

04/01/09

Time Start: 10:05 am

Time Stop: 10:55 am

Teleconference Call:

*Work Group 2 Metrics & Trends*

*~ Monitor Trends in Water Conservation Implementation & Monitor Target & Goal Guidelines*

**Council Members , Alternates & Interested Parties**

Spokesperson Karen Guz

Gene Montgomery

Jim Parks

Greg Carter

Wilson Scaling

CE Williams

Scott Swanson

Nora Mullarkey

Dan Strub

Denise Hickey

Stephen Densmore

Stacy Pandey

Carole Davis

Cary Lowery

Mark Olson

Donna Howe

Jennifer Nations

**TWDB Staff**

Vanessa Escobar

Laila Johnson

John Sutton

Dan Hardin

Kevin Kluge

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am and roll call was taken. The workgroup began by giving a refresher on where they left off in the Fall of 2008. According to the legislation, the council is tasked with monitoring the target and goal guidelines for water conservation and to monitor the trends in water conservation implementation. It was determined by the Council that they should develop a recommended methodology that was standardized and effective in measuring and monitoring various water uses. Most of the workgroup's efforts to date have focused on the water consumption component of the Gallons per Capita per Day (GPCD) metric. They also focused on various divisions or categories of water use that could be population based. At this point the workgroup would like to focus more on the population component of GPCD because it is also a unique number that affects how GPCD is calculated.

It was pointed out that the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) uses city population as the utility population, but that in some cases the utility boundary does not necessarily match up with city boundaries. This brings up a question of *How many utilities might have an interest in considering the use of alternate population estimation methods?* It also raises the questions of, *How many utilities are satisfied using the TWDB method? current method they use?* and *How many utilities are utilizing their own method, and what is that method?*

Karen stated that in a recent meeting with the state demographer, Dr. Eschbach, the question came up, *What type of data would every utility have on a regular basis?* It was stated that perhaps this question might ultimately imply that a Meter to Ratio method would be most accepted.

The workgroup also discussed the two drafts of surveys that Elliot and TWDB staff have been working on. It was decided that the two surveys would be merged together and a couple of questions would be reworded and tweaked. It was decided that the survey should be fairly simple. A second version of the survey would be sent out to the workgroup in the coming days for them to view and provide final feedback. It was also mentioned that it would be up to the Council to market the Survey effectively in order to get the better response rates.

Karen brought up the workgroup's next goal of forming a geographically diverse volunteer focus group in order to begin conceptualizing other ways to calculate population estimates. A couple of comments and questions were brought up regarding, multifamily GPCD, total meters vs meter size, equivalent dwelling units, and per connection ratio.

It was decided that the next steps for the workgroup to take were:

STEP 1 – Set up a time and location for the 'focus or pilot' group to meet and begin discussions. As of right now the focus group includes:

- City of College Station~ Jennifer Nations
- City of Dallas ~ Carole Davis & Cary Lowery
- Wells Branch MUD ~ Donna Howe
- City of Austin ~ Dan Strub
- LCRA ~ Nora Mullarkey
- San Antonio Water System (SAWS) ~ Karen Guz & Elliott Fry
- TWDB Staff

STEP 2 – Set up a date and time for a follow up WG 2 meeting or conference call to provide an update.

With these next steps planned the workgroup adjourned at 10:55 am.