

EBMUD Technical Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
11/14/2016
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Present:

Tom Stewart
Jerri McNair
Eric Santos
Kristin Bowman
Maura Baldwin
Dona Wessells

Absent:

Chris McNairy
Helmut Winkelhake

Item 1: Review EBMUD's feedback on Water Budget Calculator Proposal

Kristin shared the feedback on the water budget design tool. Committee likes the concept and feels pushing residential customers into thinking about a budget is cutting edge. They also said thank you.

Here is their feedback:

1. Separate plant water use from irrigation water use
2. Show comparison between previous water use to new water use
3. Couple the water budget calculator to an irrigation scheduling tool
4. Would like to see some examples of graphics and would like to see examples of output

The task group understands the feedback but has some concerns about increasing the complexity for home owners and would like to get a better understanding of why EBMUD feels there's a need to show plant water use separately. We would also like to ask EBMUD what they would like to see in an irrigation scheduler

Item 2: Next Meeting

The group would like to meet and get together on December 12th to create a story board of how we anticipate residential customers navigating through the water budget calculator

Item 3: Future Meetings in 2017

After the discussion the group agreed to continue having the tech committee meetings on the 3rd Monday of the month or prior to the General LAC meetings

Side Discussion between Item 3 and Item 4:

Jerri wanted to know if we considered using any of the other items that provided links to other people.

Dan mentioned that the EPA water budgeting tool has what we need but not the numbers we would like. If the EPA changed their tool and created adjustments for us, we would be able to use it for what we are trying to do.

Prior to and at our next meeting, Jerri asked us to summarize our ideas on a revised sheet she will send out.

Item 4: Smart Controller Buyers Guide

EPA has a smart controllers buyer guide but there is a lot of information that is provided on a water sense labeled products.

We need a short manageable list of key items to help customers

Dan asked how is it programmed and what do we do if its programmed wrong

Our guide should address the benefits of smart controllers and helping residents understand the benefits of a smart controller. Our guide should be focused and simplified to the top 10 most important features of a smart controller.

Closing Comments / Action Items

1. Kristin will schedule a meeting for someone from the committee to meet with EBMUD to discuss the calculator
2. Jerri will send out a matrix for us to comment on other websites
3. Prior to the next meeting, committee members will review the other websites and be prepared to have group discussion on likes and dislikes at our next meeting as we begin to draft up our vision of how the water budget calculator will work.
4. Our next meeting will be December 12th at 2 pm