

FY2013 Water Data Exchange (WaDE)
Project/EN Grant Steering Committee Conference Call
Minutes – October 23, 2015, 2pm Mountain (1pm PT, 3pm CT)

Attendees:

Texas CEQ – Gayle Stewart, Susannah Kosty, Pat Robards, Kathy Alexander, Becky Kurka, **Idaho DWR** – Michael Ciscell, Paula Dillon, **Oklahoma WRB** – Kent Wilkins, Kelsey Whorton, David Hamilton, **Oregon WRD** – Ken Smith, Ken Stahr, **WSWC** - Sara Larsen

Roll Call, Minutes: Sara took roll and welcomed the steering committee. Kent Wilkins made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes and Ken Smith seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Update from WSWC on 2015 EN Conference: Sara discussed the Exchange Network conference and the presentation that she made there on the WaDE project. It was a valuable exchange of information from a wide variety of environmental data stakeholders, not just the water sector. Sara was able to meet with the heads of the EN program and discuss progress on the project. She was also able to meet with Greg Rogers, the IT/project manager at TCEQ. All of the presentations were webcast and are available on the EN Conference webpage. Sara said that the biggest takeaway message from the conference was that many other data-sharing efforts are encountering the same hurdles and barriers (both technological and institutional) that WaDE has faced, but are making progress. People are getting more comfortable with the idea of transparency, data documentation, and data-sharing.

WaDE Technical Update: Sara gave a tour of the current portal, highlighting what kinds of data are currently shared there. The portal was demo-ed at the WSWC Fall Council Meeting in Kansas in October. Sara was able to also have a “kickstart” meeting with Kansas Dept. of Agriculture at the same meeting.

“Kickstart” Visits with NE, KS, and OK: Sara mentioned the other two non-grant states that had been able to engage in kickstart meetings – Nebraska and Kansas. She also described her visit to Oklahoma Water Resources Board the week before, saying it was tremendously beneficial to meet with staff IT people in person and be able to work through the initial steps of deploying the WaDE application. She also indicated that she and Oklahoma WRB staff members would be working to update the WaDE components for use on newer systems

Wrap-Up: Sara said that their Washington partners had plans to work on their contracts in December as soon as their water rights database upgrade was deployed. She asked for any other comments and questions. The call was then adjourned.

Action Items:

	Description	Assignee
1	Finish final contracts and GADs	WA
2	Work on WaDE transfer agreement with WGA	WSWC
3	Fill out technical diagrams for TCEQ and send to Gayle and Susannah	All Partners