

MINUTES

Waste Water Treatment Advisory Committee Meeting

Time: 11:30am

Date: Thursday, April 20, 2017

Place: Petaluma Campus, PC602

MINUTES of April 20, 2017 Meeting

Members in Attendance: Chris Finton, Leah Walker, Hal Race, Keith Baldanza, Karen Bolan, Veronica Astells

Non-Voting Members Present: Pat Gothard

Members Attending as Proxy:

Members Absence: Robert Rawson

Staff in Attendance: James Kenney, Vince Bertsch, Victor Tam, Leena Her, Chris Murray, Catherine Williams

Invited Guests: Erik Westerman

Was there a quorum Yes No (if no quorum the meeting can be canceled)

1. Call to Order: Catherine called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.
2. Welcome/Introductions
 - Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting – Motion to accept the minutes from November 17, 2016 meeting was made by Veronica Astells and seconded by Erik Waterman to approve as submitted.
3. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting – Motion to accept the minutes from November 17, 2016 meeting was made by Veronica Astells and seconded by Erik Waterman to approve as submitted.
4. Announcements:
5. Public/Industry comments:
 - City of Santa Rosa looking for interns across the board with water dept., done once a year as a pool and look to hire 3-5 interns depending on needs of different sections.
 - Opening for 1-2 interns at Sonoma County Water Agency, paid at \$17 hour 32-40 hours a week until hours are completed.
 - 3-5 interns at Windsor for 20 hours a week OIT position depending on budget approval in July.
 - Napa has a possibility of 4 unpaid internships
 - Program graduate Scott Mullens is now working at City of Santa Rosa.
 - Asked to send out to committee and Work Experience Office.
6. Unfinished Committee Business:
 - a. Discussion Items
7. New Business/Discussion:

8. Updates:

Industry Updates:

- Leah Godsey Walker – Update from the Wastewater Operator Certification Advisory Committee-AB2890 (handout). Licensing moves to every three years now, Recycled Water operations will most likely require licensing in the near future, and all were happy with Governor's decision to press forward with water reclamation and reuse strategy for the state as a whole.
- Jim Kenney-Welcome visitor Erik Westerman, Superintendent of Operations at MMWD.
- Advisory Committee Member Veronica Astells-Updated the group on Student and Young Professionals Committee and current events-The November fall mixer had 13 students who were excited to interact with agencies and see about opportunities. 2 students got leads for internships coming up. Trying my best to relay the CWEA and scholarship opportunities and anything that come up. I just took a position on the state student and professional chair, so hopefully I will be getting some more resources to share with you. It was suggested that Advisory Members should come to the mixers if time allows. We are looking for more resources from the state. WTR to pair with CWEA Young People for a mixer in the fall.
- Department/Program updates: Catherine Williams, Dean of Instruction
 - Location of the water/wastewater programs (**handout**)-It will stay in Petaluma for now, it makes sense to stay with all the building projects going on at SR Campus. Petaluma is happy to keep and support the program.
 - a. Water/Wastewater Industry Liaison position description (**handout**) this is a rough draft and need all your edits. A grant was written and awarded and will fund this part time, short-term non continuous position. Position will work approximately 16 weeks in the fall and 16 weeks in the spring at 10 hours per week. Goal is to collaborate with utilities to develop internships and to engage in outreach and marketing activities to increase awareness of SRJC's W/WW Programs. Recruitment starts at the beginning of June. The draft edits due to Catherine Williams by end of April. The partnership of CWEA and SRJC is to provide and coordinate connection between agencies and college. Bay-works or AWWA might be a good resource too. 3rd item on position summary could potentially be outreach to get a list of professionals who are already working in the W/WW field and need continuing education units.
- Vince Bertsch, Department Chair for Applied Technology Water/ Wastewater Curriculum (**handout**) Phase 1 made it through the local board and now is in the Chancellor Office for final approval which takes up to a year to get done. Phase 2 is focusing on the 3 skills certifications and will go to AAC on May 1st. We are looking to keep up pace to make sure we are getting formal papers through the process to cert and major committee mid May. 3 skills certs don't require State level approval. See how they tie into existing programs. Program projection is a 13% growth. There is a 6 year cycle to review curriculum process which has been done.
- Chris Murray-Equipment purchases this year-Prop 39 monies used to purchase analytical equipment such as pH probes, colorimeters, microscopes, and a chemical oxygen demand (COD) reactor. Request donations from agencies, Chris has some used pumps to donate to the college.
- Patricia Goddard/Leena Her – CTE meeting regarding SRJC Work Experience and Internship Department. The Liaison position will help. Need to promote work study program through our classes.

- Succession Planning for Adjunct Instructors
 - Interviews to ID a small pool of substitutes
 - Adjunct Faculty not moving to SRJC main campus and who will backfill.-applications are accepted at any time for WW adjunct positions. Application process is online at [Water/Wastewater adjunct pool](#)
 - Question regarding a student interested in water through has GI bill but VA won't pay for certificate only for AS degree program. VA will only pay for classes only listed under AS degree. Is it possible to change Wastewater classes to electives for the AS? Programs are almost identical? We need to reach out to VA Coordinator. A discussion was brought forth to include waste water classes as part of the AS requirements in electives
9. Action Items:
- A motion was brought forth that the planned phase 2 additions of the three skills certifications are approved and we can add the two water classes to the Wastewater major. The motion approved by Karen Bolan and seconded by Chris Finton. It was unanimously approved.**
10. Next Steps/Comments/Wrap Up: Recycle Water Reuse
11. Moving towards Resource Recovery Facilities-energy neutrality and beyond.
12. Adjournment: 12:50pm

NOTE: The next Waste Water Treatment Advisory Committee meeting will be held November 16, 2017