



**TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY**  
**Water Conservation Committee Special Meeting**  
**Monday February 1, 2016**  
**2 PM Town Hall Conference Room**  
**765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, CA**

**WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 2:03 PM

**Roll Call:**

Committee Members:

Present: Al Sill, Delle Maxwell, Judith Murphy, Rebecca Flynn, Mia Giovanni, Loverine Taylor, Brandi de Garreaux, Maryann Derwin

Absent: Whitney Lane

Visitors: Debbie Mendelsohn

**Oral Communications:**

Maryann: Palo Alto is not passing the BAWSCA version of WELO – they are concerned that it is too bureaucratic. She distributed an article about State Senator Jerry Hill’s proposed legislation to publicly identify and levy at least a \$500 fine on excessive water users.

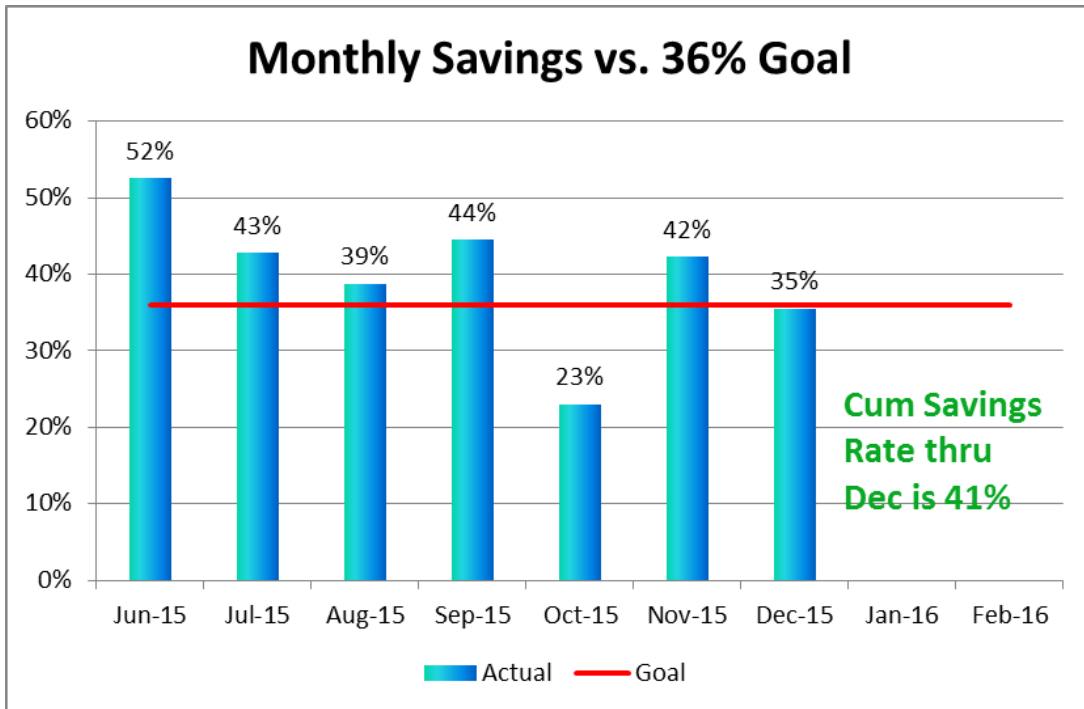
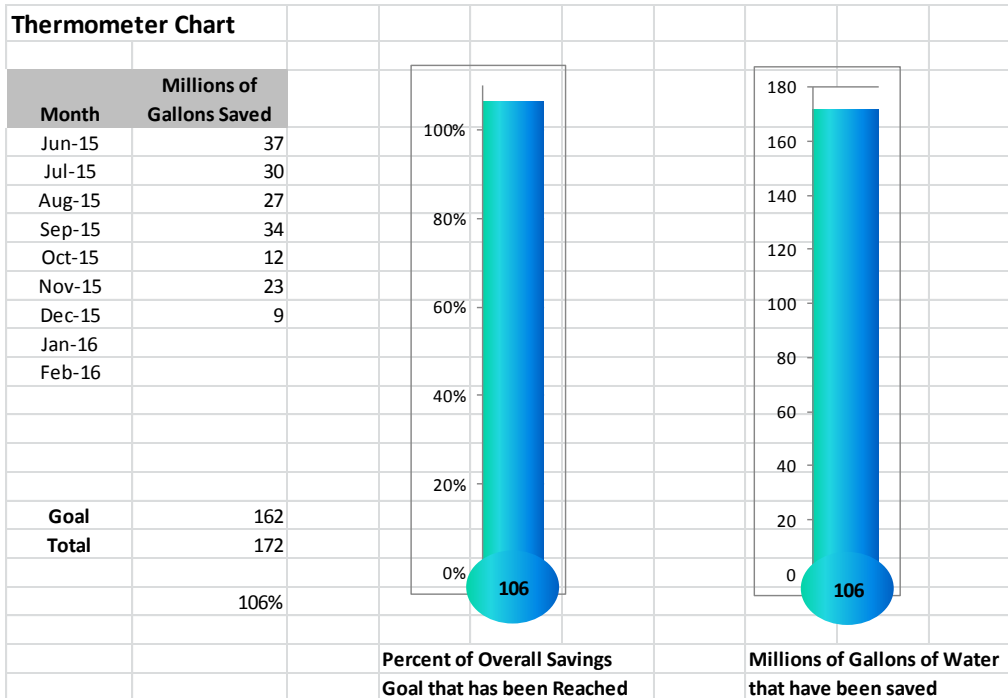
Debbie – Public Policy Institute – she will email us links to their info

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the January 6 meeting were approved as written.

**Old Business:**

**December 2015 Water Conservation Results**

Conservation results for December were encouraging. Consumption was 35% below the 2013 baseline just missing the 36% goal. December, January, and February have been anticipated to be the toughest months to meet goal because little of the consumption in those months is landscaping. Cum savings rate through December is 41%. As of the end of December, we had exceeded our gallons saved target for the end of Feb’16 (172M gallons saved vs. a goal of 162M gallons saved). Of course, we still can’t significantly miss the goal during Jan and Feb or we will miss the overall target.



DATA		Jun-13	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	Jan-13	Feb-13	TOTAL
<b>2013 Usage</b>	CCF	95,425	93,088	93,318	101,555	67,655	74,379	34,687	18,891	22,167	601,165
		<b>Jun-15</b>	<b>Jul-15</b>	<b>Aug-15</b>	<b>Sep-15</b>	<b>Oct-15</b>	<b>Nov-15</b>	<b>Dec-15</b>	<b>Jan-16</b>	<b>Feb-16</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Savings Needed</b> (0.36*2013 Usage)	CCF	34,353	33,512	33,594	36,560	24,356	26,776	12,487	6,801	7,980	216,419
<b>2015/16 Usage</b>	CCF	45,406	53,351	57,221	56,464	52,178	43,013	22,407			330,040
<b>2015/16 Savings</b>	CCF	50,019	39,737	36,097	45,091	15,477	31,366	12,280			230,067
<b>Cum Savings</b>	CCF	50,019	89,756	125,853	170,944	186,421	217,787	230,067			
<b>Cum Savings Rate</b>		52.4%	47.6%	44.7%	44.6%	41.3%	41.5%	41.1%			

### Updates from Cal Water

Brandi – smart meters: Cal Water is working on their strategy. The first installations will probably be targeted towards Los Trancos. Flow meters (end point meter) should be available for installation in the Feb/Mar timeframe; Cal Water staff is currently being trained.

If you are interested in getting on the list to get a smart meter/flow meter, call Cal Water and tell them you are interested. Brandi will check with Cal Water on how to submit a list of interested residents.

Purissima Hills has implemented an upgraded Badger meter with an Orion beacon meter as a smart meter solution for its high volume users. Purissima Hills has an employee that focuses on leak detection by looking for anomalies in daily consumption data. Cal Water is much slower to react. PV had a pipe break in Triangle Park around Christmas and used more than 100x the normal amount for a period of time before the leak was detected.

Cal Water is drawing 25 gift cards for best conservers. They are trying to deliver them now. They will query the winners about what they changed to see what they can learn for best practices. Cal Water also recently met with 12 large property owners in Bear Gulch about successes and challenges.

### Status of Updates to WELO & Green Building Ordinance:

#### WELO (Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance)

It was approved by the ASCC in December. It was reviewed by the Planning Commission on Jan 6. The Town Council adopted it on January 13. It goes into effect in February.

#### Green Building Ordinance

The current plan is for it to be presented to the ASCC and Planning Commission in the Feb/Mar timeframe. There are some remaining questions on diverter valves for gray water installations. That should be cleaned up after a scheduled meeting with a plumber. February 22 is the target date for a presentation to the ASCC.

### **Update from Smart Irrigation Controller Subcommittee:**

A main area of focus is to educate residents on smart irrigation controllers. We are trying to get set up for a class. Lori Palmquist would be a good choice but she is already booked until Fall 2016. Brandi is going to go ahead and try to get a class scheduled. The subcommittee plans to meet with Maryann and John Richards on their personal experiences installing smart controllers at their homes.

### **Update on Adding Energy Analysis to H2Oknow Tool**

HEA is merging the water survey with their energy analysis tool. This may expand the potential audience for the H2Oknow tool. Brandi took this to the town council in January and it was approved. Cal Water is changing the feed so Steve at HEA may need to do a little more work. The combined tool will get a new name. The HEA energy analysis tool has a great record on persistence of improvements (12% for kwh and 20% on therms for persistence on 32 energy users over the long term). Brandi is looking for some assistance from Committee members. Al volunteered to help. Brandi is considering some sort of giftpack to encourage residents to sign up.

### **Plans for 2016**

A significant portion of the meeting was devoted to discussing goals for 2016. There are three PowerPoint slides attached at the end that summarize the output from that discussion.

We are slated for the Water Conservation Committee annual presentation to the Town Council in the mid to late March time frame.

### **New Business**

**Low water use landscaping class (with Cal Water) – Saturday, Feb 20<sup>th</sup>** (Rebecca, Judy, Debbie, Mia)

**Earth Fair – Saturday, April 23 11:00 to 2:30**

- PV hosting this year, theme is food waste
- WCC table – possible content: water bill analysis, rain barrels, water timer, smart controller, flow meter, ...
- Subcommittee: Mia, Rebecca, Lovey, Judy to talk with Marge
- Brandi reaching out to vendors

### **Recruiting New Members:**

Whitney has gone through the application process and has been approved  
Rebecca will follow up with Stephanie

### **Other Business:**

none

**Announcements:**

SF Water Conservation Showcase will be held on March 22. Sign up online now if interested.  
The Silicon Valley water conservation awards are next day

There will be a SOD Blitz on May 14 at 10:00AM (in PV) .

**Next Meeting – Date/Time and Topics:**

March 21 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Planned Topics:

- Preview of WCC presentation to Town Council
- Meet Jeremy
- Earth Fair preparations
- Feedback on class on Feb 20

**Adjournment: 3:55 pm**

## 2016 Goals - Programs

- Gray Water
  - No permit for small systems - work with SM county (Brandi)
  - Education/ demonstration (Rebecca)
- Work with Cal Water (Brandi)
  - Research on smart meters/ flow meters (Rebecca)
  - Collect testimonials- use to convince Cal Water
- Irrigation system improvements
  - Smart irrigation controllers (Al, Lovey, Whitney, Brandi)
  - Sprinkler system tune up / am I watering the right amount?
  - High efficiency sprinkler nozzles
- Combine survey with energy analysis (Brandi, Al)
- Revisit watering of town and school fields including rain / moisture sensors (Rebecca, Brandi, town liaison)
- Encourage town residents to implement rainwater catchment systems / rain garden (Lovey)
  - Demonstration rain garden

2/3/2016

2015 Goals and Accomplishments

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## 2016 Goals - Education

- Garden tours (Delle, Judy)
  - Lawn replacement / cut back watering to lawns (frame it locally)
  - Promote Going-Native garden tour Apr 9
- Low water use landscaping class - Feb 20 with Cal Water (Rebecca, Judy, Debbie, Mia)
- Earth Fair April 23 11:00 to 2:30
  - PV hosting this year, theme is food waste
  - WCC table – possible content: water bill analysis, rain barrels, water timer, smart controller, flow meter, ...
  - Subcommittee: Mia, Rebecca, Lovey, Judy to talk with Marge
  - Brandi reaching out to vendors
- Revisit PSAs (and water conservation kudos?) (Rebecca, Brandi)
- Refresh water conservation web pages (Al, Mia)
- Welcome to PV – section on Green Living? (Whitney)

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2015 Goals and Accomplishments

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## Top 3 Goals

- Promote Smart Controllers
- Implement Education Plan
- Minimize Impact of Leaks

