

07/15/08

Time Start: 02:00 pm

Time Stop: 02:55 pm

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	Carole Davis
Ken Kramer	Terry Lowery
Gene Montgomery	Michael Schrom
Jim Parks	Dr. Carl Ros
C.E. Williams	Tom Taglibue
Dan Hardin	Juan Soulas
Elliot Fry	Shelia & Carl with St Demographer
Stephen Densmore	Nora Mullarkey
Dan Opdyke	Greg Carter

TWDB Staff

Laila Johnson
Vanessa Escobar
Holly Vierk
John Sutton

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm and roll call was taken.

The workgroup reviewed what they wanted to cover in this call. Two goals of the group are to:

1. Develop an agreement on an interim acceptable format for reporting population estimates and a description of how those estimates are gathered.
2. Establish a pilot group to work with the state demographer's office in developing a proposed methodology which might be used long-term for water providers to estimate their service population.

This group needs to further define what is involved for those who would commit to the pilot program.

A question was asked, could we request a description, along with the conservation summary report, of what they do now and what their reason is for having that estimate? Providers have such different needs and varying situations and this may provide a range of techniques and further insight as to why they use that technique. Their information may layout how the committee can begin to determine the most appropriate method.

The utilities that have had to do population estimates have only been those with water rights. Now there is a new group of utilities required to have conservation plans. Those in the new group are probably not even prepared to go about developing population estimates. Most of the feedback or information we would get in response to that request would most likely come from the larger providers who have been do estimates for a while. However, if this data can be gathered sooner than later, it may be a useful tool to the smaller new group having to do estimates.

It should be really clear in the request that we are gathering information to feed back to providers across the state that may be able to help them by providing another methodology.

Right now the TWDB provides estimates on a city basis. To get those estimates, some assumptions have to be made. One of the reasons the city basis is used is because that is where the population data is for current estimates and for projections. A questions was asked, would a standardized method provide good enough data for projections? It was commented that most water providers have to make projections as well.

If we were to get a focus group of water providers to volunteer, what would we really be asking of them? We would like to get a proposal together that outlines what the commitment would involve. The proposal should list what data is required, data by category, how many years of data etc.

- 18month commitment time.
- Staff time
- Participation in meetings.
- Analyst time to interpret data.
- Description of how is the utility is estimating population now.
- They should be able to tell you how many customers, meter sizes, GIS boundary.

The pilot project needs to cover a range of utility sizes along with WCIDs, MUDs, and SUDs. Geographic diversity is also important.

Some of the names that were mentioned were College Station, San Angelo, Frisco, Sugarland, Denton, Dallas, SAWs, Victoria, Amarillo, Harlingen, Kerrville, Conroe, Addison. Other possibilities are WCIDS or MUDs in Houston area.

Benefits of volunteering to participate on the focus group would include:

- Learning more about your customer data.
- Having advanced knowledge of your population estimate.
- Opportunity to provide input about your community’s special population concerns.
- Confidence that the method is fair and reasonable.
- Opportunity to learn and to train staff.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Immediate Actions	Long Term Actions
Karen will develop a write up for the Pilot Project.	