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Drinking Water Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2022
Conference Call

Members Present

Yone Akagi, Large Water Systems
Dwayne Barnes, League of Oregon Cities
Greg DeBlase, Oregon Environmental Health Association
Michael Grimm, Special Districts Association of Oregon
Cheyenne Holliday, Water Consumers
Adam Jackson, Privately Owned Water Systems
Matt Johnson, Oregon Association of Water Utilities
Ben Klayman, Pacific NW Section, American Water Works Association
Karen Lewotsky, Environmental Advocacy Groups
Chris MacQuarrie, Plumbers/Backflow Testers
Beth Myers, Oregon Environmental Lab Association
Amelia Nestler, League of Women Voters of Oregon
Zach Roberts, Conference of Local Health Officials
Travis Tormanen, American Council of Engineering Companies-Oregon

Members Absent

Jason Green, Oregon Association of Water Utilities
Chris Wanner, Large Water Systems

Guests

Dave Anderson, The Dalles
Nicole Bailey, Business Oregon
Sarah Honious, City of Hillsboro
Matthew Mattia, Business Oregon

Kim Ramsay, Oregon Environmental Lab Association
Jon Unger, Business Oregon

Staff

Adam DeSemple	Samina Panwhar
David Emme	Kari Salis
Casey Lyon	Diane Weis

Welcome/Roll Call:

Dwayne Barnes welcomed the group and introduced two new members: Cheyenne Holliday representing water consumers and Chris MacQuarrie representing plumbers and backflow testers. Roll call was taken.

Meeting Minutes:

October Minutes – Mike Grimm made motion to approve the revised October minutes, Kim Ramsey seconded. They were voted on and approved.

February Minutes – Mike Grimm made motion to approve the minutes, Dwayne Barnes seconded. They were voted on and approved.

Dave Emme asked that with the meetings being recorded if members still wanted written minutes. Members were okay with only the recording but preferred them written. We will continue writing the minutes.

Member Update:

No one had any updates.

DWSRF Loan: The Dalles Project:

Dave Anderson from City of The Dalles presented the project requiring additional Safe Drinking Water Loan Funds.

The project consists of replacing 3.5 miles of 30” diameter pipeline. Improvements will also be made. The city has already received an award for \$4,030,000 from the DWSRF Loan program but will need an additional \$4,000,00. Some members had questions and asked for clarification. Mike Grimm made motion to approve the loan totaling \$8,030,000, Karen Lewotsky seconded. It was voted on and approved.

Revolving Fund Update:

Adam DeSemple introduced a new member of the Business Oregon team, Nicole Bailey. She will be working with Jon Unger.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill – The new webpage is now live with information and resources. The Rating Workgroup is revising parts of the Letter of Interest (LOI) Rating Form to expand its Affordability criteria, with more focus around disadvantaged communities. Goal is to have a final draft of the revised LOI Rating form to present to the committee members for review and comments.

2022 Capitalization Grant – The grant announcement is later than usual but there is expected to be cuts due to Congressionally Directed Spending.

Combined Project Priority List – Received 23 new projects now totaling 71, bringing the total amount to \$417M. This is quite an increase.

Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Projects (SIPP) – Received eight new projects, no new seismic projects.

WIIN Act – This is non-SRF funds and is a grant for underserved and disadvantaged communities.

2021 Program Evaluation Report – The report was completed and sent to EPA April 15. It is being reviewed along with partner programs.

Review DWAC Member Terms:

Before the July meeting, the Drinking Water Program will reach out to seek nominations from the organizations whose member's terms are expiring. At the July meeting the committee will nominate a new chair and vice-chair.

Proposed Rule Revisions:

There is not a detailed timeline yet, but two rule makings will occur by the end of the year.

The first rule package is for monitoring and reporting. These are highlights of the proposed rule revision:

Corrosion control – Have study approved by Drinking Water Services before installation.

Arsenic monitoring – Specify monitoring frequency.

UV reporting requirements – Clarify timeframe for calculation and identify treatment for ground water and surface water.

LCCR – Service line inventory due by October 2024.

Bypass piping – This is not allowed, so new bypasses will be prevented.

Post construction – Disinfection after repairs should meet AWWA standards.

Plan Review Fees – Changing rules to meet current practice and small systems will require less fees.

The second rule change highlights:

Backflow

Annual Fee – Minor correction

Cyanotoxin – Analysis changes using different reagent that would lower the detection level, thus allowing us to lower the trigger level resulting in increased monitoring. Establish trigger levels to two significant figures.

Kari Salis will take comments received into consideration and move forward with rule revisions.

Oregon Water Futures Project:

The program deals with disparity and water justice. They build capacity around water and justice movement to build relationships with organizations and community.

Other:

There was a spill in Southern Oregon caused by fire. Systems were concerned of delay in response.

2022 Meeting Schedule:

July 20, 2022 – Conference Call/Virtual Meeting (vote for chair and vice-chair, Capacity Development Strategy/Asset Management)

October 19, 2022 – Conference Call/Virtual Meeting