

**UPPER VERDE RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION COALITION
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA
MARCH 26, 2008**

MINUTES

A MEETING OF THE UPPER VERDE RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION COALITION WAS HELD ON MARCH 26, 2008 in the Prescott Municipal Building, 201 S Cortez Street, Prescott, Arizona

Chairman Fann called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m

ITEM NO. 1 INTRODUCTIONS, AWARDS OR PRESENTATIONIONS

Members present:

Mayor Karen Fann, Town of Chino Valley, Chairman
Vice Mayor Mike Flannery, Town of Prescott Valley, Vice Chairman
County Supervisor Carol Springer, Yavapai County
Mayor Jack Wilson, City of Prescott

Members absent:

Ernie Jones Sr , Prescott-Yavapai Indian Tribe
Dewey-Humboldt Representative

Staff present:

Ed Muccillo, Program Manager
Rick Shroads, Assistant Program Manager
Jim Campbell, Burgess & Niple
Mark Holmes, Town of Chino Valley
Jim Holt, City of Prescott
John Munderloh, Town of Prescott Valley
John Rasmussen, Yavapai County
Daniel Timmons, Town of Chino Valley

Guests present:

Councilman Bob Bell, City of Prescott
John Zambrano
Louis Bellesi
Tom Slaback
Joanne Oellers
Candace McNulty
Edessa Carr
Ken Janecek
Perry Haddon

ITEM NO 2. Call to Public

Joanne Oellers, Center for Biological Diversity, thanked the Board for inviting Brenda Smith and John Nystedt, U S fish & Wildlife Service, to the meeting last month. She encouraged the Board to strongly consider the proposal of following through with the development of a Habitat Conservation Plan

ITEM NO 3. Action – Approval of Minutes for Previous Board Meeting

**MEMBER WILSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED;
SECONDED BY VICE CHAIRMAN FLANNERY; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ITEM NO 4. Discussion – Program Manager's Report

Ed Muccillo provided the Program Manager's Report. He said the website was launched on February 20, 2008 and is updated regularly. Regarding Task 3, Water Conservation Programs, Mr. Muccillo said Larson & Associates is ready to give them an update and conduct a mini-workshop at the April 9th TAC Meeting. He reported that for Tasks 4 & 5 Southwest Groundwater is ready for a preliminary update at the April TAC meeting but that he may postpone that until May because he anticipates that water conservation mini-workshop is going to dominate most of that meeting.

Member Wilson asked if that is the same land ownership data that is being used by Hoyt Johnson in his work for Yavapai County Water Advisory Committee and said he would like to know because a couple of different studies are going on and he wants to make sure they are on the same page in both studies. Member Springer asked John Rasmussen if the study has to do with the model. Mr. Rasmussen confirmed that the land ownership study is from the County.

ITEM NO 5. Discussion – TAC Meeting Summary – March 12, 2008

Mr. Muccillo reported they have adjusted the format of TAC Meeting Summaries based on comments by the Board at the last meeting. He reported that the TAC reviewed the previous Board Meeting Minutes and he gave a similar update report. They discussed the Safe-Yield Workgroup, educational presentations and then they reviewed the agenda items for the next Board meeting and TAC meeting. He said the potential recharge task update will be postponed until May.

ITEM NO 6. Discussion & Possible Action – Safe-Yield Workgroup

Mr. Muccillo reviewed the key points discussed by the TAC regarding the structure of the Safe-Yield Workgroup. He said they propose to include the six TAC members and seven other individuals representing the following seven interests:

- Citizens Water
- Environmental
- Private Water Companies
- Private Water Well Owners
- Agricultural
- ADWR

Mr. Muccillo said much of the discussion centered on how to fill the seven additional positions. The TAC concluded to issue a press release soliciting candidates and then they would select individuals from the interested candidates to fill the positions. He said the workgroup would meet monthly in conjunction with the monthly TAC meeting to avoid additional time and cost burdens to everyone participating. Also, the GUAC report will be one of many tools that the workgroup will use rather than the starting point for discussion.

Chairman Fann asked if the workgroup would be acting by consensus and Mr. Muccillo said that is correct and by true report to the Board. Chairman Fann then asked for public comments regarding the proposed structure of the workgroup. Joanne Oellers suggested that someone represent the river's interest. Chairman Fann asked what is citizens' water

and what group do they represent Mr Muccillo said CWAG comes to mind as well as a number of other groups. Member Springer said citizen's water refers to a formalized group and a representative from a citizens' water group contributes to the broad range of applicants the TAC desires

Chairman Fann asked what is envisioned by the environmental representative Mr Muccillo responded it is wide open, that this representative could be from the biological aspect or the river aspect, preferably someone with a broad interest so none of those groups would be excluded Chairman Fann asked about private water companies and Mr. Muccillo explained they are actual companies with distribution systems selling water on a bulk basis, whereas private water well owners are primarily individuals Mr Muccillo also described growth interests as builders, developers, homebuilders associations, and realtors

Tom Adkins suggested having some educational aspect, possibly some teachers in Project WET

Tom Slaback asked what a private water company is and does it include SRP? The consensus was no, private water companies do not include SRP

Howard Mechanic said he supports the positions represented here and that the environmental group applicant should be able to handle the representation for the river as well rather than a separate position for the river Mr Mechanic said his understanding is that applicants will be selected to be representatives of legitimate stakeholder groups and not because of any opinion they want to promote.

Member Wilson asked where the cattle growers fit in the list Mr Muccillo said their hope is that there is someone who can represent both cattle growers and agriculture Member Springer said there are not very many farmers or ranchers in the AMA but that they still should be represented

Member Wilson said regarding citizens water groups in the context of the AMA there are only a few and only the Citizens Water Advocacy Group, which he has been a member of for the last five years, really represents the water interests of the AMA Mr Muccillo said a couple of other names came up Member Wilson does not see the others as participants in the AMA. Mr. Muccillo said that by issuing the press release they will see what they get

Vice Chairman Flannery asked who will be able to represent the private well owners group with fair representation Chairman Fann suggested the possibility of the owner of a well drilling company as a representative of private well owners Member Wilson agreed and said that is exactly what they did in the Verde River Basin Partnership The well drillers brought in a wealth of knowledge.

Chairman Fann asked about the idea of an educational representative Member Wilson said Project WET is administered from ADWR and with the proper representative education will be covered.

Chairman Fann asked the Board if they were comfortable with the proposed format of the workgroup and if so, is the Board willing to give the TAC the leeway to adjust moving forward according to the applications they receive Vice Chairman Flannery said that in some categories they will not hear from anyone and in others they will get a flood of applicants. He said that they need to get this moving along; he would like to give the TAC the go ahead to get the advertising out, and to give them some mechanism to fill voids Member Wilson concurred with giving the TAC latitude to operate and get as wide a variety of applicants as possible so that the Board will then be able to make a decision

Mr. Muccillo asked the Board what they want the TAC to come back with for the next decision making point. Member Springer said to go forward with advertising in order to be able to compile a list of applicants and a report for the next Board meeting. Member Wilson clarified the difference between a press release and advertising. Chairman Fann suggested a media blitz and Member Wilson suggested utilizing Kim Kapin with the City of Prescott and his media contacts.

Howard Mechanic referred to a previous TAC discussion and how they planned to identify groups that may fit in a certain category and send invitations in addition to the general advertising. He said that is a good idea but that it has not been mentioned. Chairman Fann asked if they could do both. Mr. Muccillo said he has been crafting a list of some potential groups to put forward candidates. He plans to send them the information after the press release and then follow up with a phone call.

Member Springer said the time frame they discussed would require a separate TAC meeting in order to make a report to the Board at the next meeting. Mr. Muccillo suggested moving the TAC meeting back one week from its usual schedule. Member Flannery said he is hesitant in being proactive in contacting groups because if somebody is missed it will appear that they are picking who they want to be part of the workgroup. Mr. Muccillo suggested that they not use the word invitation rather they create and issue a press release and do their best to distribute it. He agreed that an invitation implies they would be picking who they want on the workgroup.

MEMBER WILSON MOVED TO ALLOW THE TAC TO MOVE FORWARD WITH AGENDA ITEM 6 TO ISSUE A PRESS RELEASE THROUGH ALL POSSIBLE AVENUES INCLUDING MEDIA RELEASES AND TARGETED TO SOLICIT PEOPLE TO WORK ON THE SAFE-YIELD SUBCOMMITTEE; SECONDED BY MEMBER SPRINGER; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairman Fann acknowledged Councilman Bob Bell with the City of Prescott as he joined the meeting. Member Flannery asked for clarification regarding solicitations for applications. He said he had suggested that the TAC be allowed to move forward and fill voids yet he heard another Board member say it needs to come back to the Board for further advertising to fill vacancies. Chairman Fann said she thought the TAC would issue the press release, receive the applications, meet together to review the applications and then compile recommendations to bring back to the Board for approval and for direction if positions do not get filled or an additional seat is needed. Member Springer agreed. Member Wilson said it is up to the Board to make the approval and up to the TAC to make the recommendation and also if the TAC has a problem they need to alert the Board. Vice Chairman Flannery asked if all seven positions are not filled by the next Board meeting then do they have to repeat the process. Member Wilson said he hoped they would have communication from the TAC if they have a problem filling the positions for guidance from the Board. Vice Chairman Flannery affirmed that the intent is to have seven recommendations from the TAC and they will be going forward. Member Wilson agreed adding they will move forward with discussion.

ITEM NO 7. Discussion – Educational Presentations Schedule & Approach

Mr. Muccillo said the TAC wants to take the approach to provide educational presentations that are current or eminent. He said the TAC discussed having program management compile data and make the educational presentations so there is not a specific agenda from one particular group. Mr. Muccillo said in the example of recharge Bill Greenslade with Southwest Groundwater Consultants, Inc, as an expert in this area could compile and present the technical data to the Board. Member Wilson said they want educational opportunities not debates. Chairman Fann agreed and said whatever educational opportunities that are brought forward should be directly related to their mission and goals and they should be unbiased, scientific presentations.

Member Springer said some areas are not so cut and dry, such as measuring recharge from a particular area. She said she agrees in theory, that the presentations should be science based information but that there are variable. Member Wilson said, in terms of the example given in recharge, he wants the highest scientific standard that exists, which he said is USGS. He does not want an opinion, he wants a scientific basis. Chairman Fann asked if presentations can go through the TAC before coming to the Board. She suggested that presentations include the range of differing reports. Mr Muccillo agreed presentations will include ranges of data, they will come to the TAC before going to the Board, and that they are going for quality not quantity.

Vice Chairman Flannery said his concern is that they have permitted the televising of the meetings and the broadcasts are out there for a month or more before they can get corrected. Member Springer said she assumes the TAC will not bring to the Board any presentations from someone who is not properly credentialed and that there will be differing opinions. Member Wilson said he agreed with an earlier statement they want better not faster; they want technical information and to focus on the issues they have already discussed

Howard Mechanic asked if the Board is going to require that presentations go to the TAC first. He suggested making it a preference not a requirement because if someone is coming from out of state to make a presentation it may be too much as a requirement. Chairman Fann said she envisioned that presenters will submit their PowerPoint to the TAC to preview before coming before the Board and the public.

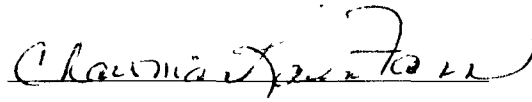
Member Springer said she wanted to discuss measuring, how they measure their results and asked if the TAC is starting with the surveys. Mr Muccillo said he thinks the hydrologic monitoring current and future tasks are where they will narrow down how to measure results. Member Springer said they are talking about achieving the goal of safe-yield at the same time the entities within the AMA are embarking on projects to recharge. She said credit is not being given to the entities and they are not educating the public on what has already been done. Member Springer suggested showing the public how they are achieving safe-yield by deciding on some type of common logo to be used throughout the AMA that will identify safe-yield projects. Member Wilson said regarding recharge example and in terms of safe-yield, recharge that is used for drawing out additional groundwater the following year as a credit is not a safe-yield recharge. Member Springer said it could also apply to conservation projects and the idea is to identify any projects that save water or help in achieving their safe-yield goal should be recognized. Member Wilson agreed, saying the public has to trust them on conservation or they are not going to conserve.

Discussion continued about developing a slogan and or logo possibly through a contest included with the press release. The consensus was they are two separate issues. Member Wilson suggested contacting Shaun Rydell with the City of Prescott for assistance with this.

ITEM NO 8. Discussion – Next Meeting Time / Location / Agenda Items


The next Board meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2008 at 2.00 p.m. at City of Prescott in Council Chambers. The agenda items proposed are recommendations for the safe-yield workgroup membership and structure and an update on the water conservation task. The next TAC meeting is currently scheduled for April 9, 2008 but that will likely be moved back one week.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p m

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Fann".

KAREN FANN, Chairman

ATTEST:



DEPUTY CITY CLERK

ELIZABETH A. BURKE, Clerk