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Drinking Water Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2016

Keizer

Members Present

Sarah Chaplen, League of Women Voters of Oregon

Jenifer George, Oregon Environmental Health Association

Ray Johnson, Plumbers/Backflow Testers

Samantha Murray, Environmental Advocacy Groups

Beth Myers, Oregon Environmental Lab Association

Annette Pampush, Conference of Local Health Officials

Jason Pulley, Large Water Systems

Brian Rigwood, Pacific NW Section, American Water Works Association

Brian Stahl, League of Oregon Cities

Members Absent

Ed Butts, Oregon Association of Water Utilities

DJ Ezell, Special Districts Association of Oregon

Celeste Hari, Privately Owned Water Systems

Guests

David Barnett, Infrastructure Finance Authority

Jeremy McVeety, Infrastructure Finance Authority

Chuck Scholz, City of Harrisburg

Chris Wanner, Portland Water Bureau

Staff

Adam DeSemple

Kari Salis

Tony Fields

Diane Weis

Dave Leland

Welcome:

Brian Rigwood welcomed the group and led introductions.

October Meeting Minutes:

Jenifer George asked to add the word “improved” to her Member Concern: “Jenifer George would like the drinking water survey report write-ups to be in an improved electronic format”. Brian Stahl made motion to approve the minutes with word change, Beth Myers seconded. They were voted on and approved.

Member Concerns:

Flint, Michigan, lead issue was discussed. Dave Leland had emailed a journal article to the members and will continue to forward information as he receives it.

Samantha Murray reported there will be a bill in the upcoming legislative session, addressing landlords, in support of domestic well nitrate and arsenic testing.

In future meetings, there will also be time for public concerns.

Review Status of Member Terms:

The vacancies and member’s terms coming due this June were discussed.

Review and Update Committee Rules of Procedure:

The current rules of procedure were reviewed and there were no changes. They will be put on the Drinking Water Services web page in the Drinking Water Advisory Committee link.

Revolving Fund Update:

SRF Quarterly Report –

The report is not complete so will be emailed later.

FFY2016 DWSRF-Estimated Grant Appropriations –

The estimated amount is approximately \$12M which includes additional allocation towards the State Program Management set-aside. The application will be submitted in early spring.

SFY2015 DWSRF-Annual Report –

The report was submitted and there will be an EPA review the week of February 29, 2016, in Salem then Portland.

Expanded Eligibility Pilot Program –

Some systems were eligible for funding but were not high enough on the list. With the repayments there is more money available to fund lesser priority projects.

There are still some projects that are not eligible, such as ones for growth.

Emergency projects need approval from DWAC.

Brian Stahl made motion to implement Expanded Eligibility Pilot Program, Jenifer George seconded. It was voted on and approved.

Sustainability Infrastructure Planning Program –
Will accept preliminary Letters of Interest starting March 1. Master Plans for systems with fewer than 300 connections are now eligible.

Combined Infrastructure PPL –
There are 36 projects on the 2016 list totaling just short of \$90M.

Drinking Water Source Protection LOI Applications –
The Letters of Interest will be mailed in March or April.

Needs Survey –
Systems are required to be surveyed to determine future SRF funding. EPA picks the systems to be surveyed. A contractor is performing the surveys, paid for by SRF setasides. The systems do not have a lot of time to prepare, but most are being cooperative and we are meeting our goal.

Program and Regulator Overview:

(See attached PowerPoint slides)

Dave Leland highlighted events in 2015 –

- Agency leadership changes
- Legislature
- Drought
- Rules
- Water system incidents nationwide

Dave also reviewed –

- Roles, types and numbers of water systems
- The organization from Oregon Health Authority down to Drinking Water Services
- Drinking Water Service's revenue and expenditures
- EPA's regulations
- Water system's accomplishments and improvements
- Regulatory update and recap of federal actions

- Update on wells and groundwater

Coming up in 2016 –

- Fee increase implementation
- Rule implementation
- Monitoring of program expense projections
- Streamline processes
- Focus on high priorities

2016 Meeting Schedule:

April 20, 2016 – Keizer

July 20, 2016 – Keizer

October 19, 2016 – Keizer