



Meeting Agenda

Water for 2060 Advisory Council

Crop Irrigation Efficiency Workshop

Date: May 20, 2014

Time: 1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Location: OWRB Board Room – 3800 N. Classen, Oklahoma City

Introductions and Goals for Today

1:00-1:10

- Advisory Council Members
- Staff Support and Guests
- Goals for Today's Workshop

Where We've Been and Where We're Headed (March 10, 2014 memo)

1:10-1:30

- 2013 Background Report and Workshops 1, 2, and 3
- Hot Spot Basin Public Meetings and upcoming Water for 2060 detailed analyses
- TODAY: Short-list recommendations for Public Water Supply and Crop Irrigation
- 3Q2014 Workshop: Efficiency incentives for other water use sectors, such as oil and gas, industrial uses, and power generation
- 4Q2014 Workshop: Discuss existing financial assistance programs and potential enhancements toward greater water use efficiency; statutory or regulatory changes to facilitate additional conservation; preliminary findings from the Hot Spot Basin analyses; refine the working list of recommendations to be included in the Council's 2015 report
- 1Q-2Q2015: Draft report, Advisory Council Workshop to discuss/refine report
- 3Q2015: Report submitted to Governor and Legislature

Review of Public Water Supply Concepts (60 min.), Break (15 min.), Review of Crop Irrigation Concepts (60 min.)

1:30-3:45

- Review lists from previous discussions and considerations – see separate handout
- Brainstorming of additional concepts for incentives and programs
- Prioritization of incentives we can recommend to the Governor and Legislature

Next Steps and Group Resources

3:45-4:00

- Next meeting: content and timing
- Panhandle irrigation tour
- [Water for 2060 web page](#)



Water for 2060 Advisory Council

To: Water for 2060 Advisory Council Members
From: J.D. Strong, Advisory Council Chair
Date: March 10, 2014
Subject: Advisory Council Status and Next Steps

The Water for 2060 Advisory Council has taken significant steps toward understanding the many ways Oklahomans are using water efficiently from across our state and across many uses. Importantly, we have also heard from leaders in public water supply, irrigated agriculture, and state and federal agencies about opportunities to build on those successes in concert with the Water for 2060 initiative. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your participation thus far, share a brief recap of where we've been, and look ahead to how we will be drawing on your expertise and perspectives to meet the Advisory Council's legislative directive.

Key steps along this path have included:

- Development of a Background Report (July 2013, available at <http://www.owrb.ok.gov/supply/2060council/BackgroundReport.pdf>) recapping the Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan findings regarding potential statewide water conservation savings, highlighting some of the best practices for water efficiency in Oklahoma and across the country, and describing some initial concepts for potential measures to incentivize additional efficiencies.
- Advisory Council Kickoff Meeting (August 2013), where we reviewed and discussed the Advisory Council's legislative charge, discussed highlights of the Background Report, and brainstormed concepts for increasing water efficiency in Oklahoma.
- Advisory Council Public Water Supply Workshop (November 2013), where we focused on the Public Water Supply sector and discussed measures that would be attractive to, and effective for, water providers across our state and discussed ways of further incentivizing municipal and rural water district efficiencies.
- Advisory Council Crop Irrigation Workshop (February 2014), which focused on Crop Irrigation successes to date and opportunities to increase water efficiency. This meeting also provided a forum for identifying additional incentives for increasing water conservation and other efficiency measures.

Agendas, presentations, and summaries for each of the Water for 2060 Advisory Council meetings are posted to OWRB's Water for 2060 website (<http://www.owrb.ok.gov/supply/conservation.php>).

Looking ahead, I want to relay to you our next steps toward fulfilling the Advisory Council's duties. To provide a framework for that, I'm providing an excerpt from House Bill 3055 that set the authority and responsibilities for the Advisory Council:

Section 4.E: The Advisory Council shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

1. Recommend incentives to encourage improved irrigation and farming techniques, more efficient infrastructure, use of water recycling/reuse systems, promotion of "smart" irrigation techniques, control of invasive species, artificial recharge of aquifers, and increased use of marginal quality and brackish waters;

2. Make recommendations regarding the expansion of education programs that modify and improve consumer water-use habits; and

3. Enhance existing, or develop new, financial assistance programs that encourage Oklahoma water systems to implement leak detection and repair programs that result in reduced loss and waste of water, as well as encourage consolidation and regionalization of smaller systems in order to utilize limited resources most efficiently.

4.F: The Advisory Council shall submit a final report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and President Pro Tempore of the Senate no later than three (3) years following the effective date of this act [November 1, 2012].

4.G: Activities of the Advisory Council shall terminate no later than December 31, 2015.

In related work, OWRB has partnered with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct an in-depth analysis of the potential roles of water conservation, marginal quality water use, and regionalization of public water supply systems in three OCWP-designated "Hot Spot" basins in western Oklahoma. By demonstrating the potential for efficiency at a local level, the Hot Spot basin studies will be used to further the Water for 2060 goals and may help serve as models for implementation of additional efficiencies for water users statewide. Analyses will be ongoing throughout 2014, and will be initiated following a series of public meetings (March 2014). This work is being conducted separately from the Advisory Council's legislatively-directed duties, but Advisory Council members can be briefed on the Hot Spot basin analyses during the 2014-2015 Advisory Council workshops described below.

OWRB plans on convening four additional Advisory Council meetings, each of which will be used to shape the recommendations we make back to the Governor and the Legislature in 2015. We propose the following framework for taking the input we've received to date, and generating and vetting potential recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature:

- May 2014: Advisory Council Workshop to synthesize input received in the Public Water Supply and Crop Irrigation Workshops and develop a short-list of recommendations we can include in our report back to the Governor and the Legislature regarding incentives for irrigation techniques, infrastructure improvements, water reuse and marginal quality water use, and other measures such as invasive species control. Council members will be asked to review information on the Water for 2060 website and come prepared with some recommendations to discuss. OWRB staff will post additional reference sources (such as case studies/examples relating to conservation in other states) on the website as time and resources allow, so please check back periodically.
- Third Quarter 2014: Advisory Council Workshop to consider other water use sectors, such as oil and gas, industrial uses, and power generation, and methods for encouraging and facilitating increased water efficiency in those sectors. As with the

previous Public Water Supply and Crop Irrigation workshops, representatives from these water use sectors will be asked to participate in the workshop to help develop and validate measures and incentives for further consideration by the Advisory Council.

- Fourth Quarter 2014: Advisory Council Workshop to discuss existing financial assistance programs and potential enhancements toward greater water use efficiency; to discuss necessary statutory or regulatory changes to the current water rights administration framework that would facilitate additional conservation; to review preliminary findings from the Hot Spot Basin analyses regarding regionalization of public water supply systems; and to refine the working list of recommendations to be included in the Council's 2015 report to the Governor and the Legislature.
- First/Second Quarter 2015: Develop Draft Advisory Council Report and hold an Advisory Council Workshop to review and refine the draft report.
- Third Quarter 2015: Submit final Advisory Council Report to the Governor and the Legislature.

We encourage you to provide feedback on this framework, to help ensure that the OWRB team is providing you with the information and framework you need to complete your Advisory Council duties. Again, thank you for your continued participation and input.