



CITIZENS' WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(CWAC) Conservation & Education Subcommittee

Monday, September 11, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams

Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes

1) **Call to Order / Opening Statement:**

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m.

2) **Roll Call:**

Those present and absent were:

Present:

Lisa Shipek (Chair)	Representative, Ward 3
Ed Hendel Representative,	Mayor
Andrea Gerlak	Representative, City Manager
Raul Ramirez*	Representative, Ward 1

Absent:

3) **Announcements** – Candice Rupprecht announced two temporary new hires filled the Zanjero position for water waste and audits.

4) **Review and approval of June 12, 2023, Legal Action Report and Meeting Minutes** - Member Hendel moved to approve the Legal Action Report & Minutes. Member Ramirez duly seconded the motion. The motion passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0.

5) **Call to the audience** – None.

6) **Conservation: follow up from 2022 Mayor & Council items** (– - James MacAdam, Tucson Water Administrator, shared an update. The items reviewed and discussed were:

- Prohibition of ornamental turf – adoption June 6, 2023
- Requirement for WaterSense fixtures – adoption June 6, 2023
- Requirement for a separate meter for outdoor irrigation – in progress
- Low Impact Development Standards – consultant evaluation underway

*Member Raul Ramirez arrived at 2:10 p.m.



- e) Net Zero Water – in review
- 7) **7. Drought Plan: Implementation Update** – Candice Rupprecht, Tucson Water, Superintendent, shared the Mayor & Council Memorandum from the September 6, 2023 study session. The items reviewed and discussed were:
- a) Study Session M&C September 6
 - b) Improved 57 irrigation and drinking fountains at neighborhood parks using approx. \$1.6 million conservation funds
 - c) Water Audits of City facilities in 2021 implementing 46 of the 104 efficiency recommendations, saving 14MG a year
 - d) Residential customers received high usage letters on average 250% or more in the 2022 calendar year. The expectation is to send additional letters in 2024 based on 2023 consumption. The utility is working to avoid sending duplicate letters.
 - e) Encouraging the use of self-help tools: Home Waterworks Calculator and website
 - f) Recommending Water Audits for high water users and limited-income customers
 - g) Conservation Kits
 - h) Commercial Water Use Guidelines: new billing system data integration
 - i) Commercial Tier Rate
 - j) Commercial Automatic Meter Infrastructure (AMI) Grants
- 8) **Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) Conservation Grant update** - Candice Rupprecht, Tucson Water Superintendent, shared grants the City has actively sought out. The items reviewed and discussed were:
- a) AMI Program for commercial, reclaimed, and Construction meters, including City meters – approved (\$4 million)
 - b) Turf Reduction & Rebate Program – to be reviewed 9/25 (\$1.5 million)
 - c) Housing & Community Development Residential Efficiency Program – submitted 8/31 (\$2.7 million)
- 9) **Future Meeting Agenda Items**
- a) Net Zero Report
 - b) Drought Plan Preparedness
 - i) Low-income (letters) Report, metrics, and outcomes
 - c) Home Water Works Calculator (October)

Citizens' Water Advisory Committee

P.O. Box 27210

Tucson, AZ 85726-7210

(520) 791-2666

Meeting Administrator

(520) 837-2105

Jessica.rodriguez@tucsonaz.gov



- d) Conference: public education venue on conservation
 - i) Program partner presentations

10) **Call to Audience** – None

11) **Adjournment** – The meeting ended at 2:47 p.m.