## **Summary of Minutes**

Water Conservation Advisory Council Workgroup Meeting and Conference Call

Workgroup: Municipal

Date: April 3, 2024

Time: 3:00 pm (after water loss)

Location: TEAMS

Members/Alternates	Interested Parties	TWDB Staff
Bill Hoffman	Blaire Parker	Brittany Condry
David Villarreal	Clifford Howard	Daniel Rice
Earl Foster	Dan Strub	Denise Livingston
Eddy Tevino	Daniel Nix	Jessica Paz
Jason Knobloch	Diana Miller	John Sutton
Jennifer Allis	Hope Wells	Karen Saunders
Jennifer Walker	Jennifer Nations	Loren Whitman
Joyce Warren	Marshall Elliot	Marla Heger
Karen Guz, Chair	Patrick Shriver	Shae Luther
Leslie Patterson	Perry Fowler	Taylor Nickell
Marty Kelly	Sarah Kirkle	Yun Cho
Whitney Milberger	Sarah Riggins	
	Shelly Galeazzi	
	Ted Pick	

<sup>\*\*</sup>Documents can be found at: www.savetexaswater.org/meeting/workgroup/ \*\*

## **Meeting Agenda:**

- I. Introduction
- II. Discussion of Legislative Report Content
  - a. Possible Legislative Recommendations
  - b. Discuss Trends and Water Loss Issues.
- III. Discussion of 2025-2027 Work Group Work Plan
- IV. Adjourn

## Meeting started at 3:42 pm

Karen began meeting to discuss with work group, the need to restructure and redesign the Save Texas Water website. Karen would like to request funds through the <u>Texas Water Fund</u> for funding a contract to redesign the website. Approximately - \$60,000. – There were no issues stated by the work group members. This will be an item on the next Advisory council agenda.

Historically, the report has included the last five years' mean and median total GCPD for municipal and residential GPCD to look at the trends and the goals.

- What are the average goals
- Is there a downward trend?
- Are there outliers skewing the mean/median?

Indoor versus outdoor water usage

- Indoor usage remains constant or decreases.
- Need more proactive outdoor conservation programs
- Need effective drought management

Potential BMPs versus regulatory recommendations

- Water efficiencies with cooling towers
- Update plumbing codes.
  - Establish water efficiency on toilets.
- Further breakdown of commercial customer coding in billing system.
- NTMWD offers code benchmarking for all member customers
  - o Identifying who your customers are helps to design specific conservation programs.
- Require industries to perform water audits.
  - Wichita Falls included in drought plan and found huge water savings
  - Required by ordinance for industry to perform water audits
  - o Daniel Nix will write up a case study

Bill Hoffman mentioned a recommendation for colleges to start teaching water conservation issues.

• How do we better integrate universities with water efficiency?

**Emerging Technologies** 

- Evapotranspiration has fallen under wholesale, but it is important data for municipalities also.
- AMI
  - Shows customers how they are using water
  - Alerts customers of high usage or potential violations
  - Leak detection capabilities

Items from the TAWWA Drought Survey to include in the report and may be items of discussion, possible BMPs, for the Landscape work group:

- How to work with HOA's effectively, particularly during periods of drought?
- How to enforce across boundaries that do not match the service area?
- How do you get buy-in in the community?
- Enforcement issues

Discussion was held on the need for translation materials, specifically for rapidly growing cultures (Chinese, Vietnamese, Telugu). Ted Pick will submit a survey for Texas Water Fund, regarding the consideration of translated materials in the public awareness campaign)

## Conferences

• Alliance for Water Efficiency, their annual water Conservation symposium-August 6-8, 2024 in Chicago, Il.

• Agricultural Water Sustainability Summit, TAWWA, August 7 – 9, 2024 in Lubbock, Tx

Meeting ended at 4:16 pm

