

Item #5 – Water Conservation Enhancement Committee

Recommendations & Considerations

Committee Members:

Tom McDonald – Chair
Bill Harris
Bryan Russ, Jr.

The Water Conservation Enhancement Committee met Friday, December 18, 2015 and Wednesday, February 3, 2016 to discuss the details of how conservation enhancement project funding might work. Following are the committee recommendations that will set the basis for the funding mechanism:

Considerations and Recommendations:

1. Amend the 2016 budget by adding a line item for a Water Conservation Enhancement Program so the Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District can encourage and enter into mutual agreements for enhancement projects with various organizations whose objectives are to further expand the District's water conservation objectives. The line item for the Water Conservation Enhancement Program enhancement projects would be in the amount of \$250,000.00 for FY2016.
2. Continue funding a line item for the Water Conservation Enhancement Program in subsequent budgets in the amount of \$100,000.00 per year. Any unexpended funds during a fiscal year will "roll over" into the next fiscal year and aggregate with the \$100,000.00.
3. Regarding the Water Conservation Enhancement Program agreements for enhancement projects, the BVGCD Board should adopt the maximum rate for Indirect Cost (IDC) at ten (10) percent.

Each of the items above need to be acted upon separately.

Requests for Conservation Enhancement Proposals went out in early December with a December 31st deadline. Eight proposals were received and reviewed by the committee. They are listed below:

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| 1. Landscape Irrigation Rebates (City of CS) | \$8,000.00 |
| 2. Reclaimed Water System Improvements (City of CS) | \$33,000.00 |
| 3. Targeted Messaging to High Water Users (City of CS) Option #1 | \$51,523.00 |
| Option #2 | \$84,879.00 |
| 4. Healthy Lawns/Healthy Waters (AgriLife Ext./TWRI) | \$62,116.00 |
| 5. City of Bryan Water Smart Program (City of Bryan) | \$50,000.00 |

6. Weather, Rainfall, Soil Moisture, and Evapotranspiration Network for District Agricultural Irrigators (Hydrological, Atmospheric, and Soil/Crops Sciences – Texas A&M University)	\$81,000.00
7. Maximizing Water Conservation by Urban Homeowners (Brazos County Master Gardeners)	\$36,919.00
8. Compare/Contrast Brazos River Alluvium Rules & Regulations (Baylor University)	<u>\$17,296.00</u>
Total Proposals – Low End	\$339,854.00
Total Proposals – High End	\$373,210.00

There are no recommendations at this time on approval of individual enhancement project funding. Committee members felt it necessary to receive approval of the three aforementioned recommendations prior to bringing anything forward.