



**CITIZENS' WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CONSERVATION & EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Wednesday, October 14, 2015, 3 p.m.
Director's Conference Room
Tucson Water, 3rd Floor
310 W. Alameda Street, Tucson, Arizona

Legal Action Report

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Amy McCoy at 3:11 p.m. Those present and absent were:

Members Present:

Amy McCoy	Chairperson, Representative, Ward 2
* Ryan Lee	Representative, Ward 3
Jean McLain	Representative, City Manager
Catlow Shipek	Representative, City Manager
Placido dos Santos	Representative, City Manager

* Member Lee arrived at 3:42 p.m.

Members Absent:

Mark Murphy	Representative, Mayor
Mark Lewis	Representative, Ward 5

Tucson Water Staff Members:

Fernando Molina	Public Information Supervisor
Andrew Greenhill	Management Coordinator
Daniel Ransom	Water Conservation Supervisor
Candice Rupprecht	Public Information Specialist
Joaquim Delgado	Public Information Specialist
Kris LaFleur	Staff Assistant

Others Present

Brian Wong	CWAC
Kerry Schwartz	Arizona Project WET

2. Announcements – Jean McLain announced that the Water Resources Research Center will host a roundtable with Doug Bennett, Conservation Manager with the Southern Nevada Water Authority, November 12, 8:30-10 a.m., in the WRRC's Sol Resnick Conference Room at 350 S. Campbell Ave.

Catlow Shipek announced that the Watershed Management Group's Living Lab & Learning Center is now fully supported by rainwater harvesting. He also discussed reductions in water use at his home, nearly a year after installing large rainwater tanks at the Shipek residence. A handout demonstrated the water savings achieved by rainwater harvesting practices at his home. He explained that water use in his household was averaging about 25 gallons per person per day (GPCD).

3. Call to Audience – There were no audience comments.

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- 4. Review of September 9, 2015, Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes** – Member Shipek moved to approve the Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2015. The motion was seconded by Member McLain and carried by a vote of 4-0.

- 5. Monthly Report & Workplan** – Daniel Ransom presented Tucson Water's conservation program report for FY16, through the month of September. He indicated that all programs are running well and are on-budget at the end of the first quarter of FY16.

As of the end of September, Mr. Ransom reports that 126 rebates have been processed for the new residential clothes washer rebate program, and the program's popularity is expected to continue. The program offers rebates to customers who purchase Tier II and III clothes washers, which offer savings in both water and energy use.

Mr. Ransom also reported that the Rainwater Harvesting Program is going strong, and that it has remained popular through Tucson's monsoon season.

Mr. Ransom also noted that staff and members are on task with the C&E Workplan. It was noted that scheduled discussions of new conservation programs had been moved to the spring, beginning in February.

- 6. FY14-15 Conservation Program Annual Report: comment & approval** – Mr. Ransom presented the FY14-15 Conservation Program Annual Report to the subcommittee. He indicated that members' comments after the September C&E meeting had been incorporated into the report. He explained that the report provides extensive, detailed information about Tucson Water's Conservation Programs, and makes that information publically available.

Member Shipek suggested multiple changes to language and figures within the section of the report covering Tucson Water's rainwater harvesting rebate programs, and strongly encouraged the Conservation Office to set targets and objectives for future GPCD reductions in its programs. Chairperson McCoy suggested a merging of objectives stated on different pages of the report. Mr. Ransom indicated that the suggestions would be reviewed and incorporated into a final version of the report, to be approved by the subcommittee at its November meeting.

- 7. FY16-17 Conservation Program Budget Proposal: comment & approval** – Mr. Ransom presented the final proposed FY17 budget of \$4.19 million. This amount includes two new projects: \$350,000 for neighborhood stormwater and rainwater projects; and \$300,000 for a low-income loan program, which is intended to encourage greater participation in rebate programs among customers who are unable to dedicate up-front funds to conservation measures. Details of both new programs are yet to be developed.

Discussion ensued between members and staff, with topics including: funding for new program research; the value of reduced GPCD in relation to future infrastructure costs; funding for program evaluation; conservation department staffing and capacity; and future increases in the Conservation Fee to provide "seed money" for new program development.

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Member dos Santos moved to recommend approval of the FY17 Conservation Program budget as presented. Member Shipek seconded the motion and it was carried by a vote of 5-0.

- 8. Conservation Planning Process: review & comment** – Candice Rupprecht presented a brief update on the development of the Conservation Planning process. The update was a follow-up to the June update, which detailed implementation of the conservation tracking tool.

Member McCoy departed at 4:35 and returned at 4:38.

Ms. Rupprecht reported that the Conservation Office has engaged a consultant to conduct surveys to determine community impressions of water reliability in Tucson. Survey results will be used to determine the direction of the stakeholder planning process.

- 9. Discussion: M&C Conservation Policies & Formation of C&E Mission Statement** – Members and staff engaged in extensive discussion about: the history of Mayor and Council water conservation policies; the establishment of the Conservation Fund and M&C direction for its oversight; and various community goals for water conservation, including financial savings, water security, and applying water surplus to environmental conservation and restoration.

Member McLain departed at 4:48 and returned at 4:50.

Members discussed various City policies addressing water resources and environmental goals, and indicated an interest in ensuring that water conservation policies are complimentary to other written policies (i.e., Plan Tucson, WISP).

Members and staff turned to discussion of a Conservation & Education Subcommittee mission statement. No consensus was reached on how to proceed. Chairperson McCoy suggested that members continue the discussion to a future meeting, and recommended that the subcommittee propose a plan to full CWAC in December.

10. Future Meetings/Agenda Items –

- Approval of FY15 Conservation Program Report
- Continued discussion of M&C conservation policies / C&E mission statement

- 11. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.