

**Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMP) Committee**  
**FINAL - Conference Call Minutes**  
**Tuesday, July 17, 2012; 10:00 a.m.**  
**Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Conference Room 3100B**  
**1110 W. Washington St., Phoenix, Arizona 85007**  
**Call-in Number: (800) 746-4352, pin #1828417**

**Committee members present:** Brett Cameron, Clint Hickman, Eric Massey (in-person), Earl Petznick Jr., Kevin Rogers, Dan Thelander (Chair), Tom Thompson, Jim Walworth, and Bill Wiley.

**Committee members absent:** Wade Accomazzo, Shane Burgess, Glen Curtis, Will Rousseau, Keisha Tatum, and Mike Terrill.

**Additional attendees:** Diane Arnst, Danielle Dancho, Kazi Haque, Rick Lavis, Randy Sedlacek, Nick Simonetta, Lisa Tomczak, and Rusty Van Leuven.

**Welcome**

Chairman Thelander opened the meeting, welcomed everyone, asked Committee members to identify themselves and noted a quorum was present, Chairman Thelander stated the intent of the call was primarily to discuss and authorize the formation of a Technical Workgroup (TWG) to develop best management practices (BMPs) for irrigation districts.

**Discussion & Possible Action on Establishing Technical Workgroup to Develop BMPs for Irrigation Districts**

Nick Simonetta, KRB Consulting Inc., said the irrigation districts have met to discuss the history and recent developments regarding the Best Management Practices (BMP) Program. District representatives reviewed maps and discussed the issues that need to be considered as they proceed forward with development of BMPs for the irrigation districts. Mr. Simonetta said that most of the irrigation district managers and some board members were at the meeting held in Eloy at the Central Arizona Irrigation & Drainage District (CAIDD) Main Office; however, the San Carlos District did not attend. One action item from the meeting included developing a list of individuals from each district to nominate as members on the TWG for irrigation BMPs. The other issue for consideration by the Committee is to ensure that TWG meeting will not conflict with the monthly irrigation district board meetings. Mr. Simonetta said he will forward the list to Chairman Thelander once it is completed, which should be within the week.

Chairman Thelander asked to verify the irrigation districts that attended the meeting. Mr. Simonetta said that CAIDD, Maricopa-Stanfield Irrigation & Drainage District (MSIDD), New Magma Irrigation & Drainage District, and Hohokam Irrigation & Drainage District all attended

the meeting. The San Carlos Irrigation & Drainage District did not attend. Chairman Thelander asked if San Carlos had been contacted to ensure they are aware of the situation. Mr. Simonetta said that was addressed at the end of the meeting. The San Carlos District will be contacted and informed of the discussions as well as obtain the names of individuals to represent the District on the TWG.

Chairman Thelander asked to confirm that he must appoint the members of the TWG. Rick Lavis, Arizona Cotton Growers Association, said one motion could authorize the TWG to develop the irrigation district BMPs in Pinal County and give authority for Chairman Thelander to appointment the members of the TWG. Tom Thompson, Committee member, made the motion to authorize the TWG and for Chairman Thelander to appoint the members to the TWG, second by Brett Cameron, Committee member. Chairman Thelander restated the motion, the Chairman will authorize a TWG to develop irrigation BMPs and authorize the Chairman to appoint members to the TWG. Chairman Thelander asked for additional discussion. Mr. Cameron asked to clarify that the TWG will develop irrigation BMPs for Pinal County and if Maricopa County should be included. Mr. Lavis said the statute only applies to irrigation districts in Pinal County. Kazi Haque, City of Maricopa, said that there is a flood district in the City of Maricopa and if it should be included in the TWG. Mr. Simonetta said that one of the bills introduced in 2010, dealt with the connection of irrigation districts to agricultural operations. The irrigation districts wanted to be under the umbrella of the agricultural BMPs and the BMP Program. At that time, the Maricopa County districts did not want to be under the BMP Program. The statute was written to include irrigation districts for any nonattainment area that is designated after June 2009. Pinal County is the first designation, which is why they are involved at this time. Chairman Thelander asked for additional discussion. Hearing none, Chairman Thelander asked to approve the motion; all approved. Motion passed.

Chairman Thelander asked ADEQ about the timeline for forming the TWG and when recommendations should be presented to the Committee. Eric Massey, Committee member, said that the Committee is not under immediate pressure to develop these BMPs. The state implementation plan (SIP) for Pinal County needs to be completed in approximately 18 months, which means it will have to be submitted around January 2014. The irrigation BMPs should be developed sooner rather than later, but do not need to be completed in a short period of time. Lisa Tomczak, ADEQ Air Quality, said the list of TWG members could be completed in four weeks and then ADEQ can start scheduling meetings. Mr. Simonetta said he will complete the list shortly. Ms. Tomczak said the list will be sent to the Committee and notices will be sent to all of the TWG members and will start setting up meetings. Chairman Thelander asked if the Committee needs to discuss establishing a chair for the TWG or can he appoint the chair. Ms. Tomczak said it is her understanding that he could appoint the Chair for the TWG.

### **Summary of Action Items and Next Steps**

Mr. Thelander stated the action items:

- Send the list of appointees for the TWG to ADEQ in the next four weeks.
- The final date to develop the irrigation BMPs is 18 months from the nonattainment

designation of Pinal County.

- Chairman Thelander will contact all of the nominees and make the appointments to the TWG.

Chairman Thelander asked if there were any additional comments or questions. Mr. Simonetta said they plan to present recommendations to the Committee this November. The irrigation districts want to show that they are moving forward with developing the irrigation BMPs so no one will be able to say that they should fall under a different program or controls. Ms. Tomczak reiterated that she will send the list to Chairman Thelander and the Committee members once she gets them from Mr. Simonetta.

### **Adjournment**

Chairman Thelander asked for any final comments. Hearing none, the call adjourned at 10:20 a.m.