Water/Wastewater Technology Program

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2018

Members Present:

Clint Baze, Director of Operations, Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District

Jeff Flynt, President, Palomar Backflow

Ed Pedrazzi, Operations and Maintenance Manager, Vallecitos Water District

Dennis Pollak, Sancon Engineering

Dave Smith, Operations Manager, Olivenhain Municipal Water District

Alan Styles, Director of Water Management and Leadership Program, CSUSM

Also present:

Anthony Fedon, Trade & Industry Department Chair

Tom Scaglione, Water Technology Program Coordinator

**Mission Statement**: Tom introduced mission statements from several Trade & Industry Programs and a draft of one for the Water/Wastewater Program.

“Our mission is to educate and prepare students  for careers and advancement in the water industry.”

Although some members felt that Waste Water should be included, it was the general consensus that the way the industry is going is towards a general “Water Industry” umbrella that can include wastewater, recycled water, storm water, etc. The mission statement was agreed as proposed.

**Overview/Recent History**:

There is a two-year scheduling plan that will be followed provided we have enrollment.

Enrollment must be at least 20 for the class to run. This is per the faculty contract. The week before the class must have at least 15 to run and 20 the day after class begins.

**Marketing:**

Tom has been doing a lot of marketing and outreach for the program. Tony Fedon formally gave kudos to Tom for his work in the improved website, marketing, brochures. Tom started with Wastewater because it has been forgotten, so he has been requesting audiences with GM, HR, Marketing in his Industry visits. Tom is working with Margie on the content of letters of support that Industries can sign. Industry partners suggest to get on the agenda of Industry Boards. We want to make sure that in all of our industry websites that there are links to Palomar College & Cuyamaca water programs, and the regional Internship program. Industry partners also brought up other potential links. Water has always been a “green technology” long before it was cool and before it was law. Most of the advisory agreed that “Green Technology” is good key words to use in advertising.

Career Fair, Orange Glen. High School Counselors need to be told that bad kids/kids that have detention have that stigma that kids that get in to our industry are the kids that are not academically inclined. Tom said that he will definitely let them know that our industry is not just for those who do not. Ed asked if CTEE is still doing the High School tours. What is the target group for our students? We want to get them out of high school to offer them careers. Is there another modem, club or organizations where we can reach out to students without the counselors filtering our message? One of the industry members says that they start in 5th grade. Tom is researching social media and who will maintain it. There is a video in the process. One of the Industry members is saying that maybe they should take advantage of “senior experience” to come up with a marketing plan.

Other marketing ideas; Evening event when Cuyamaca opened up the program for a show & tell that included conversation of not just core classes but career opportunities. Veterans should be a targeted population; Tom is going to go to Camp Pendleton’s transition office for exiting Marines. Industry recommends also checking out the Navy. Tom is compiling clips for videos of success stories. Something like a student working in the industry of Palomar graduates. Women in Industry, Career Fair

**Two Year Plan**

Tom goes over the handout that contains the two-year plan. Tom reviews the plan and comments that of course, that the plan will be followed as long as there is enrollment. The two-year plan is also listed on the web site.

Training- Industry gave the idea that there should be training included in their industry budgets for their staff to get trained by Palomar College.

**Staffing**: We need a teacher for Spring 19, for WWT/WTE 56; Glen Thorpe used to teach and is still around. Tom will reach out to him since Struthers has now retired. We need to find more teachers, any help is appreciated the position is posted in the HR website under the Trade & Industry Department. Any input from industry about others who may be qualified and interested in teaching would be greatly appreciated. Tom continues to go over the Spring 2019 offerings which are now in line with the two-year plan. Need action from the board in item 6- suggested plan. Tom relays that \_\_Jack Bebee\_\_\_ suggested that the curriculum is changed to include either WTE 72 or 74 in the required. Jack recommended those two so that students could have a more technical background. Students need more math.

**Changes in Curriculum**

**Water -** Industry suggests that Water Distribution is really important. WTE72 should be part of the CORE and leave \_\_WTE 74\_\_ as an elective because there are more jobs in Distribution than treatment plant. This will allow students to get a higher certification. We could also require the two. We also need pre-requisites, which is the water Math course. A motion is made by Ed and second by Dennis and passed by the board to move WTE 72 to required and leave WTE 74 in electives.

A new motion is made by Ed to reduce the amount of units required for water so the total units would be 30- seconded by Jeff. Approved by the advisory board.

**Wastewater Tech** – Tom has noticed that Lab analysis (WTE 64) is missing back in to the wastewater, it could be a numbering problem but industry thinks a new idea to make it a requirement. Industry thinks it’s a good idea to make a requirement and it would make WWT 30 units. Dennis makes motion to require taking 30 units for the certificate – Dave seconds. Motion passes. (1.04 minutes).Tony and Tom suggested adding WTE 74 as an elective to wastewater; the industry thinks that it’s so heavily water that it may not make sense. Industry thinks that putting in as an elective can’t hurt but it may not be filled with waste water students. Tony suggests to table this conversation because all the SLOs have to meet the wastewater requirements, and it sounds that as WTE 74 stands it’s 90% Water Tech, not Waste Water. Industry suggests a special topic class (WWT97) so that we can see what will work and what is needed such as reclamation and regulatory stuff. Tony says that the timeline would be to input all the changes in Spring and have them approved by Fall 2019.

It was suggested that the website is updated to change San Diego County Water Authority Regional Water/Wastewater Internship Program to “San Diego Regional Water/Wastewater Internship Program”.

Mini Certificates to help with completion in programs. 9 unit certificates will help students coming back for more. The question is does the Advisory board have an interest in mini certificates, will it help student get in to the industry and in jobs? Industry members agreed that mini certificates would be a good idea. Tom points out the suggestions of mini certificates on page 6 of the hand out. It is pointed out that the WTE 72 Water Distribution Systems should be called “Water Distribution Systems II” this would match the title of WTE 52. The industry members asked if tuition will be the same and if it goes into the same pot. Tom and Tony said that tuition and the process of registration is the same. This will help the college in the completion portion of the new funding formula from the state. The industry really likes the mini certificates; it will help with marketing the program, help with employability and keep working towards higher level certificates. A motion is made to adopt mini certificates and passed.

Tom leads the Discussion of looking at Water & Waste Water to something that would be transferrable such as some classes that are engineering, green technologies, public work management. Industry suggests looking at what Cuyamaca has running and work together to provide good service.