

**Summary of Minutes**

Water Conservation Advisory Council Workgroup Meeting and Conference Call  
Workgroup:

Date: 8 January 2020  
Time: 10:30 a.m.  
Location: 505 East Huntland Dr., Suite 485 Austin, TX 78752

<b><u>Members</u></b>	<b><u>Alternates</u></b>	<b><u>Interested Parties</u></b>	<b><u>TWDB Staff</u></b>
Karen Guz Kevin Kluge Anai Padilla Donna Howe	Jennifer Walker Jessica Woods	Dan Strub Scott Swanson Raquel Mullen Rafael Gonzales Tommy McClung Jennifer Nations Patrick Shriver Isabel Martinez	John Sutton Shae Luther Travis Brice Laurie Gehlsen Daniel Rice Josh Sendejar

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

I. Introduction of Participants

The meeting/conference call began at 10:01 a.m.

II. Review and Potential Action regarding Gold Star Recognition Program

Karen Guz began discussion by introducing an application for the Gold Star Recognition program. The deadline for the recognition program has been removed. It was also discussed that the review committee will meet quarterly.

Discussion then went on to cover whether applicants should meet all or most of the criterial for recognition. Several participants stated that since the recognition program is meant to recognize conservation plans that go above and beyond the minimum requirements and therefore applicants should meet all the associated criteria.

It was then brought up that the language within the application should be clear that the recognition would apply to that iteration of a utilities' water conservation plan and would not apply to the utility itself or future iterations of the water conservation plan. K. Guz stated that an email confirming a recipient's status as a Gold Star Recognition winner would need to state caveat information.

K. Guz asked who would be willing to volunteer as part of the review committee.

The following individuals stated they would be willing to participate:

- Karen Guz
- Jennifer Walker
- Donna Howe
- Anai Padilla

- It was also discussed that Valerie Miller had previously stated her interest.

A question was asked if the council needed to notify TWDB Executive Leadership regarding the recognition program as the Comptroller's Office did with their recognition efforts. TWDB staff noted that the Board and the Executive Administrator would be notified of the program, however no formal action was needed by the Board or the EA.

It was noted that the council will be updated at their next meeting (January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020) as well as a date set for the first quarterly review.

### III. Discussion of Potential Legislative Recommendations

K. Guz began discussion regarding the Statewide Public Awareness campaign recommendation from the 2018 WCAC Report. Her recollection was that the Council was for re-introducing the recommendation for the 2020 report. The workgroup agreed that the recommendation should go forward.

The next point of discussion was the recommendation from the 2018 WCAC Report regarding the time of day watering restrictions for entities seeking funding from TWDB. Initial discussion focused on whether a broader recommendation regarding 'water waste' be more palatable, as there is an existing BMP regarding it. Discussion was brought up that a definition of water waste would need to be clearly expressed to have an effect. Another comment stated that there is a sentiment that 'If they are paying the bill, why should I care?'. It was reiterated that establishing a commonly recognized definition for 'water waste' is imperative for the movement on this issue. Also dealing with waste from the customer standpoint as well as the utility standpoint is also important. A final point brought up was the workgroup and the council should be mindful requirements affecting the accessibility of TWDB funding.

The final recommendation discussed was the previous recommendation relating to Data Collection and Analysis (2018 WCAC Recommendation #1). Discussion regarding this recommendation focused on the need to be more specific with data needs. K. Guz will contact Bill Hoffman, one of the authors of the recommendation, to follow-up on the intent.

### IV. Adjourn

The meeting and conference call were adjourned at 11:30 a.m.