

Muni-HOA subcommittee summary of September 10, 2015

Confidentiality discussion is premature. Possibly discuss later.

IDWR water rights list for total cfs was discussed. Usage is more important and data will be updated for 2015 as soon as Kevin Lakey has posted it. Current 2014 data has a lot of gaps. With more users being metered over time the gaps will narrow. Pat McMahon will work on getting this data together for the group.

HOA's will stay with Muni group for now but might split later.

Ketchum, through a Water Smart application, will be able to give their customers online ability to check their rates, usage and comparisons as an incentive to grow water usage awareness. See below.

Hailey is in the beginning phases of starting a Landscape Irrigation rebate program for saving water and creating efficiencies. They plan to enlarge this program next year.

Water Resource Board will be funding a grant for smaller groundwater users (< 30 acres) and municipalities for incentivizing water conservation. It is a 1:3 match that will be distributed next year in \$5-20,000 increments – grant total is \$200,000. This grant is funded through the cigarette tax (which is funding large recharge projects in ESPA) so it should be available annually.

Municipality representatives asked for a formal narrative to give to their cities and council for greater clarity on the WR Water Collaborative is and what the collaborative needs from the cities. Not easy, as they have legal counsel, city council and staff to respond to. At this time, they are mostly listening to gain a perspective.

HOA's also need a narrative about the WR Water Collaborative. It would be helpful for HOA's to start looking at solutions they could take to their board now. Ex: don't water empty lots, enforce the .5 acre maximum for irrigation, water during the dark hours, install flow meters to make sure no leakage, use of technology for efficiencies in pumping and distribution. Are individual meters necessary? Tiered rates within HOA's? Golden Eagle HOA is planning to reduce water use by 30%

Water Smart Info: Ketchum residents will have a new tool to find out how much water they're using as part of the city's continuing effort to conserve water. The city has partnered with WaterSmart Software to allow customers to use a mobile app or online customer portal to obtain information on their water usage. WaterSmart lets customers compare their household water usage with similar-sized homes served by the city. The software also can give residents water-saving tips based on their usage.

"This is a tool that can enable us to save water and money and most importantly, put our city on a more sustainable footing for decades to come," Mayor Nina Jonas said. "Knowing the extent of water use is half the battle, and we are giving customers the data they need to make smart decisions," Robyn Mattison, public works director, said.

About 1,400 customers will be able to use the WaterSmart technology starting this October, according to Mattison. The tools also will help city utility employees track water consumption rates and check whether they are in line with historic use.

WaterSmart, based in San Francisco, began operations in 2011 and is being used in 40 communities in seven states. Ketchum is the first small community to bring WaterSmart tools to its customers. This is a pilot program between WaterSmart and Ketchum to help WaterSmart develop a platform that is cost-effective for smaller communities, Mattison said.