

**LCRA Water Conservation Incentives Program Review Committee
Meeting Minutes: Nov. 14, 2018**

The Water Conservation Incentives Program Review Committee convened at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018. The following members attended:

- Mike Hodge, City of Marble Falls, committee chair
- Monica Masters, LCRA Water Resources
- Stephen F. Cooper, LCRA Board of Directors
- Joseph M. "Joe" Crane, LCRA Board of Directors
- George W. Russell, LCRA Board of Directors
- Ken Gorzycki, Horseshoe Bay Resort
- Eric Rauschuber, City of Cedar Park

Committee Member John Hoffman of South Texas Project Electric Generating Station was absent. LCRA staff members Valerie Miller, Jack Jones and Stacy Pandey also participated.

Miller presented the last meeting's minutes and introduced Monica Masters and Eric Rauschuber to the committee. Masters is LCRA's vice president of Water Resources, and Rauschuber is the Cedar Park director of utilities.

Jones presented the City of Marble Falls cost-share project proposal. Marble Falls requested \$56,840 to install advanced metering infrastructure to shift from monthly to hourly meter readings. It also will implement the WaterSmart customer portal to communicate messages about potential leak notifications, water conservation rebates and seasonal irrigation reminders. The estimated annual water savings will be about 49 acre-feet per year, with an annualized cost to LCRA of \$150 per a-f saved. Committee members unanimously approved the staff-recommended grant amount of \$56,840. This will leave a budget of \$143,160 for the spring application period.

Pandey gave a status report on two completed projects and updates on two other projects. Staff received a final report from the City of Marble Falls in August 2018 on its reuse project. The reuse line is complete, and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality approved the permit amendment to extend the line into Meadowlakes. Staff also received a completion report for the Dripping Springs Water Supply Corporation Advanced Metering Infrastructure project. The infrastructure is in place, and the utility is successfully using the analytic software to detect leaks within its system. Dripping Springs WSC began promoting the customer portal in October and expects the project will be completed by December 2018.

Last spring, the committee approved an extension until December 2018 for the West Travis County Public Utility Agency's leak-detection survey project, with the understanding that staff would develop a loan-out program for any LCRA firm water customer to have access to the underutilized leak-detection equipment. The program will allow a customer to use the equipment for one year after completing the software training. WTCPUA did not want to manage an equipment-sharing program with other firm water customers, so it opted to return the equipment. WTCPUA agreed to return the majority of the equipment, except for asset management software the agency is still using. WTCPUA will return that portion of the grant, which was valued at \$24,940. Staff worked with LCRA's Legal staff to draft three agreements to facilitate managing a leak-detection equipment loan program:

- One to repossess the leak-detection equipment and software from the WTCPUA.
- One between the leak-detection software provider and LCRA to clarify that LCRA will

- not be responsible for obtaining a software license.
- One between LCRA and a firm water customer to lease the equipment.

Lakeway Municipal Utility District will be the first firm water customer to use the equipment.

One project the committee approved in May 2018 was not executed. The new president of Windermere Oaks Water Supply Corporation declined to sign the agreement with LCRA to accept cost-share funds for the water and wastewater treatment plant recycling projects. Staff encouraged the corporation's general manager to reapply for the project in the future.

Miller gave an update on the fiscal year 2018 rebate programs. The number of program rebates increased significantly compared to previous years. Smart controllers were the highest-volume rebate, followed by compost and mulch. In FY 2018, LCRA gave rebates on 59 smart controllers compared to 79 smart controller rebates already processed in FY 2019.

The committee discussed the resignation of Ken Gorzycki from the committee. Staff will propose a replacement committee member.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

