

Summary of Minutes

Water Conservation Advisory Council Workgroup Conference Call
Workgroup: Municipal and Public Awareness

Date: January 08, 2019

Time: 3:00 p.m.

<u>Members</u>	<u>Alternates</u>	<u>Interested Parties</u>	<u>TWDB Staff</u>
Karen Guz Donna Howe Anai Padilla Bill Hoffman Carole Baker Jennifer Allis Kevin Kluge	None	Heather Dalrymple Jennifer Nations James Foutz Molly Morris	Shae Luther Travis Brice Josh Sendejar

** Documents can be found at: **

<http://www.savetexaswater.org/meeting/workgroup/municipal.asp>

The meeting/conference call began at 3:02 p.m.

Karen Guz began the call by stating that she would like the workgroups to consider potential methods of recognition for utilities who go above and beyond on their Water Conservation Plans. Since many utilities are due to update their plans in 2019, this would be a good time to institute this initiative if the workgroup believe it is something that is feasible.

Karen asked Shae what she would like to see in Water Conservation Plans, Shae stated that more detail on how a utility is using BMPs, and how they plan to implement those BMPs, as well as what strategies the utility plans to use to accomplish their goals within the five-year outlook of the WCP.

Donna Howe asked if something like the Watermark awards was preferable. The question was asked how the Watermarks were awarded. At one-point, water conservation plans had their own category but that is no longer the case. To be considered, the utility had to self-report their plan, there were no cohesive metrics to be considered, and usually there was one award, with a few honorable mentions possible. Karen noted that her intention was not to pit one plan against another but to recognize as many plans that exceed expectations as possible.

Karen stated that she thought maybe as WCPs were approved by TWDB, they could be passed to the judging committee for review. Josh brought up that as a governmental agency, should TWDB pass on plans they deem as 'exemplary' as that may be seen as favoritism. Karen stated that we should avoid that scenario and suggested a self-applying system for consideration.

The conversation was then turned to criteria that should be used to evaluate plans that go above and beyond. The following criteria was discussed:

- BMPs

- Water Loss
- Evaluating Success (What worked/what didn't)
- Water Savings
- Programs
- Summary/Uses (Where does your water come from/how is it used)

Bill Hoffman suggested perhaps introducing a section on the annual report that asks utilities if they have gone above and beyond, Karen stated she thought that might be a little different from WCP recognition. Bill also brought up that some sort of evaluation of implementation should be considered, because someone can write a great plan, but if nothing is implemented after its written, it doesn't have value.

It was then asked what the timeline would be once the WCP deadline came (May 1st) to have all the plans reviewed by TWDB. Shae and Kevin stated it would probably take until the end of the year to have them all reviewed and accepted as TWDB staff will have to contact and resolve any individual issues that come up with WCPs.

At the end of the call, Karen stated that she will develop descriptions of the criteria discussed and send it to Josh for dissemination to the workgroups in the hopes of discussing the issue at the January 15th WCAC Meeting. Josh also brought up that although the bulk of utilities are required to submit WCPs in 2019, there are a number of utilities that are not on that schedule.

The meeting was adjourned and the call ended at 3:44 p.m.