

MINUTES

CONVENING: The Board of Public Utilities Water Conservation Subcommittee met on April 1, 2019 at 3:04 pm in Conference Room 3, with Board member Watts and Bannister presiding. Board Member Grabill was absent from the meeting.

PRESENT: Colin Close, Heather Aviles, and Gina Perez

OTHERS PRESENT: None

ITEM NO. 2: PUBLIC COMMENT – NONE

ITEM NO. 3: MINUTES APPROVAL

The minutes for April 19, 2018 were accepted and received.

ITEM NO. 4.1 2019 WATER AWARENESS MONTH

Colin Close introduced the item and Heather Aviles gave an overview of activities planned in celebration of Water Awareness month in May including the Water Awareness Month Proclamation at City Council, Water Smart Expo, and the School Poster contest winners.

ITEM NO. 4.2: WATER-USE EFFICIENCY AWARDS

Colin Close discussed the Annual awards and noted that candidates were selected because they made exemplary, sustainable changes to save water.

The single-family residence recipient, Wilaiwan Roelz, participated in the Green Exchange program by removing 3,667 square feet of lawn from the front yard for an estimated 50,000 gallons per year in water savings.

The Large Landscape recipient, Santa Rosa Junior College, replaced 12,045 square feet of lawn with low water user plants for a projected savings of 216,000 gallons of water each year. In addition, they have begun installing Living Learning Landscapes which will provide residential scale gardens that can be visited, and plans can be downloaded and used as landscape plans.

The Commercial indoor recipient, Amy's Kitchen, participated in a comprehensive water-use efficiency assessment in 2014. In 2018, Amy's implemented a key report recommendation, an ambitious closed loop chilled water system to treat and reuse the Kitchen Kettle Deck cooling water. The change is estimated to reduce over one million gallons of average monthly water consumption, and a 24% reduction in gallons of water per pound of product.

The Water Efficiency Program Champion – Individual, Pamela Van Halsema, Coffey Strong Block

Captain, has participated by developing communication channels with the Coffey Park community and encouraging water sustainability and neighborhood beautification.

The Water Efficiency Program Champion – Commercial recipient, APM Homes, Inc., participated by being supportive of the Sonoma Marin Saving Water Partnership's Landscape Design Template Project that offers designs that emphasize low water use, fire safer plants that meet all City requirements.

Board Member Bannister moved a motion to recommend that City Council recognize these individuals. Board member Watts seconded the motion as presented. She noted that she appreciated the templates and versatility many of the participants offer to the areas included in the rebuild areas.

ITEM NO. 4.3: UPDATE ON GRANTS

Colin Close provided a status update Prop 84 Storm Water Program and Proposition 40 Urban Storm Water Program grants for the City Hall Sustainable Education Garden and noted that the final payment has been received and the project is closed.

He further reported on the Cap-and-Trade / Water-Energy Grant Program and noted that participation is still limited as many restaurants lease qualifying equipment in lieu of purchasing.

He also provided an update on the Prop 84 Program, Drought Response and explained that Round 1 funding covered 67 percent of rebates paid through 2014 and Round 2 funding covered 75 percent of rebates paid since 2014 for customers participating in the Cash for Grass program.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

ATTEST:

Gina Perez, Recording Secretary