

Summary of Minutes

Water Conservation Advisory Council Workgroup Meeting and Conference Call
Workgroup: Municipal

Date: Monday, December 16, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m. - noon

Location: LCRA Redbud Center – 3601 Lake Austin Blvd. Austin, TX 78744

<u>Members</u>	<u>Alternates</u>	<u>Interested Parties</u>	<u>TWDB Staff</u>
Karen Guz Donna Howe Leah Martinsson Kevin Kluge Anai Padilla Jennifer Allis Bill Hoffman	Jennifer Walker	Michael Choate Patrick Shriver Tommy McClung Isabel Martinez Dan Strub Molly Morris Rafael Garcia Perry Fowler Jennifer Nations Scott Swanson Jason Pierce Ryan Skrobarczyk	John Sutton Laurie Gehlsen Daniel Rice Shae Luther Travis Brice Josh Sendejar

** Documents can be found at: <https://savetexaswater.org/meeting/workgroup/municipal.html>**

I. Introduction of Participants
The call began at 9:05 a.m.

II. Update from TWDB
a. conservation plans submissions
72% submittal rate for water conservation plans
75% of reviews have been completed

Some common issues seen:

- Targets and goals not represented in GPCD
- Missing or unsigned ordinance or resolution
- Missing support documentation
 - Rate structure
 - Transmittal to RWPG
 - Drought plan

b. definition of ‘connection’
TWDB staff stated that the definition of ‘connection’ has not changed, TCEQ staff released a document (found at link above) entitled ‘Determining Connections and Populations Served for Public Water Systems’ was produced to provide some clarity. Some entities may be using meters as connections, which is not the case.

K. Guz noted that single metered multi-family dwellings would be a good topic to revisit at a later date.

III. Discussion on Potential Legislative Recommendations

a. clarification regarding H.B. 2439

Discussion began with K. Guz stating it does not appear that this bill was aimed at water efficiency measures but did impact local ordinances.

It was discussed at the last Council meeting that the best course of action would be to begin talking to the bill authors and clarifying the legislative intent of the bill rather than having a legislative recommendation in the WCAC report regarding the bill.

It was noted that impacts to water and energy efficiency are also being seen in addition to effects to climate resiliency.

Mr. Perry Fowler stated it would be good to establish the intent of the bill. There have also been other making presentations regarding this issue as well.

b. other considerations

No other potential recommendations were discussed

IV. Update on Gold Star Recognition program

Some background was provided on the Gold Star Recognition program, the original intent was to highlight and acknowledge entities whose water conservation plans go above and beyond the minimum standards.

The criteria for the Gold Star include:

- Meet TWDB/TCEQ minimum standards
- Have a narrative on their conservation strategies
- Describe conservation program
- Discuss conservation BMPs
- Discuss Water Loss Control Program
- Evaluation Strategies
- Evidence of Outreach

A question was asked if all criteria needed to be met or if a specific number needed to be met to receive recognition. It was discussed that having a specific number met would be best. Leah Martinsson suggested that the Evidence of Outreach (or Outreach Plan) be mandatory and could be supplemental to their conservation plan and would be conducive to getting the community and the utility invested in the water conservation plan. It was decided that the Evidence of Outreach (or Outreach Plan) would be mandatory and at least four of the remaining criteria would need to be met to receive recognition.

It was discussed that the application form would need to be finalized. Other logistics, including submittal procedure and volunteers to review submissions, would need to be worked out as well.

It was also discussed how the information would be broadcasted. TWDB can provide the work emails for designated conservation coordinators. TWDB can also place a link to the Council's webpage on their Water Conservation Plan webpage.

V. **Adjourn**

The call ended and the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.