

CEEIN Meeting MINUTES

April 17, 2014

Location: Water Education Foundation

Leader: Brian Brown

Note Taker: Annie Kohut Frankel

Attendees:

Brian Brown, Water Education Foundation

Ed Wong, CARB

Anne Stephens, CDE

Donna Pozzi, State Parks

Shaney Emerson, Agriculture in the Classroom

Sandra Salazar-Thompson, California Water Boards

Lesa Johnston, California Fish & Wildlife

Michelle Robinson, DWR

Annie Kohut Frankel, California Coastal Commission

Susan Knadle, OEHHA retired, UC Davis Dept. of Environmental Toxicology

On the Phone:

Brook Gamble, California Master Naturalists

Jessica Sawko, California Science Teachers Association

Check-In

March 2014 Meeting Minutes approved with changes.

March Action Item completed: Michelle gave CEEN brochures to Christy.

Committee Reports

• **Administration and Organization**

Action Item: Discuss committees and handbook at June meeting

Chris Graillat has left Energy and needs to be removed from CEEIN email list. Need to confirm that Lana McAllister is still the CEEIN representative.

Brian is communicating with Deborah Bruns and Phil Romig about having a training in May in Sacramento area about EE programs and common core and NGSS.

Deborah Bruns will no longer be a CREEC coordinator. She has taken a new job.

• **Communications**

Donna will share a product being developed for aligning Parks programs to Common Core and NGSS once it's complete.

A discussion took place about NGSS and whether providers should just be focusing on the practices at this point. Brian said that the San Joaquin and San Diego Counties of Education are already requiring NGSS correlations.

Annie spoke about how Achieve and CDE are urging a slow pace and just focusing on the NGSS practices at this point, especially until the California framework is approved. Shaney said they've already aligned their products to NGSS.

Jessica – it's a little unrealistic for us to have to wait until the frameworks are complete.

EI will be included as a guiding principle in the framework.

Anne – The content is not changing much – it's the approach that's changing.

- **Legislation**

Donna passed out the bill analysis for AB 1603. She hasn't heard about it via her office yet. Anne shared information about Assembly Concurrent Resolution 128, introduced by Phil Ting (District 19), which would designate May 2014 as Living Schoolyard Month, urge the Department of Education to continue to prioritize the design and construction of student-accessible green space on school campuses, and to integrate use of this space into the teaching of standards-based curriculum.

Donna shared how to get updates on California Legislation: Go to www.leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.html and click on the button at the bottom of the page to subscribe to a particular bill.

Guest Speaker - Jennifer Bowles, Water Education Foundation Executive Director

Jennifer is the brand new executive director, coming from a journalism background.

WEF Publication:

Western Water bimonthly magazine. They try to write about the issues before they become bigger issues.

Laypersons' guides, on topics like groundwater. Written in plain language.

Maps showing the California water systems.

Aquapedia – for water issues. Vetted by experts, objective information about water. Good resource for students and other members of the public.

Aquaforia – daily news aggregate of top California water stories. Can sign up for a daily email digest.

Water Leaders – Year long program for young professionals (a few years into their career). They have the opportunity to go on a Water Tour, attend annual WEF executive briefing, get a mentor from the water world. This year's theme is “groundwater.”

Water Tours – Eight scheduled for this year. Tours focus on major watersheds/water issues, such as Bay Delta, Colorado River, Central Valley. Open to anyone.

Conferences – WEF put on a Water 101 conference. They help other organizations with conferences, such as Santa Ana River Watershed. They are talking about doing a groundwater summit in the future.

Donna encouraged California State Parks as locations for Water Tours, since there are many that have history related to water issues.

Sandra encouraged a discussion of disadvantaged communities on tours, such as communities with contaminated drinking water sources. SWRCB could be helpful with this. Also encouraged bilingual materials for WEF.

WEF funding comes from all sides of water issues.

Looking to the future, they will be boosting their online presence. Redesigning their website, and moving more into social media. Visit Watereducation.org for more information on Water Education Foundation program.

New Business

Ed – June 19th CEEIN meeting will be moved to CAL/EPA and Ed will be location contact.

WNIYW

Jessica – CSTA is working with Assemblywoman Bonilla’s office to modify some language on a bill she has proposed to provide another 1.5 Billion for Common Core implementation (similar to the \$1.25 Billion the state invested in 2013/2014). We are working with her to clarify the language of the bill so that it is explicit that the funds can be used for NGSS as well as Common Core. Both this bill and the money from the last go round had the right Ed Code in the funding allocation for it to be used for NGSS, but it never called it out by name, but did call out Common Core by name, so many administrators are not using the funds to invest in NGSS implementation or don’t know that they can. This bill, if it keeps getting support, will likely be folded into the budget process (like the last one), but before it lands there we would like to make sure that the bill has the right language first. The bill is AB 2319.

In May the State Board meeting will release Middle grade specific NGSS.

NSTA/CSTA conference expecting to give out workshop acceptances in May. CSTA board approved to move forward with planning two field trips on Wednesday before the conference starts – a Catalina trip and a geology trip.

NGSS state roll-out – CSTA helped to develop the programming and will be involved. There are 7 state roll-outs. These are two-day meetings designed for teams of teachers and administrators.

Wested has started accepting applications for the early implementation initiative. K-8 pilots for NGSS implementation. The accepted districts will need to have a commitment to science in elementary grades.

Brook – Gearing up for October California Master Naturalists conference. May 16th is the poster submission deadline. ANR (UCCE Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources) doing a day of science and service for UCCE 100th anniversary on May 8. “Everyone is a Scientist” theme.

Donna – PORTS replacement has been hired. Brad Krey is based out of San Diego. Very connected to LAUSD and CUE (Computer-Using Educators). He may be a good future CEEIN speaker.

Shaney – They are working on invasive species curriculum, for schools and public service announcements, and are creating an online activity to supplement that. Focus on six species of invasive species.

Next month they are starting on a renewable energy and agriculture curriculum for high school. Ed asked to be kept up to date on that.

Sandra – Yesterday she participated in the Dept. of Consumer Affairs' first Earth Day program. End of March was World Water Day.

End of 2012, Human Right to Water Bill passed, effective January 2013. California is the only state that has passed this, and received a congratulations from the UN for doing that. Water Board is developing an education program for their staff.

Water Board is gathering up leftover pieces of bond money. It's quite sizable. They want to give money to school districts to encourage environmental projects in schoolyards (such as permeable pavements, etc.) Staff is working on guidelines and she will share with CEEIN when complete. Outline to Board in July, then they will go to school districts in the fall. Contact her if you have ideas to discuss regarding this.

Ed – ARB will be working Cal/EPA Earth Day next week. They have a full house of participants. On May 7 he is giving presentations to DeAnza College Environmental Studies classes.

Susan – She is doing a Picnic Day at UC Davis for Earth Day. Example – To explain “dose response,”

how many pieces of candy before you get sick?

Lesia – She is winding down the school year with the archery program. DFW is rolling out a new website, reflecting new name. Education and Outreach programs will now be under a “Learning” tab. Department is offering a series of conservation lectures to the general public. Visit website for info. Topics include California tiger salamander and Desert tortoise.

Michelle – Just finished Creek Week. About 300 kids visited their booth. April 26 is first climate change project WET workshop in Oroville. Debuting mobile California watershed model. The following weekend another workshop in Visalia. Working on sponsorships for Flood Plain institutes. Working on State Fair exhibit – Save Our Water indoors and outdoors. Lots of Earth Month events. Donna suggested a future location for a climate education workshop at Baldwin Hills.

Annie – Headed to Rancho Palos Verdes and Santa Barbara next week for teacher workshops, which are having great registrations. In addition to our previously scheduled exhibit locations for our Coastal Art & Poetry Contest (Point Reyes National Seashore, Ford House Museum, Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center, Birch Aquarium at Scripps), a selection of previous winners will be exhibited this summer at Sea Cliff State Beach Visitor Center. Our staff has been busy this month attending many environmental festivals.

Brian – Next month there will be a WET/USGS workshop in San Diego, highlighting Water Science Center. Project WET headquarters will be filming it for publicity efforts.

National Assoc. of Geology Teachers is holding their regional conference in Sacramento in October. Lots of tours that look good.

WEF website update sounds like it will highlight WET facilitators on a map to make it easier for teachers to find their local person. Project WET web portal will start to have direct links to the state providers. Project WET national conference will be highlighting some California programs. Project WET has been receiving requests from tribal groups for climate change education programming. Sandra added that she is planning trainings for California tribes on water issues.

Anne – She tabled at Greenschools National conference March 28. There wasn't much traffic. Mostly school garden people.

She shared about the Watershed Sciences Institute at UCD: A Bechtel grant is funding a three-day Tuolumne River trip, dates to be determined for this summer. They're looking for 12 high school teachers interested in water issues.

Action Items:

- Contact Sandra if you have ideas to discuss regarding Water Board grants to school districts.
- Contact Anne about high school teachers who may want to participate in Watershed Sciences Institute.
- Discuss committees and handbook at June meeting
- Donna will send leg info subscription information to CEEIN. DONE - Added to minutes, above.
- Annie will confirm Lana McAllister is still rep for Energy Commission. – DONE - Yes
- Ed will send out an email about location change for June meeting. DONE
- Jessica will email info out to CEEIN about NGSS state roll-out sessions. DONE
- Sandra will share the Department of Consumer Affairs Earth Day contact with CEEIN
- Sandra will share with CEEIN updates on Human Right to Water legislation and education program
- Brian will send out notes about National Assoc. of Geology Teachers conference in May.