



Consortium Technical Committee Meeting Summary

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022 CALLED TO ORDER: 1:33 PM ADJOURNED: 3:24 PM

QUORUM PRESENT – YES – 15 MEMBERS

MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM/VIDEOCONFERENCE

Approval of August 3, 2022 Meeting Summaries

Todd Heidgerken made a motion to approve the August 3, 2022 meeting summary as presented. Nick Augustus seconded the motion. The August 3, 2022 meeting summary was unanimously approved as presented. (15:0:0)

Election of Officers

Rebecca Geisen, Consortium Managing Director mentioned that Kari Duncan has been acting Consortium Technical Committee (CTC) Chair since Carrie Pak's departure in March and is eligible to continue to serve as Chair if elected. A new Vice-Chair is needed.

Nominations for CTC Chair were opened. Todd Heidgerken made a motion to nominate Kari Duncan for CTC Chair. Sarah Jo Chaplen seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. The CTC unanimously approved Kari Duncan as CTC Chair. (15:0:0)

Nominations for CTC Vice-Chair were open. Todd Heidgerken nominated Jessica Dorsey for CTC Vice-Chair. Sarah Jo Chaplen seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. The CTC provisionally approved Jessica Dorsey as CTC Vice-Chair. Jessica will check with Niki Iverson, primary representative from the City of Hillsboro to get approval to accept the nomination and serve as Vice-Chair. (15:0:0) (note: Following the meeting, Consortium Staff received notification that Jessica will be able to serve as Vice-Chair)

Director Report

Provision of Emergency Drinking Water Framework Plan: Rebecca Geisen, Consortium Managing Director reported that the draft Provision of Emergency Drinking Water Framework Plan has been completed and was sent out to Consortium members for review. The Plan includes roles and responsibilities of water providers, county emergency managers and state and federal agencies and proposed best management practices and recommendations. The final workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, September 13 – 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Rebecca asked participants to RSVP for the workshop if they have not already done so. Rebecca advised that once the

final plan is adopted, the group will begin to discuss implementation of the plan recommendations. A presentation will be given to the Consortium Board at their February meeting.

Meetings: Rebecca mentioned that the Consortium Technical Committee was recently surveyed about their meeting preferences – virtual, in-person, hybrid. Rebecca advised that approximately 80% of respondents were in favor of continuing to meet virtually, with the possibility of an in-person meeting once a year. Respondents were interested in utilizing the in-person meeting as a potential field trip opportunity to see projects going on at individual member sites. Rebecca asked CTC members to email her with ideas/opportunities or to volunteer their site for these meetings. Kari Duncan mentioned that Rockwood Water PUD has a reservoir construction project underway and will be wrapping the reservoir this fall just around the November CTC meeting time. Kari noted the project is at their district office site and volunteered to host the November 2 CTC meeting at their location. Patty will send out an updated Outlook meeting invite to update the location and in-person nature of the meeting.

Oregon ShakeAlert: Rebecca shared that ShakeAlert is fully operational in Oregon. ShakeAlert is an earthquake early warning (EEW) system that detects significant earthquakes so quickly that alerts can reach many people before shaking arrives. ShakeAlert is not an earthquake prediction tool, rather a ShakeAlert Message indicates that an earthquake has begun, and shaking is imminent. Rebecca mentioned that a representative from the University of Oregon is interested in coming to a CTC meeting to talk about ShakeAlert. The Oregon chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) is hosting a ShakeAlert Earthquake Early Warning workshop for water and wastewater providers. The workshop is Wednesday, October 26, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and is hosted by the ShakeAlert Technical Users Working Group, including the U.S. Geological Survey, the California Institute of Technology, the University of California Berkeley, the University of Washington, and the University of Oregon. CTC members were interested in having someone come to talk about ShakeAlert at a future meeting.

Chair Brooks Proposal: Rebecca advise that she recently met with Consortium Chair Bridget Brooks to discuss an idea Chair Brooks had about connecting Warm Springs to Consortium resources and expertise with the possibility of offering membership. Rebecca noted that Chair Brooks is particularly concerned about the drinking water situation in Warm Springs and is interested in exploring how Consortium members might be able to provide some assistance if requested. Chair Brooks is also very interested in workforce development and potentially partnering with a plumbing pipe fitting school in Tualatin. Rebecca asked for thoughts/feedback on the possibility of reaching out to Warm Springs and what that might entail.

CTC members discussed the possibility of reaching out to Warm Springs. There was some concern expressed about not knowing Warm Springs' interest or capacity for assistance and resources as they have not asked for either from the Consortium. It was also noted that this could set a precedent for other tribes or organizations in the State wanting to partner with the Consortium but not have the financial resources to join. Rebecca noted that Executive Committee will discuss this item as well at their meeting next week.

Sarah Santner noted that the Portland Water Bureau has worked with Warm Springs in the past. Sarah will research what assistance the bureau has provided and get contact information for their water operations.

Summer Supply Roundtable/ Fire

Todd mentioned that a notice was just sent out from PGE about possible pending power shut downs in some areas due to forecasted high winds and low humidity over the next several days that could increase fire risk . PGE is planning for the possibility of Public Safety Power Shutoffs in several areas in the region. Maps of potential impacted areas were shared mostly on the eastside – highway 26 corridor and potentially into Clackamas county. Todd noted that this is hot off the presses information and shutdowns could begin within the next 24 to 48 hours or so. It was noted that this is a great reminder to have backup power and generators ready to go.

Clackamas River Water:

- Supply looks good.
- “Fish on the Run, Irrigation Done!” campaign in full swing.

Portland:

- Demands up slightly.
- Good shape with supply.
- 4.2 billion gallons in storage in Bull Run.
- Completed groundwater maintenance run on August 27.

JWC:

- At about 60% capacity for both Barney and Scoggins.
- Barney a bit below average and Scoggins a bit above average for this time of year.

Equity Commitment

Rebecca noted that Consortium staff has been doing a lot of work, especially with Consortium outreach campaigns, to make programs more accessible to the broader community and to be more intentional with looking at Consortium programs with an equity lens. To that point, Consortium staff has been working on a written equity commitment document to acknowledge how the Consortium as an organization embeds equity into its programming, planning, and outreach.

Patty explained that she and Riley spent time researching how/what other like organizations have done in this area, and looked at the Consortium’s work and how budget and staff time is spent in order to continue to develop and shape Consortium programs with an equity lens.

Patty noted that the Consortium has done a lot of great work already and wants to share that story, but also recognize that we don’t have all the answers, there is still much to learn, and we want to continue to engage with historically underserved and under-resourced populations in the areas we serve.

The draft equity commitment was provided in the meeting materials for CTC member review/thoughts/feedback. This feedback will be incorporated in the draft commitment and presented to the Board at their October meeting for their thoughts and support. Next steps include the development of a webpage for the Consortium's website that highlights the work the Consortium has done and will continue to do to advance and embed equity in its planning, programming, and outreach.

CTC members reviewed the draft equity commitment and provided comments. There was general support for the equity commitment. Comments included the development of an abbreviated statement/elevator pitch/key highlighted information; vision statement – couple of sentences and then drill down into specificity; use term “engage” to better demonstrate a two-way relationship instead of “reach out to”; supported including tangible examples; concern about recognition of acknowledgement of systemic inequities of the past – is this too contextual/out of scope; focus on today with an eye to the future; start simple and work outward; don't assume what vulnerable, under-resourced communities want.

CTC members supported sharing the draft equity commitment document with the Executive Committee at their meeting next week.

Program Updates

Bonny Cushman, Consortium Program Coordinator mentioned that she recently sent out a media campaign update email that provided a comprehensive overview of both the conservation and emergency preparedness messaging campaigns. The conservation messaging campaign is winding down and the emergency preparedness campaign is in full swing. This year the Consortium is partnering with KATU, channel 2 for the emergency preparedness television campaign. A :15 second and :30 second ad has been created along with companion social media posts that highlight the ads. Bonny encouraged CTC members to read the email and share with their staff.

Bonny mentioned that post-production is underway for the 21 multilingual emergency preparedness how-to-videos. The goal is to share final versions of the 21 videos over the coming months.

Bonny noted that she will be submitting a UASI grant proposal to the Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization later this month to ask for additional money to fully fund the four remaining languages and add some public outreach elements (YouTube campaigns and working with the Community Engagement Liaisons to get the word out about the videos).

Bonny shared that she has been working with KUNP, Spanish television on a two month ad campaign on YouTube that will point people to the Consortium's Spanish ads.

Bonny concluded that two abstracts have been submitted for consideration to present at the Pacific Northwest AWWA conference – one is on the Curtail Your Enthusiasm tabletop training exercise and the other focuses on evolving approaches to public outreach on a regional scale. Bonny will attend the WaterSmart Innovation Conservation Conference in October.

FY 2023-24 Budget and Work Plan Concepts Discussion

Rebecca advised that it is time to begin preparing the FY 2023-24 budget and workplan priorities for the Executive Committee and Board at their upcoming meetings. Consortium staff met and did not identify any major new project or initiatives but recommend providing the current level of programs and services while continuing to grow work in the following areas:

- Multi-lingual outreach – examples include:
 - Widget development for conservation and emergency prep tips and potential print pieces in multiple languages
 - Continued funding for Community Engagement Liaison public outreach work focused on emergency prep messaging and resources (UASI grant matching funds)
- Implementation of Provision of Emergency Drinking Water Framework – examples include:
 - County Emergency Manager/Water Provider summit to discuss Framework recommendations and roles
 - Equipment drill and training with County emergency management and community emergency response teams
 - Placeholder for other recommendations from Framework (could include follow-up study or update of regional transmission and storage strategy)
 - Funding for GIS work to consolidate emergency data and information

Rebecca noted that the Consortium is coming up to the end of the Five-Year Strategic Plan so this will be a bit of a transition year while concurrently charting the course for the next five years. The carry-over for FY 2021-22 will be about \$121,500. Rebecca reviewed the breakdown of the under-expenditures.

CTC members were supportive of Consortium staff recommendations. There was general consensus to try to keep any increase in dues to about 5%.

October Consortium Board Draft Agenda

Rebecca reviewed the October Consortium Board meeting draft agenda. Agenda items include approval of Board meeting minutes, director and committee reports, a FY 2023-24 budget and workplan concepts discussion, and a place-holder discussion item. Consortium staff recently found out that planned presenter Maria Pope from PGE is not available for the October meeting. Other presentation thoughts/ideas included member roundtable, Drinking Water Framework Plan update, legislative session preview, outreach campaign highlights, and a Curtail Your Enthusiasm After Action Report presentation. It was also suggested that a facilitated discussion on infrastructure investment and planning (response to Jacksonville and Flint) would be of interest to the Board. Rebecca noted the draft agenda will be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting next week as well.

Meeting Attendees:

David Winship – City of Beaverton

Todd Heidgerken – Clackamas River
Water

Lorelyn Brown – City of Forest Grove

Andrew Degner – City of Gresham

Jessica Dorsey – City of Hillsboro

Sarah Jo Chaplen – Oak Lodge Water
Services Authority

Sarah Santner – City of Portland

Kari Duncan – Rockwood Water PUD

Wyatt Parno – South Fork Water Board

Tim Janssen – Sunrise Water Authority

Brian Rager – City of Tigard

Rachel Sykes – City of Tualatin

Nick Augustus – Tualatin Valley Water
District

Mike Grimm – West Slope Water
District

Martin Montalvo – City of Wilsonville

Kevin Calcagno - Eurofins

Rebecca Geisen, Bonny Cushman, Riley
Berger and Patty Burk – RWPC Staff

Next CTC Meeting: Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at Rockwood Water PUD.