



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

Monday, January 10, 2022 - 2:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

**Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Chair Val Little called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m. Those present and absent were:

**Members Present:**

Val Little, Chair	Representative, Ward 3
Ed Hendel	Representative, Mayor
Placido Dos Santos	Representative, City Manager
Raul Ramirez	Representative, Ward 1

**Members Absent:**

**2. Announcements** – Chair Little reminded the committee the Mayor and Council is expected to approve the changes to the Low-Income Assistance program on January 11, 2022.

**3. Review of November 8, 2021, Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes** - Member dos Santos moved to approve the Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes. Member Hendel seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote of 4-0

**4. Officer Elections – Mrs. Jessica Rodriguez reviewed the procedures before opening the floor for nominations.**

Member Placido Dos Santos nominated Val Little as Subcommittee Chair. Member Little consented to the nomination. There were no other nominations. **Motion:** Member Placido dos Santos motioned to accept Member Little as Subcommittee Chair. Member Ramirez Duly seconded the motion. **Discussion:** Member Dos Santos commented on Member Little's exemplary service as chair in the past and thanked her for her service. The motion passed on a roll call vote 3-0 and 1 abstention.

**5. 2022 Meeting Schedule** – Mrs. Rodriguez provided advanced notification of the meeting dates and times for the committee. The proposed dates for future meetings are the second Monday of the Month at 2:00 p.m. **Motion:** Member Ramirez motioned to accept the proposed meeting schedule. Member Hendel duly seconded the motion. Motion passed on a roll call vote. :

**6. Rebate Program Changes** – Candice Rupprecht, Conservation Manager, Public Information and Conservation Office, Tucson Water, shared the proposed changes to the policy with the committee. Those items reviewed and discussed were:

a. Residential High-Efficiency Toilet (HET) Rebate:

## **Citizen's Water Advisory Committee, Conservation & Education Subcommittee**

Legal Action Report

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- i. Review the current 2010 policy and changes to the WaterSense program of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) since inception.
  - ii. Review of progressive conservation policies in California and Texas.
  - iii. Review of the proposed changes
    1. Change the qualifying construction date to 2010 or before, when WaterSense-approved toilets became the predominant toilet available.
    2. Change the criteria for eligible toilets to premium high-efficiency, which flush at 1.1-gpf or less. These toilets are rated by MaP, an independent testing program that considers WaterSense certification, flush volume (1.1-gpf or less), and flush performance.
    3. Increase rebate amount to \$100, recognizing these toilets are more expensive on average and to create additional program interest.
  - iv. Expected outcomes:
    1. additional savings of up to 600 acre-feet per year and increasing market share of ultra-high efficiency toilets purchased.
- b. Residential High-Efficiency Clothes Washer Rebate
- i. Review of the current rebate policy
    1. Customer savings for a front loader compared to a top loader
  - ii. Proposed Changes
    1. \$200 for customers replacing top-loading washing machines that submit required proof (invoice, photo, and old model number)
    2. \$100 for all other customers, including those replacing front-loading washing machines and new customers not replacing a machine (Invoice required). If a customer claims they had a top-load machine but cannot show proof, they will receive \$100.
    3. Add additional policy language to ensure rebate will not be more than the price paid for the washer and clarify rebate language about one rebate per customer, per location.
    4. Direct SERI to develop a low-income clothes washer rebate program. A low-income clothes washer would remove financial barriers to purchasing high-efficiency washing machines and provide an opportunity to design gray water systems concurrently.
  - iii. Expected Outcomes

Clothes washer rebate expenditures will likely decrease, although a low-income component may make up for that decrease in expenditures. Water savings will likely remain unchanged since we anticipate program participation will not change significantly.

No action was taken.

**7. Call to Audience** – None.

**8. Future Agenda Items** – An item was requested to discuss Composting toilets and review the drought plan (Tier 2 – PADA & WSA)

**9. Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.