnett, and Jace Nunes. Thank you to all!

6.0 RWA SB 606/AB 1668 Supplier Budget Assessment Spreadsheet

SWB Budget Tool	The State Water Board created supplier specific budget estimates through an online calculator tool (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/conservation_portal/regs/objective_exploration.html). RWA has also created its own version of supplier budgets. Contact Amy for more details.
Next Steps	<p>There will be a ramp up of 606/1668 related meeting in 2023 hosted by the State Water Board, which will be focused on residential outdoor, CII DIM and CI performance measures. The State Water Board is looking for new suppliers to comment and attend these meetings. We will be forwarding out meeting invites to everyone. We expect the upcoming State Water Board recommendations to be more stringent than DWR's October 2022 recommendations.</p> <p>Current State Water Board Regulation Adoption Schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start rulemaking (first public comment period) - January – March 2023 • Next SWB Meeting is on March 22nd at 9:30 a.m. at the SWB building. • Second comment period – May – July 2023 • Adoption hearing – early Fall 2023 • Submit to OAL – late Fall 2023 • Rulemaking becomes effective – January 2024 <p>Contact Amy if you want a one-on-one assessment session based on the State Water Board calculator and RWA spreadsheet analysis. We discussed the potential need for RWA to host a webinar to inform the RWA Board about the upcoming regulation details. It was decided to hold off on the webinar for now. Supplier staff will handle communicating regulation details to management.</p>
Reporting timeline	<p>Suppliers will calculate their first budget and submit accompanying meter data by January 1, 2024, according to the legislation text below. Suppliers can use data from 2023 calendar year or 2022/2023 fiscal year.</p> <p>Per WC Sections 10609.20 and 10609.22, an urban retail water supplier is required to calculate its UWUO and actual water use for the prior year no later than January 1, 2024, and by January 1 every year thereafter. These calculations are to be based on the urban retail water supplier's water use conditions for the previous calendar or fiscal year.</p> <p>Source: https://water.ca.gov/-/media/DWR-Website/Web-Pages/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency/2018-Water-Conservation-Legislation/Performance-Measures/UWUO_GM_WUES-DWR-2021-01B_COMPLETE.pdf</p>

7.0 Agency Announcements

Meeting Dates / Locations for 2023

Date	Host/Location
April 11, 2023	Networking lunch, location TBD
May 9, 2023	Regional Water Authority, 5620 Birdcage St, STE 180, Citrus Heights, CA 95610
June 13, 2023	Networking lunch, location TBD
July 11, 2023	UC Davis SMARTLandscape Site
September 12, 2023	City of Sacramento
October 10, 2023	Networking lunch, location TBD
November 14, 2023	Regional water Authority, 5620 Birdcage St, STE 180, Citrus Heights, CA 95610
December 5, 2023	The Old Spaghetti Factory, 12401 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova, CA 95742
January 9, 2024	Regional water Authority, 5620 Birdcage St, STE 180, Citrus Heights, CA 95610

Meeting Adjourned at 11:30 a.m.