California Water Data Consortium

California Water Data Consortium
Steering Committee Meeting Notes
May 10, 2022
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Goals
- Discuss the Consortium's role in the Internet of Water
- Provide an update on Consortium projects and potential decision points

Meeting Documents
Item 1a. CWDC SC May 10, 2022 Agenda
Item 1b. CWDC SC May 10, 2022 Meeting Memo
Item 2. CWDC Steering Committee Feb 8 Public Session Meeting Notes
Item 3a. IoW Coalition Charter
Item 3b. IoW FAQs
Item 4. Consortium Projects Overview Q2 2022

Action Items
- Please let staff know if you are interested in joining the ad hoc Consortium/Partner Agency Team Coordination committee.
- Please let staff know if you are interested in helping with the Data for Lunch series.
- Look for an RSVP from staff for an upcoming BBQ.

Welcome, Goals, and Agenda Overview
Chris McCready, Consortium Steering Committee Co-Chair opened the meeting at 1:00 pm. There was not a quorum present. Ms. McCready reviewed the agenda.

Tara Moran reviewed Steering Committee (SC) expectations and provided an overview of the types of agenda items SC members can anticipate as the Committee transitions to quarterly SC meetings. First, SC members should come to meetings familiar with the approval and discussion items covered in the SC memo provided by staff prior to the meeting. Second, whenever possible, SC members should notify staff in advance of any SC meeting where they will not be present or can only attend a portion of the meeting. Doing so enables staff and SC Co-Chairs to adjust the meeting agenda to ensure there is quorum for approval items.

SC agenda items will fall into one of three categories: approval items, discussion items, and update items. Approval items are approved by majority vote as outlined in the SC Charter. There are two different types of discussion items: 1) items that may come back to the SC for approval at a later date, or 2) decision items that staff are grappling with and are seeking guidance from the SC on. Finally, staff are going to start tying agenda items to specific goals that came out of the Consortium's Mission/Vision/Principles/Goals process and document.

Approval Items

Approve: Meeting minutes from February 8th Public Session

The Steering Committee did not approve the meeting minutes as there was not a quorum present.

Approve: Invitation to Join Internet of Water Coalition

Dr. Moran introduced Peter Colohan from the Internet of Water (IoW). Earlier this year, IoW launched its coalition. Dr. Moran and Mr. Colohan have discussed the possibility of the Consortium joining the Internet of Water Coalition. Mr. Colohan gave a presentation on the Internet of Water and its mission and principles.

Drew Atwater joined the meeting at approximately 1:30 p.m.

Mr. Colohan explained the structure and goals of the Internet of Water Coalition. He also outlined the roles and responsibilities of coalition members. The current term limit for coalition members has been set as two consecutive three-year terms.

- Questions/Discussion
    - The IoW would like the Consortium to be an organizational member but, if that is not possible, they would like Dr. Moran to serve as an individual expert.x`
    - The IoW needs to have some internal discussions about organizational vs individual membership and how term lengths work.
    - IoW and Consortium staff will circle back with the Consortium Steering Committee once they have answers to the questions raised above.

Mr. Colohan left the meeting at approximately 1:40 p.m.

Informational and Discussion Items

Overview of Existing Consortium Projects and Programs

Dr. Moran announced the Consortium has a new working group co-chair who has joined us today. Rafa Maestu, one of the Consortium's working group-chairs, introduced Darcy Bostic as the fourth Consortium working group co-chair.

Dr. Moran provided project updates.

Groundwater Accounting and Data Reporting Project

- Project Objectives:
    - Groundwater Accounting Platform Scaling
        - Expansion of accounting functionality
        - Integration of open-source scenario planning and visualization features
        - Integration of additional data inputs
    - Co-Development of data reporting format

- Progress:
    - This project is transitioning from Phase 1, where the Consortium has been focused on expanding infrastructure, to Phase 2, where the project will be working with pilot partners to build out and test platform functionality and data reporting formats. Phase 2 will be funded by the USBR Water Smart Grant and Department of Water Resources.
    - Pilot Partners
        - Confirmed Platform pilot partners include: Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, Merced Irrigation-Urban Groundwater Sustainability Agency, and Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. The project team is having ongoing conversation with Sonoma Valley Water Agency.
        - There are many state and local agencies are involved in data reporting format development through the project's quarterly Technical work group.
- Next Steps:
    - Data Reporting Format Developments
        - Official launch: June 14th in Technical work group meeting
        - The Department of Water Resources is currently reviewing a Task Order to support this work.

<u>Urban Water Reporting Project</u>

- Progress:
    - Interviews with local agencies have been completed.
    - State reporting templates have been completed.
    - The quantitative analysis has been completed.
- Next Steps:
    - We are currently developing a pre-workshop document outlining findings from the reporting templates, interviews, and quantitative analysis, as well as some potential solutions which will be the basis for workshop discussion.
    - The Consortium will host a workshop on June 6th on urban water use and supply reporting.
    - We have invited individuals from a range of organizations, including state agencies, local agencies, and data users. Approximately 50 people RSVP'd. We tried to limit the size of this event, firstly because it is in-person and COVID remains a concern and 2) we want to ensure that the group is small enough to have productive conversations.

<u>LiDAR Project</u>

- Progress:

    - The LiDAR work group continues to work to expand collaboration.
- Next Steps:
    - The Consortium will host a virtual workshop on May 16th focused on LiDAR-derived products.
    - This work group is considering a second workshop for summer 2022. They may come back to this group for advice.

Equity Workgroup

- This work group was formed last fall and has been meeting on the 4th Wednesday of each month.
- The group is working on a community engagement strategy. Additionally, Consortium consultants have been doing some research on engagement best practices and engagement mechanisms such as stipends, internships, etc.

Other Updates

- Value of Water Data Project
    - Progress:
        - Staff and consultants have completed interviews with individuals across a range of sectors to understand the value of water data in water management decision-making, as well as to identify data gaps or issues that prevent people from accessing or using water data and the impacts those issues are causing.
    - Staff learned a lot from these interviews and there was a lot of consistency in the water data-related themes reported by interviewees. Next Steps
        - Near-term: We are currently developing a technical report and policy brief, which will come out in mid-July.
        - Long term: We anticipate using the themes identified in the interview to facilitate focus group discussions around collective solutions.
    - Look for items to review in coming months. There will be deadlines for feedback because we are running a tight timeline to complete these products.
- Data for Lunch
    - Building out topics for the year, aligned with goals from the Consortium's last Steering Committee meeting
    - Want to highlight tools, groups, and resources related to equity
    - Ms. McCready and the Partner Agency Team have expressed an interest in actively partnering with the Consortium on the Data for Lunch series
    - Staff encourages anyone who is interested and wants to be involved in shaping these events moving forward to contact staff.
- Partner Agency Team MOU
    - During the Steering Committee's last meeting of 2021, Dr. Moran briefly discussed growing interest in developing a document outlining the commitment between the

Partner Agency Team and the Consortium. There is a growing interest in continuing this conversation. Mike Antos and Ms. McCready volunteered to join an ad hoc committee. Please let staff know if you are interested in joining the ad hoc committee. Any work completed by the ad hoc committee will come back to the Steering Committee for review.

- Steering Committee Conflict of Interest
    - The Consortium has received Bureau of Reclamation grant, as part of that, the Consortium is updating the Steering Committee Conflict of Interest form to comply with Federal requirements. The revised forms will be sent out later this year.

Steering Committee Member Updates

- Steering Committee members and Working Group co-chairs shared updates on new tools that have been released, hiring updates, and upcoming events, including a drinking water needs assessment tool developed by the State Water Resources Control Board and the upcoming California Water Data Challenge and Water Data Science Symposium, and the California Data Collaborative's Annual California Water Data Summit.

The public portion of the Steering Committee ended at approximately 2:25 p.m.

Meeting Attendance

Participants who called in to the virtual meeting via telephone only are not included in this list.

Steering Committee Members

- **Deb Agarwal,** Department Head and Senior Scientist, Data Science and Technology Department, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- **Drew Atwater,** Manager of Rates, Charges, and Financial Planning, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- **Joy Bonaguro,** Chief Data Officer, State of California
- **Martha Davis,** Retired Assistant General Manager/Executive Manager for Policy Development for Inland Empire Utilities
- **Nick Martorano**, Director, California Water Quality Monitoring Council
- **Chris McCready,** Principal Engineer, California Department of Water Resources

Working Group Co-Chairs

- **Mahesh Gautam,** Senior Water Resources Engineer, California Department of Water Resources
- **Sadie Gill,** Senior Data Scientist, FlowWest
- **Rafael Maestu,** Economist and Chief Data Scientist, CA State Water Resources Control Board
- **Darcy Bostic,** Data and Impact Manager, Rural Community Assistance Corporation

Board Members

Consortium Staff, Volunteers, and Consultants

- **Amanda Miller**, Program Operations Manager, California Water Data Consortium
- **Tara Moran**, President and CEO, California Water Data Consortium
- **Brent Vanderburgh,** Senior Geologist Specialist at the State Water Resources Control Board

Other Participants

- **Peter Colohan**, Director, Internet of Water