

Minutes: Municipal Workgroup Conference Call

07/17/2013

Time Start: 10:00 am

Time Stop: 10:50 am

Members	Alternates	Interested Parties	TWDB Staff
Karen Guz Mark Peterson	Denise Hickey Mark Froelich		Comer Tuck John Sutton Katherine Thigpen

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am and roll call was taken.

Background information was provided by TWDB on the required water conservation plans. The last time the plans were due, there was a 98% completion rate.

For plans submitted in the future, the main adjustment will be under the “Targets & Goals.” Many groups tend to turn in targets that are higher than what the actual has been, therefore leading to easily obtained goals. Setting goals based on real data would create the need for more use of Best Management Practices and conservation efforts. Additionally, using their water loss audits as well as their water use reports they turn into TWDB will help in developing the conservation plans.

The workgroup then turned to discussion on outreach and education for groups prior to May 2014, when the conservation plans are due. Most importantly, the reports should tie Best Management Practices to conservation savings.

Workgroup members brainstormed ideas for outreach and education at conferences and to different interested parties, including:

Association of Water Board Directors – Next conference is January 2014. Good opportunity for TWDB to send staff to speak at a workshop or break out session.

Texas Water Conservation Association – Fall Conference is October 23-25 in San Antonio. Might be another good place to present a workshop or break out session.

Water Efficiency Networks – North Texas Water Efficiency Network, Central Texas Water Efficiency Network and Gulf Coast Water Efficiency Network – reach out to these groups in order to reach their network audience.

Texas Section-American Water Works Association – Might be willing to put together workshops. Council members and TWDB could reach out to Nora Mularkey for more information in connecting.

Texas Rural Water Association – another possibility to contact and work with.

Texas Municipal League – They should definitely be on the list to approach for outreach, presentations and inclusion in their monthly newsletter.

Edwards Aquifer Authority – Meet and talk with the authority staff to get communication going.

TWDB has the resource page and guidance documents up on the website for entities to use in order to help navigate when developing the conservation plan.

TWDB is working on a one stop worksheet/database for entities to submit their required reports (water use survey, water loss audits, water conservation plan reports) as directed by the Texas Legislature. The estimated time for completion of this project is 2-3 years.

TWDB Staff Action Items:

1. Develop a letter for a body of an email or as a cover for a mail out
2. Develop a one pager for distribution
3. Develop list of groups to send information and outreach

The conference call adjourned at 10:50 am.