

 <p><b>MEETING NOTES</b> <b>Regional Water Efficiency Program Advisory Committee (RWE PAC)</b></p>			<b>Date: May 9, 2023</b>
			<b>9:30 AM – 12:30 PM</b>
			<b>Location – Regional Water Authority</b>
<b>Meeting called by:</b>	Program Manager	<b>Type of meeting:</b>	Program Advisory Committee

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

<b>1.0 Welcome and Introductions</b>	
Attendees	Amy Talbot, Jace Nunes, Don Smith, Jason Duckworth, Justin Black, William Granger, Bill Cassady, Travis Franklin, Robert Barragan, Linda Higgins, Dan Gwaltney, Jacob Ingle, Greg Bundesen, Ken Kirkland, Lucy Silva, and Monica Garcia

<b>2.0 Meeting Notes</b>	The March 14, 2023, notes were approved and will be posted online.
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<b>3.0 FY 23-24 WEP Annual Budget</b>	
Dues	Staff are recommending a 3% WEP dues increase. The program has not had a dues increase since FY 18. The RWA budget salary share will be 30% (\$95,000) in FY24. The dues increase will be used to cover program management and technical support. The program implementation activity budgets will remain the same.
Reserves	The program currently has \$450,000 in reserves. It has been allocated by the Reserve Policy: \$150,000 for grant floating; \$100,000 for program; \$50,000 for drought/redesign; and \$150,000 for 606/1668 implementation. We will be actively using reserve funding to float direct installation program costs over the next couple of years, while we wait for DWR grant reimbursement.
Grant Administration Revenue	In FY23 WEP received \$33,000 for grant administration: \$28,000 for BEF-CII Landscape; and \$5,000 for Sierra Institute Direct Install. In FY24 we anticipate receiving \$40,000 for grant administration: \$25,000 DWR Grant; and \$15,000 for the Sierra Institute Direct Install.
Grant Funding	Currently we have the following available for grant funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional San -\$350,000 per year</li> <li>• Direct Install -\$2.6 M for next 3 years</li> <li>• Turf Replacement -\$500,000</li> <li>• Public Outreach/FGs-\$338,000 for next 2 years</li> <li>• Ongoing DWR rebate grants –contact Monica</li> </ul>
Discussion	Expenses are increasing and this is a good time to increase the WEP budget as we are anticipating a 0% RWA dues increase this year. WEP participants agreed to a 3% dues increase for FY24.

<b>4.0 Program Updates</b>	
<b>AB1572 (Friedman)</b>	<b>Nonfunctional Turf Legislation</b> - Definition of nonfunctional turf has not been determined at this time but is in development. This bill focuses on CII and multifamily customers (including HOAs) but does not include single family properties. The legislation currently includes customer certification options, tiered implementation timeframe depending on customer

	class, and state and local enforcement options.
<b>AB 1573 (Friedman)</b>	<b>Native Plant Legislation</b> – This bill requires native plants quotas for new or renovated nonresidential areas with an average WUCOLS factor of 0.3 and 75% local native plants. The only exceptions would be recycled water areas and edibles. Plants must be identifiable at time of inspection to their “correct name” and the Jepson region is defined as a plant selection guideline for the entire State.
<b>AB 1072 (Wicks)</b>	<b>DAC Budget Legislation</b> – This bill would require 40% of a supplier’s water efficiency budget be dedicated to DAC programs. If the agency has less than 10% DACs, it would be possible to modification to 10% budget requirement. This is scheduled to go into effect by 2025 and would affect both wholesale and retail suppliers. If the requirements are not met, the bill stipulates that a supplier would not be eligible for state grants for any project (ex: water efficiency or supply related).
<b>Grant Updates</b>	WEP was awarded \$3m from Urban Drought Grant (March 2023). We have 2.8 years to implement and there is \$2.1 million for DAC Direct Install; \$338,000 for public outreach/focus groups; and \$500,000 for turf removal with irrigation rebates. RWA/Supplier program agreements were distributed for review in April. A kick-off meeting is scheduled for May 11 <sup>th</sup> from 9-10 a.m. The primary focus will be turf replacement with optional irrigation rebates.
<b>Brewery Partnership</b>	Christine distributed the brewery sign up list to the public outreach committee. We are developing a flyer and sample materials and will place them in the toolkit when available. This program will launch this summer.
<b>River Cats/ Sacramento Republic</b>	WEP has had a longstanding partnership with the River Cats. After their purchase by the Kings their sponsorship levels rose. Our regular sponsorship rose from \$15,000 to \$50,000 this year. After looking around for additional opportunities, WEP has decided to work with the Sacramento Republic (SRFC) at the \$25,000 level this year. Our sponsorship will include the following for 12 games: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One :30 second segment per regular season home match of digital LED signage</li> <li>• Branding on two SRFC water refill stations</li> <li>• Bathroom signage in the main bathrooms</li> <li>• Inclusion on SacRepublicFC.com website</li> </ul>
<b>Mulch Mayhem</b>	The first 2023 event occurred on May 6 <sup>th</sup> and was successful even with the inclement weather. This program is the most liked, commented on, and shared on social media by customers. May 20 <sup>th</sup> is the second date of the event with the City of Roseville participating.
<b>Water Spots Video Contest</b>	The theme for 2023 was “Do Your Part to Be Water Smart.” We received about a third of the number of videos we typically receive. A total of 3,518 votes were made during the people’s choice online voting. Big thank you to our judges Monica Woods, Chief Meteorologist at ABC10; Kathleen Dodge, Executive Director of the El Dorado Lake Tahoe Film & Media Office; Lisa Cuellar, Program Manager at CalWEP. All winners were announced in May and the grant prize winner’s video will play in movie theaters this summer. The School Education Committee will meet this summer to determine the future of the school education program and the Water Spots Video Contest.
<b>New CIMIS Stations</b>	CIMIS stands for CA Irrigation Management Information Systems. These weather stations are used to measure local rainfall, temp, ET all around California. The data will also used in 606/1668 landscape budget calculations. RWA has only one centrally located station, at Phoenix Park in Fair Oaks, serving most of the region. There is also one in Auburn that PCWA uses. We are looking to add two new stations to the region, one in the Lincoln/Auburn area and the other in Elk Grove/Unincorporated Sacramento County area. More stations will provide more locally accurate data to produce more accurate landscape budgets. We are currently working with DWR to identify viable sites.

<b>Rachio Controller Program</b>	This program is ongoing, and suppliers can still sign up. There is a regional landing page for customers and no rebate match needed to participate. RWA landscape rebate funding may be used to supplement customer costs. Rachio is running a Promo from June 20-29 <sup>th</sup> with further discounted controller options. Contact Danielle for more information at <a href="mailto:danielle@rachio.com">danielle@rachio.com</a> .
<b>Indoor Direct Installation Program</b>	This program is funded through the Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Grant. The target audience is DACs in Multifamily and Commercial/Institutional. The Program will install toilets, urinals, showerheads, & aerators. There is a budget of \$500,000 and we expect to install 1,400 fixtures. This project will run from May 2023-December 2024. The contractor selected was Webers Water Conservation, Inc. Send any potential customers to Amy!
<b>RWEPAC Admin</b>	Are you interested in field trips or tours? The group provided an extensive list of tour options. Amy will follow up on them. All 2023 networking luncheons have been scheduled. The first one was held at El Tapatio and was a success. The next one is scheduled on June 13 <sup>th</sup> from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm with the location TBD. Please send ideas.

<b>5.0 Water Taste Test</b>	
	The winner of the 2023 Water Taste Test was the City of Sacramento! Thank you to all the participants.

<b>6.0 RWA SB 606/AB 1668 Supplier Budget Assessment Spreadsheet</b>	
<b>SWB Calculator</b>	The State Water Board created a 606/1668 target calculator online which includes supplier specific target estimates. ( <a href="https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/conservation_portal/regs/objective_exploration.html">https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/conservation_portal/regs/objective_exploration.html</a> )
<b>Reporting timeline</b>	The first report is due on January 1, 2024 .  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.  Source: <a href="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">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</a>
<b>Monthly Production / Drought SWB Reporting</b>	The Governor's Executive Order on March 24, 2023, terminated drought tracking and stage 2 15% savings requirements. Water waste restrictions, nonfunctional turf education and monthly production reporting are still active. Monthly reporting via the DRINC Portal is on the same schedule since the last drought; however, the drought questions will be removed soon.
<b>SWB Technical Reporting Order</b>	The SWB Reporting Order executed on January 2023 was responding to current at the time severe drought conditions. The first quarterly report deadline was extended to May 31 <sup>st</sup> . Reports should be submitted to the SAFER Clearinghouse. Efforts to suspend the order until data requests vetted/duplication removed were denied. Reporting required until the order is rescinded.

<b>7.0 Agency Announcements</b>	
Meeting Dates / Locations for 2023	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Host</b>
June 13, 2023	Networking lunch, location tbd
July 26, 2023	UC Davis SMARTLandscape

September 12, 2023	City of Sacramento
October 10, 2023	Networking lunch, location tbd
November 14, 2023	Regional Water Authority
December 5, 2023	The Old Spaghetti Factory, 12401 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova, CA 95742
<b>RWA is Moving</b>	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.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:30 p.m.