

**UPPER VERDE RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION COALITION
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA
MAY 28, 2008**

MINUTES

A MEETING OF THE UPPER VERDE RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION COALITION WAS HELD ON MAY 28, 2008 in the Prescott Municipal Building, 201 S. Cortez Street, Prescott, Arizona.

Chairman Fann called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

ITEM NO 1. Introductions, Awards, or Presentations

Members Present:

Mayor Karen Fann, Town of Chino Valley, Chairman
County Supervisor Carol Springer, Yavapai County
Mayor Jack Wilson, City of Prescott
Ernie Jones Sr., Prescott-Yavapai Indian Tribe

Members Absent:

Vice Mayor Mike Flannery, Town of Prescott Valley, Vice Chairman
Councilman Len Marinaccio, Dewey-Humboldt

Staff Present:

Ed Muccillo, Program Manager
Rick Shroads, Assistant Program Manager
Mark Holmes, Town of Chino Valley
Jim Holt, City of Prescott
John Rasmussen, Yavapai County

Guests Present:

Bill Greenslade, Southwest Ground-Water Consultants, Inc.
Andrew Duram, Southwest Ground-water Consultants, Inc.
Councilman Jim Lamerson, City of Prescott
Councilman Bob Luzius, City of Prescott
Councilman Mary Ann Suttles, City of Prescott
Linda Campbell
Thomas Slaback
Candace McNulty
Louis Bellesi
Edessa Carr
Randy Holt
Kris Holt
John Zambrano
Joanne Oellers
Tammy Linn
Doug McMillan

ITEM NO 2. Call to Public

Chairman Fann made the call to the public.

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

**CHAIRMAN FANN MOVED TO APPROVE; SECOND BY MEMBER WILSON;
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ITEM NO 4. Discussion – Program Manager's Report

Ed Muccillo provided the Program Manager's Report. Mr. Muccillo said Tasks 1 & 2 are typical. He said Task 3 will include a presentation to be given at the June 11, 2008 Workshop. Mr. Muccillo said Tasks 4 & 5 will be addressed later in this agenda. He reported that an invoice for \$12,807.42 was issued by Burgess & Niple, Inc. on May 12, 200, for program management work and tasks performed through April 27, 2008. Mr. Muccillo also reported the balance of the Upper Verde River Watershed Protection Coalition prior to this invoice is \$140,595.60.

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

Mr. Muccillo said to refer to the attached summary for the TAC Meeting held on May 12, 2008.

ITEM NO 6. Discussion – Recharge Mapping Task Update

Bill Greenslade, Southwest Ground-Water Consultants, Inc. gave a presentation on the progress of the Recharge Mapping Task.

See Attachment A

Chairman Fann asked how long it has taken to get to this point. Mr. Greenslade said about 2 months, that this is the initial recharge task. Chairman Fann suggested the draft needs to be more defined and that she has seen much of this before.

Mark Holmes explained each one the studies is a feasibility study, which includes looking at existing documents, and then they will come back with a final report. He said they will find opportunities to enhance details down to the resolution they all need to make the best decisions possible. He said this is only feasibility, it is a very general scope and they will get a report with recommendations.

Chairman Fann said she would like to see more information for the amount of money they are spending.

Mr. Holmes said the presentation they received at the TAC meeting was much more in depth on each report but this is an attempt to present the key components they are working on without spending hours at the Board Meeting.

Member Wilson said the general approach of using feasibility studies to limit the investment and make sure they want to invest more is quite common. He said he supports this approach and not doing an hour and half presentation.

Member Springer said there is not enough information about barriers between the Upper Chino and down closer to the headwaters area. She said she is interested in breaking the study down into two parts: the upper portion of the Big Chino and the headwaters area of Sullivan Lake. Member Springer said there are pros and cons to directly

recharging the headwaters area. She said she would like to hear some more specifics about recharge in that area, the benefits of natural or artificial recharge, what the pros and cons might be, and what the recharge situation might be in the Upper Chino area.

Mr. Greenslade said he understands the Board's desire for more specific information. He said regarding natural versus artificial recharge, the questions for natural recharge are where does it occur and how to protect those areas. He said that is one of their tasks and that is why their presentation seems rather general. Mr. Greenslade said they have concluded so far that there are some specific areas, in particular the Little Chino Valley, the mountain front areas and the stream channels. He said in the Big Chino selected mountain front areas and the stream channels are the areas they need to focus on. He said this will be evident in the report they produce.

Mr. Greenslade said as far as the artificial recharge is concerned, from the standpoint of safe-yield as well as contributing to maintaining flow in the Verde, recharge in the Little Chino may have greater benefits than trying to recharge in the Big Chino. He said those are the kinds of things they can provide some specific recommendations. He said providing specific sites are beyond the level of information they can generate through this sort of a study.

Member Springs said she has always been enthralled with idea of excavating some of Sullivan Lake that would provide a natural recharge area. She said it is a project that would be economically feasible, it is on available land, and would have immediate protection of the baseflow of the Upper Verde.

Member Wilson asked if they need the permission of SRP to do that because his understanding is that they could not dredge Sullivan Lake without SRP's permission. Member Springer said she did not think that was correct but they could the answer to that from the experts. Mr. Greenslade said they could look into the questions, both the legal and the technical ability to do so.

Mr. Holmes said any artificial recharge site will have to meet a scrutiny of criteria based on Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and by the Arizona Department of Water Resources. He said right now he cannot say whether Sullivan Lake will fit the qualifications and set of guidelines. He said as they get down the road they will be able to identify more specifics.

Member Wilson said he understands the natural recharge scenario but with the artificial recharge studies he wants to see the zero sum equation.

Howard Mechanic, 309 Bloom Place, said the streambeds like Granite Creek and the mountain fronts have a lot of recharge. He said the Coalition might want to look at how they might protect those areas. He said this is what he would like to see and brought it up at the TAC meeting. Mr. Mechanic said he thought there were federal laws protecting the floodplains from development but some of the members there said no, they only protect a small area around the creeks and rivers. He said if there is some way of protecting the larger area then that would be protecting more of the recharge. He said a lot of the area is in the forest, which is good news, but protecting the other areas from being paved over is something the Coalition can do with the information they have.

John Zambrano, 2910 West Crestview Drive, said if they discharge wastewater to groundwater they will need an aquifer protection permit, which will be set on the standard of drinking water standards. He said if they discharge to groundwater but it is close to surface water ADEQ should be looking at the affects of that discharge on surface water. He said those standards could be more stringent in many cases than drinking water standards.

Mr. Muccillo said to summarize the exchange there are two things they are looking for: first, a priority list of areas that they want to protect for natural recharge and second, a list of 1 – 5 specific potential areas for an artificial recharge project.

Mr. Muccillo said between the water conservation, the recharge and the monitoring tasks and he is trying to keep the meetings manageable water conservation is one meeting cycle ahead of the other tasks. He said he expects some pretty specific recommendations to come out of the workshop in June regarding water conservation. He said they will be doing the same thing with recharge and possibly with the monitoring shortly after that.

Member Wilson said on the 1 – 5 he also wants to see where the water is coming from.

Member Springer said she agrees with Chairman Fann that at this point they are studying the studies and they would like to get on past that phase and into specific projects.

ITEM NO 7. Discussion – Hydrologic Monitoring Task Update

Mr. Greenslade gave a presentation on the progress of the Hydrologic Monitoring Task.

See Attachment B

Member Springer said the latest report done in the Big Chino was done by the CV Ranch and asked Mr. Greenslade if they had seen a copy of that report. Mr. Greenslade said they have seen the report that has been submitted to ADWR for the analysis of assured water supply.

Member Springer said there was some additional information provided in that report. She said her interest in this issue is measuring; that this is the type of project that needs accountability. She said she is looking for how the monitoring plays into measuring the results of the projects that they do. She said they need place to start and that they able to measure results of actions for justification of spending taxpayer money.

Member Wilson said they met with the CV/CF Ranch holders and their hydrologist and looked at a PowerPoint presentation on their groundwater flow model. He said that information was turned in to ADWR and that information is now public record.

ITEM NO 8. Discussion & Possible Action – Safe Yield Workgroup Recommendation

Mr. Muccillo said they published a press release, they republished a press release and made phone calls and got a couple more candidates. He said the TAC came up with the following recommendation of six other interests they want to represent other than ADWR. The TAC recommends to the Coalition Board for the Safe-Yield Workgroup the following candidates:

- Citizens Water Groups – Howard Mechanic, based on his affiliation with CWAG
- Environmental Concerns – Joanne Oellers, based on her affiliation with the Center for Biological Diversity
- Private Water Companies – Dirk Stingham, based on his affiliation with the Granite Oaks Water Users Association; pending a letter of support from the association
- Private Water Well Owners – Jabe Willis, with the understanding that he will represent the interests of individual well owners

- Growth Interests – Steve Conrad is the primary representative based on his affiliation with the Central Arizona Partnership; and Paul Daly as the alternate based on his affiliation with the Central Arizona Partnership and his involvement in the real estate community
- Agricultural – None at this time

Member Springer asked if any of the candidates were in attendance to give a statement.

Chairman Fann asked if John Olsen had been asked to represent the agricultural interests. Mr. Muccillo said he did ask Mr. Olsen who said he was too old and too busy to do it. Chairman Fann suggested Mike Olsen or Steve Schiska. Member Wilson also suggested contacting the Cattlegrowers Association and Member Springer suggested Nelson Pierce.

Mr. Mechanic said it will take a lot of work to get this done. He said he has been involved with CWAG for about 5 years. He said he served on the safe-yield technical group under the Groundwater Users Advisory Committee. Mr. Mechanic said he has a commitment to working towards safe-yield in the active management area and he looks forward to working with group.

Joanne Oellers said she would like to represent the environment as it pertains to the Verde River. She said because of the Verde River's habitat and its value to species and humans it needs to have its baseflow maintained in light of safe-yield. She said she is interested in keeping the Verde River flowing with clean water and she is happy to bring her background in water, biology and ecology and act for spokesperson for the river.

Steve Conrad with Central Arizona Partnership said he brings the CAP side of responsible growth to the community and the region. He said he wants to make sure his children and grandchildren have the same opportunities he has had in this wonderful community. He said looks forward to being a sponge learning and then throwing in his two cents.

Randy Holt said he and his wife Kris are relatively new to the area but Kris Holt's mom and dad were both born in Prescott. He said they have always considered this a very special place. Mr. Holt said he is a citizen, he cares about the environment, and recognizes water as the most thing they need to deal with regarding the future. He said realizes he needs to be unassigned but wants to do what he can to help.

Doug McMillan said he is a civil engineer with Civiltec and has worked as a civil engineer for over 30 years, mostly in the area of hydrologics. He said they are only capturing about 2% of the rainfall into the aquifer and if they increased that to 5% they would be in safe-yield. Mr. McMillan said he has been looking at various means of rainwater harvesting and recharge.

Chairman Fann said for the workgroup to keep a can do attitude.

Member Springer said thanks to all the people who volunteered and asked Mr. Muccillo if he set up a standard meeting time and place. Mr. Muccillo said they would like to do it in conjunction with the monthly TAC meetings on the second Wednesday afternoon of every.

MEMBER SPRINGER MOVED TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE TAC REGARDING THE SAFE-YIELD WORKGROUP; SECOND BY MEMBER WILSON; APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Mechanic asked for clarification of that two are not members rather they are participants. Member Springer said that is correct.

ITEM NO 9. Discussion – Future Board Meeting Schedule

Mr. Muccillo asked the Board what they would like to do for the summer schedule in order to plan for future meetings. After discussion it was decided that no meetings will be missed during the summer.

ITEM NO 10. Discussion – Next Meeting Time / Location / Agenda Items

The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 25, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. at City of Prescott in Council Chambers. The next TAC meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2008, at 1:00 p.m., at the Yavapai County Administrative Services Building, Gladys Garner Room.

Member Wilson said the Prescott City Council authorized him to bring an agenda item for next month's meeting. He said he respectfully requests the item of assimilation between the Verde River Basin Partnership, the Yavapai County Water Advisory Committee and the Upper Verde River Watershed Protection Coalition be placed on the agenda for discussion at the June meeting of the UVRWPC. He said this is to determine the level of interest in said assimilation between the afore mentioned water groups. Member Wilson said there are several reasons to do this starting with it is the right thing to do; it eliminates duplication reducing double funding; to save the Verde; to achieve safe-yield; and to be a win win from regional cooperation standpoint.

Chairman Fann said she supports discussion of this item. She said a number of people are asking if efforts and monies spent are being duplicated and so they need to have the discussion.

Member Springer said she approves putting it on agenda for discussion.

Member Wilson said he the Prescott City Council also approved Councilman Bob Roecker taking this forward to WAC.

Mr. Muccillo said the following items will also be on the agenda:

- Program management review
- Reviewing all past minutes, agendas, budget
- Update on the Water Conservation Workshop

Member Springer asked when they will have the next update on the two issues they discussed today, the recharge and the monitoring. Mr. Muccillo said he is planning to tell Southwest Ground-water to stop what they are doing until the June 11th TAC meeting in order to redirect the projects based upon today's discussion. He said he thinks they will schedule a workshop in July with the TAC and then have an August update with some specific recommendations.

Meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.


KAREN FANN, Chairman

ATTEST:


LORRI CARLSON, Deputy City Clerk