

## OWOW 2015 Integration and Pillar Workshop

April 23, 2015

### Pillar Member Present

Joe Grindstaff	Water Use Efficiency
John Rossi	Operational Efficiency & Water Transfers
Doug Headrick	Water Conveyance and Transport
Nick Kanetis for Paul Jones	Water Resource Optimization
Greg Woodside for Mike Markus	Beneficial Use Assurance
Jason Uhley for Warren “Dusty” Williams	Stormwater: Resources & Risk Management
James Ferro for Craig Perkins	Energy & Environmental Impact Response

### **Introduction**

The workshop commenced at 9:25 a.m. at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) located at 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.

The Call for Projects was announced last Friday. Projects are due Wednesday, May 27, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

### **Submittal Form**

Mark Norton of SAWPA introduced Peter Vitt, GIS Manager and developer of the OWOW 2015 Implementation Project Submission Project Form. He provided the access link at [www.sawpa.net/prop84/flex/prop84.html](http://www.sawpa.net/prop84/flex/prop84.html) (Adobe Flash player is required) and instructions on how to submit information such as the benefits and costs for a project.

It was recommended that applicants review the ‘Help’ tab and download the Word version of questions that will be asked in the program. Mr. Vitt said that it would be best that the applicants write their answers in the Word version and later copy and paste them into the submittal form.

He noted that applicants must first register to begin the form. If multiple users are editing one project, they must use the same username and password used to register that project.

It was suggested by Mr. Uhley that it would be helpful if applicants could upload KMZ files. Mr. Vitt stated he will work on making that possible. SAWPA staff indicated that they will be using the Department of Water Resources’ definition of DAC. He noted that users should not insert characters (e.g. %, \$.) into the data fields.

Mr. Vitt noted that when an application is complete, they will be able to edit submitted project as long as it is complete by May 27, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. Proposed projects will be mapped along with all other projects that have been submitted under the ‘Map of OWOW Prop 84 2015 IRWM Projects Submitted’ tab.

### **Project Review Committee**

Larry McKenney of SAWPA mentioned that the OWOW Steering Committee had recommended the OWOW 2015 Implementation Criteria to the SAWPA Commission which then ratified them. He explained that the Project Review Committee (PRC) will provide an independent and expert review of the top ranked submissions. Past PRC members were selected in previous OWOW Proposition 84 rounds for their knowledge of water, both technically and at a policy level, their understanding and leadership in developing integrated approaches to problem solving and their knowledge of the Santa Ana River Watershed.

In the past, the PRC has been a group of three to four people with a mixture of academic experience, water resources and policy, and knowledge of the Santa Ana River Watershed. In OWOW Round 2, SAWPA asked the Committee to interview the top ranked project applicants.

In the current round, SAWPA staff is proposing to use a Committee that is composed of three to five individuals with technical and other expertise, independent decision making skills, familiarity with the watershed, even temperament, economic skills, and an understanding of an integrated watershed vision. Discussions ensued about individuals who are ineligible to sit in on the Committee. Mr. Grindstaff has sat on the Committee in the past and was able to provide a brief explanation of his experience and how SAWPA staff interacted with the Committee. Upon being asked what he would have changed during the review process, Mr. Grindstaff claimed that he would have liked for agencies who knew of some sort of conflict or an inaccuracy with a project to speak up and bring it to the attention of the Committee before a recommendation to the OWOW Steering Committee was made.

Due to the short time window, it was highly recommended by the Pillars that SAWPA staff hire a consultant to review the projects before they are reviewed by the Committee.

The following are individuals were discussed as good candidates to serve on the PRC:

- Bill Dendy - Retired SAWPA General Manager
- Wyatt Troxel – Water Resources Consultant
- Bill Mills - Retired OCWD General Manager
- Steve PonTell – Former Regional Water Board member
- Paul Brown - Water Resources and Sustainability Consultant
- Ariel Dinar – Professor of Environmental Economics and Policy, UCR
- Carole Beswick - Former Regional Water Board member
- Kathy Kunysz - Metropolitan Water
- P Ravishanker - Retired EMWD Deputy Manager
- NGOs or environmental group leaders– Not a project proponent and doesn't necessarily have to be retired.
- District of Southern California
- Kamyar Guivetchi – Department of Water Resources

Mr. McKenney stated he believes the pool of projects will be small this year. He noted that the Integrated Regional Water Management grant application is due to the Department of Water Resources on August 7, 2015.

Mr. Norton stated that, based on feedback from the state, it is likely that the DWR Final Proposal Solicitation Package will stay the same as the draft version for the most part.

The next Pillar Workshop is scheduled for Thursday, May 28, 2015.

OWOW Project Submittal Weekly Support Meetings were scheduled every Wednesday at 1:30 pm until May 20 to assist project proponents on the application process. Mr. Norton noted that a FAQ sheet will be prepared and posted to the SAWPA OWOW website with updated questions and answers as they come in from the support meetings.

**10:45 am adjourned.**