

**Summary of Minutes**

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

Date: February 19, 2019  
Time: 8:00 a.m.  
Location: Conference Call

<b><u>Members</u></b>	<b><u>Alternates</u></b>	<b><u>Interested Parties</u></b>	<b><u>TWDB Staff</u></b>
Karen Guz Valerie Miller Kevin Kluge	Jennifer Walker Mark Froelich	Micah Reed Jennifer Nations James Hemple Jason Pierce Neil W. Mark Warden Ryan Skrobarczyk Dan Strub Perry Fowler	Josh Sendejar John Sutton Shae Luther Travis Brice

\*\* Documents can be found at: \*\*

\* The Conference Call began at 8:03 a.m.

I. Introduction of Participants

Karen Guz recommended that since multiple participants were associated with the Irrigator Advisory Council, perhaps we should discuss the BMPs first and come back to the Gold Star Recognition Program. There were no opponents to this.

II. Discussion on Gold Star Recognition Program

Discussion was held regarding the Gold Star Recognition Program. A quick overview:

- The recognition program will be self-nominating.
- A committee appointed by the WCAC will vote on nominees.
- One form of recognition could include a logo to be displayed on recipient’s website.

A goal of the recognition program is to make reports more readable for the public.

Jennifer Walker asked how the program will be promoted and marketed.

- Can TWDB put a link on the Water Conservation Plan page?
  - o TWDB can use the WCAC email account to promote the program and may potentially be able to use TWDB’s social media.

John Sutton brought up the following points:

- The title of the document “2019 TWDB Five Year Conservation Plan Gold Star Recognition” should be reworked to remove ‘TWDB’ as this will be a WCAC initiative.
- Additionally, as TCEQ will have approval authority of Water Conservation Plans which deal with surface water rights, TCEQ should be inserted as appropriate.

It was discussed that in order to receive more feedback on the document, perhaps the document could be put on the Save Texas Water website to facilitate feedback.

It was also discussed that perhaps Wholesale Providers could also be included for the recognition program. A participant on the call stated they would bring it up to the Wholesale Workgroup.

Jennifer Walker asked about the formal adoption process and where we are with the Council on this initiative. K. Guz stated that we will need formal adoption of the concept at the March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting and can develop the formal outreach and scoring process.

### III. Discussion of BMPs

- a. Update from TWDB on Pending BMPs
- b. Tabled BMPs
  - i. Enforcement of Texas Irrigation License Standards BMP

A comment was brought up regarding the Master Valve under the Scope & Schedule portion of the document, Master Valves are not currently required by TCEQ, perhaps the wording needs to be changed to reflect this.

The overall goal of this BMP is to inform utilities/water suppliers of the licensing program and provide methods for enforcing licensing requirements.

Additionally, edits from IAC/TCEQ are expected in terms of code references and/or TCEQ.

Jennifer Walker motioned to accept the BMP in its substantial form with additional feedback/language from IAC and other sources anticipated.

Mark Froelich seconded the motion.

The BMP was accepted in its substantial form to be submitted to the WCAC for approval at the next meeting (March 14<sup>th</sup>).

K. Guz will draft some language in regard to including additional information on how water savings are achieved.

- ii. System Water Audit and Water Loss BMP

Existing edits regarding 811 ‘Call Before You Dig’ program are amenable.

Daniel Rice made some updates to the Data Validation section of the document.

Neil with the City of Lubbock suggested adding language that would restrict the hours of work being conducted. Several incidents had happened which increased the response time for line crews who had to be called in on holiday/weekend hours. Several comments were made regarding the construction industry and other stakeholders being resistant to that restriction.

Dan Strub brought up an issue regarding the language about validation scoring. The current language references the 90+ scoring, and Dan threshold be lowered so users do not get a sense that they have to continually strive for a 90 or above, when those measures may not decrease water loss cost-effectively at that point.

Dan and John S. will follow-up and draft language to address this issue.

A vote on this BMP has been delayed based upon the issues raised.

An update on this BMP will be provided at the next WCAC meeting (March 14<sup>th</sup>)

#### IV. Adjourn

- The next conference call was scheduled for Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.