

# Consortium Technical Committee Meeting Summary

APRIL 3, 2019      CALLED TO ORDER: 1:32 PM      ADJOURNED: 3:30 PM

QUORUM PRESENT - YES - 14 MEMBERS



## Director Report

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**Bloom Doom Table Top Exercise** – Rebecca Geisen, Managing Director reported that preparation for Bloom Doom 2019, the cyanotoxin exercise, is in full swing. Approximately 100 people from 19 water providers, county emergency management and state public health have signed up to participate.

**Drinking Water Advisory Tool** – Rebecca noted that a soft launch of the new Public Alerts website and improved Drinking Water Advisory (DWA) tool took place today. The revised DWA tool will be available for use at the table top training exercise on the Public Alerts test site. Rebecca advised that the annual update of the service area boundary map for the DWA tool will be happening soon. An e-mail will go out in a couple of weeks asking members to review their service area map and submit any changes. Map updates are projected to be completed by the end of May.

**Portland State University (PSU) Population and Household Estimates** – Rebecca mentioned that the 2018 PSU population and household estimates will be available at the end of the month.

**Equipment Drill** – A drill of the regional emergency equipment; i.e., mobile water distribution systems, mobile water treatment systems, portable pipe systems, etc. is planned for September 26, 2019.

**Shared Worker Agreement** – Rebecca reported that the ORWARN Board has endorsed the Shared Worker Agreement Addendum that the Consortium developed and has shared it with its membership. Participation in the shared worker addendum is voluntary and does not in any way change the ORWARN agreement. This addendum allows for the sharing of qualified workers amongst ORWARN members during catastrophic emergencies.

## Program Updates

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**Contracts** – Bonny Cushman, Program Coordinator mentioned that a five-year contract has been finalized with ERF Company to provide the weather data that is used for the Weekly Watering Number.

The Consortium selected Mad Science to provide its Where's the Water, Watson for its kindergarten-2nd grade school assembly contract and Rick Huddle Presents to develop a new show for its 3rd-5th grade show. The Mad Science contract will begin September of 2019 and run through June of 2024.

The Consortium will work with Rick Huddle to develop a new show winter of 2019 with new show starting fall of 2020.

**School Assembly Show** – Bonny reported that Mad Science has completed approximately 15 school assembly shows for the current school year.

**Media** – Bonny advised that another successful indoor television campaign has been completed. The campaign ran from February 18 through April 7. The campaign included four on-air interviews (one each on AM Northwest, Afternoon Live, weekend morning news, and the Children’s Clean Water Festival). Story links will be available on the Consortium website. A total of 231 ads (55 paid, 176 pro-bono) ran during the six-week campaign.

KUNP, Spanish television will cover the Children’s Clean Water Festival again. Consortium staff is working with the station to develop Spanish versions of the four television ads that were developed with KATU in 2018 and to produce a radio ad which will be played on KZZR in July.

**Communication Award** - The Consortium received the “Wild Card” award at the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Water Works Association’s (AWWA) annual conference for its How to Access Water from Your Water Heater how-to video and print piece.

## Consortium Membership and Sharing Resources Strategies Discussion

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Rebecca pointed out that in the meeting materials packet was a proposal from the membership sub-committee – Brian Stahl, Kari Duncan, Andrew Degner, Mike Grimm, Bonny, and Rebecca, that outlines membership and partnership definitions and benefits for CTC consideration and approval. Membership was divided into five categories – full membership, tri-county governments, affiliated groups, industry/trade and non-regional membership. Definitions and criteria for each category was outlined. Rebecca advised that this document, once finalized, will provide guidance to Consortium staff and the Consortium Board when approached by interested entities for resources and/or membership requests. Rebecca concluded if it is endorsed by the CTC, it would then be shared with the Executive Committee and ultimately the Board for their consideration. She noted that this work is timely as she just received a letter from the City of Newberg requesting membership.

Brian Stahl commented that there are a lot of way to slice Consortium resources and membership but felt this was a good first cut. Brian noted that this may be a work in progress as outside interest increases for Consortium resources.

Rebecca concurred and noted that the membership and resource sharing guidelines document is an iterative piece but provides a good foundation for Consortium staff and the Board when considering new membership and resource requests.

CTC members discussed the proposal and supported the approach.

Rebecca pointed out that included in the meeting materials packet was the City of Newberg’s letter

requesting to rejoin the Consortium. They would join as a non-regional member.

CTC members discussed whether or not Newberg, as a non-regional member, would need to sign the Consortium IGA or if a memorandum of understanding (MOU) needed to be created. The City of Newberg did not sign the Consortium IGA when they were a member of the Consortium conservation program in the past, nor was there any kind of agreement or MOU signed.

CTC members recommended the development of some sort of agreement or MOU that clearly outlines what it means to be a non-regional member and the program components/benefits. It was suggested that language should be included that allow for increasing costs over time and membership withdrawal.

Rebecca advised that Consortium staff will work with the City Attorney's office to develop such an agreement.

It was also recommended that the letter requesting membership be resubmitted with a signature from either the City Manager, Public Works Director or Mayor; someone with budget authority.

## Digital Outreach Discussion

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Bonny commented that she has been doing some thinking and research on the digital outreach component of the FY 2019-20 work plan and has put together a proposal for CTC consideration and approval.

Bonny outlined the proposal that includes advertisements on Pandora radio; a combination of social media ads – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube; a new text option for the Weekly Watering Number; and digital and print ads in the Oregonian.

CTC members were supportive of the proposal and approved moving it forward.

## Legislative Update

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Rebecca reminded CTC members that Consortium sent a letter in opposition to Senate Bill 935 which creates a modified landscape construction profession license to allow for the installation of residential-sized irrigation systems without requiring proven knowledge or experience. Bonny and Steve Carper from TVWD represented water providers at the hearing providing testimony opposing the bill. Despite concerns about water management, conservation, and consumer protection, the bill is going to the Senate floor next week with a do pass recommendation. Rebecca said the Consortium letter is on the record but encouraged individual water providers to send letters expressing concerns about the bill as well. Bonny will send talking points out tomorrow morning. Letters are due by week's end.

Bonny noted that the WaterSense program was put into the federal budget last year but is now facing potential cuts in the upcoming budget year. The Alliance for Water Efficiency is coordinating a letter of support of the WaterSense program and is asking individual water providers and groups to

also send letters. The CTC approved sending a letter of support.

## Member Updates

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**Clackamas River Water Providers** – Todd Heidgerken provided an update on the proposed summer conservation messaging campaign in development for Clackamas River customers to help address sensitive fish runs on the river in September and the need for additional water for fish. He noted that based on feedback and comments from the last CTC meeting, they have updated the messaging slogan to “Fish on the Run, Irrigation Done” to more clearly connect the message to who is affected and to fish flows and fish persistence. The campaign will likely include monthly articles for newsletters and websites; brochures and flyers; conservation pledges and yard signs; PGE fish data; and PSAs.

Rebecca mentioned that she learned the primary water source information can be added to the Drinking Water Advisory tool/address look-up widget.

Members thanked the Clackamas Water River Providers for their willingness to share and collaborate in this forum. It is a testament to how far the Consortium as an organization has come and the great opportunities to collaborate it affords.

**Joint Water Commission** – Kevin Hanway reported that in years past the concerns about water availability has been primarily focused on Hagg Lake/Scoggins Dam. He noted that this year, however, it will fill completely. In contrast, Barney Reservoir which for the past 10 years has been full by the end of January is now only 70% full and they will be relying on April and May rains to continue to fill the reservoir. Kevin said it appears that there will still be adequate stored water to get them through the summer based on last year’s demand but more planning with partners will be done on stored water projections than in past years in case adjustments need to be made.

### Meeting Attendees:

Priya Dhanapal – City of Beaverton	Todd Heidgerken – Clackamas River Water	Gregory Robertson – City of Forest Grove
Andrew Degner – City of Gresham	Kevin Hanway – City of Hillsboro	Kari Duncan – City of Lake Oswego
Sarah Jo Chaplen – Oak Lodge Water Services	Edward Campbell – City of Portland	Brian Stahl – Rockwood Water PUD (phone)
Elizabeth Edgar – Sunrise Water Authority	John Goodrich – City of Tigard	Jeff Fuchs – City of Tualatin
Carrie Pak – Tualatin Valley Water District	Mike Grimm – West Slope Water District	Rebecca Geisen, Bonny Cushman and Patty Burk – RWPC Staff

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 19, 2019 @ Clackamas River Water**