



**UPPER VERDE RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION COALITION  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA  
Wednesday, January 27, 2010**

**MINUTES**

A MEETING OF THE UPPER VERDE RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION COALITION WAS HELD ON JANUARY 27, 2010 in the Prescott Municipal Building, 201 S. Cortez Street, Prescott, Arizona.

**Chairman Flannery called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.**

**Introductions, Awards, or Presentations**

**Members Present:**

Councilman Mike Flannery, Town of Prescott Valley, Chairman  
Supervisor Carol Springer, Yavapai County Board of Supervisors, Vice Chairman  
President Ernie Jones, Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe  
Mayor Jim Bunker, Town of Chino Valley  
Councilwoman Mary Ann Suttles for Mayor Kuykendall, City of Prescott

**Members Absent:**

Mayor Marlin Kuykendall, City of Prescott

**Staff Present:**

Ed Muccillo, Program Manager  
Rick Shroads, Assistant Program Manager  
John Rasmussen, Yavapai County  
Lorri Carlson, Program Administrator

**ITEM NO 1. Introductions, Awards, or Presentations**

Mr. Rick Shroads introduced members of the Plant Advisory Committee, explaining that they have been instrumental in development of many of the Water Smart cards. He said they have put a lot of time and effort in the water conservation education material. Mr. Shroads, Mr. Ed Muccillo, and each of the Board members recognized the following individuals and presented each of them with letters of appreciation:

Mr. Jim Cox, Prescott Valley Growers

Mr. Dusty Eiker

Mr. Charlie Hidebrant, Mountain Path Landscaping

Mr. Harold Watters, Watters Garden Center founder

Ms. Crystal Frost, Arizona Department of Water Resources (absent)

Mr. Jeff Shaulau, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension (absent)

Member Jim Bunker expressed his appreciation for their help and participation in this and that little by little they can solve the area's water problems.



Councilwoman Mary Ann Suttles said on behalf of the City of Prescott they thank the participants very much. She said they understand that they have businesses to run as well and the time they volunteered is very much appreciated.

Chairman Flannery said the success of any program depends on volunteers and professionals such as each of them stepping forward adds to the value and credibility of the program. He said they very much appreciate the value and their cooperation they added and a heartfelt thanks to each of the members.

**ITEM NO 2. Call to Public**

Mr. Lou Bellisi said he received two water surveys, one in the Prescott water bill and one in the Valpak. He asked if the Coalition is paying for any of these and if anyone had an explanation.

Vice Chairman Springer said the ones in the Prescott billing are only for the Prescott area. She said the Coalition encompasses a larger area will be distributing Water Smart cards in the Valpak and not a survey.

Mr. Howard Mechanic said he believes this was done by the Prescott Creeks Association from a grant they received.

**ITEM NO 3. Action – Approval of Minutes of previous Board Meeting – December 9, 2009**

Member Jim Bunker moved to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2009 Board Meeting; second by Vice Chairman Carol Springer. Motion passed unanimously.

**ITEM NO 4. Discussion – TAC Meeting Summary – January 13, 2010**

Mr. Muccillo said there is a need to discuss the subject of a TAC quorum with regards to the departure of Jim Holt from the City of Prescott and Chris Moss with the Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe. He said it creates challenges when they lack a quorum.

Councilwoman Suttles said the City of Prescott has two individuals, Craig McConnell and Leslie Graser, who may be filling that position. She said she will speak with Mayor Marlin Kuykendall and get an answer back to Mr. Muccillo within the next couple of days.

President Ernie Jones said over the last few years their planner has been very involved with the new building and he heard recently that possibly Mr. Moss' assistant, Dana Yau, may be his replacement.

Chairman Flannery said they will move forward with getting people on the TAC.

**ITEM NO 5. Discussion – Budget Update**

Mr. Muccillo said he hopes the format is okay and that Vice Chairman Springer sent him a template to work from. He said this budget takes a historic look back from Fiscal Year 2007-2008. He explained some of the assumptions including the amounts to be contributed in the future and some amounts to be spent. Mr. Muccillo



said the new annual amount is \$175,500 due to the Town of Chino Valley's deferment and withdrawal of Dewey/Humboldt from the Coalition. He said he also made the assumption of another deferment of Chino Valley's contribution. He said he did not project any grant receipts. Mr. Muccillo said the Board authorized \$100,000 for water conservation and they are currently at \$64,000 with a majority of the foundational efforts expensed. He said looking at what still needs to be done it will end up at about \$80,000. He said he projected a \$50,000 annual budget amount for water conservation for maintenance of current programs but that could also be increased if the Board preferred to spend more on the effort. Mr. Muccillo also addressed capital improvement projects such as the pilot project studies.

Chairman Flannery said this is not really for consumption rather a ballpark and format.

Mr. Muccillo said the first three columns are factual and the others are for the Board to consider and provide feedback.

Mr. Mechanic said it looks like to him there will be an overdraft of \$57,000 and asked if that is correct.

Mr. Muccillo said that the bottom line is the ending balance and they are still in the black.

Councilwoman Suttles said it is easy to read. Member Bunker said it is fine.

Chairman Flannery in terms of format it is fine but in terms of projections they may need to do some shifting.

Mr. Muccillo said the next action items will be deciding what they want to do for the next fiscal year.

Chairman Flannery said this discussion needs to be scheduled three months prior to June [March].

**ITEM NO 6. Discussion – Recharge & Source Water Pilot Projects Study Update**

Mr. Shroads provided an update presentation starting with a reminder of the goals reminder. He said basically, the objectives are measure, measure, measure. He said the Plan B site is northeast of the City of Prescott Airport on an APS solar farm on property owned by the City.

Mr. Shroads said they have been in touch with Mike Johnson from APS and it seems they are on the pathway to success. He said all of the rainwater hits the solar panels, drops down, and sheet flows toward Bottleneck Wash. He said that is where they want to intercept and get some true recharge off of this facility.

Vice Chairman Springer asked how they are planning on collecting the water.



Mr. Shroads said they have not really identified how they are going to do it on this site because they have not actually been on the site to walk it. He said they are considering having a drip pan below the panels to focus and channel the water to the recharge facility. He referred to a fact sheet about the farm.

Member Bunker asked about how big the facility is. Mr. Doug McMillan answered 55 acres.

Mr. Shroads said the parcel is considerably larger than that but the panels cover 55 acres. He presented the new USGS subsurface map and pointed out the areas of great interest. He said they have super imposed the Yavapai County's GIS maps to show parcel ownership of the areas of interest.

Councilwoman Suttles read a statement from the City of Prescott on seeking permission to access the APS solar site on City of Prescott land: "An agreement, maybe an MOU, to move forward at the APS site with a concept development for a pilot project and at this time staff is looking into that request."

Mr. Shroads said he has a sample MOU and will get that to Leslie Graser.

Mr. Bunker asked if there is land available on the same parcel for recharge.

Mr. Shroads said their Idea is to put needed recharge basins just to the east of the solar facility, which is still on City of Prescott land.

**ITEM NO 7. Discussion – Grant Opportunities Update**

Melody Reifsnyder said due to ARRA many of the grant announcements are being delayed. She said they are looking at the EPA source point grant, and in Region 9 the hospitality industry. She said the emphasis for Region 9, the region Arizona belongs to, is water conservation and this particular grant does not require a match. Ms. Reifsnyder said the Care Grant is another current opportunity that is marginal but it also does not require a match. She said this is due March 6<sup>th</sup> and awards \$90,000 or \$150,000 depending on the level the Coalition applies at, either Level 1 or Level 2. She said Level 1 is the formation of a community organization to address environmental issues and for the EPA a watershed is considered a community. She said the UVRWPC already exists at Level 1 and is hoping they can apply instead at Level 2. She said as far as she knows an Arizona community has never applied for the grant.

Vice Chairman Springer asked if they can use to continue the Coalition's current programs.

Ms. Reifsnyder said yes because if basically funds a lot of the current Coalition efforts. She said it requires community involvement, which they have and could expand.



Ms. Reifsnyder said the other grant is not in the funding plan and that is the National Science Foundation, an entity she would not typically consider for funding. She said this one is for water sustainability for cities and towns and it is not highly academic. She said the TAC needs to discuss this one further at their next meeting. She said there is no match and it is up to \$1,000,000. She said the bad part is the National Science Foundation does not repeat each year like some of the other funding agencies.

Ms. Reifsnyder said she will be resubmitting the BOR grant on February 16 and that they have more money in the pot for this round.

Chairman Flannery said he is not an attorney but in communicating with staff he does not think there is any danger in open meeting violations in meeting with staff.

Ms. Reifsnyder agreed and said it is the easiest law to violate and she just prefers to err on the side of keeping her mouth shut.

Chairman Flannery said they complimented the landscapers earlier on what they bring to the table and he feels obligated to compliment her on what the expertise she brings to the table. He said she is a great benefit to the organization and he thanked her very much.

Ms. Reifsnyder said she does get paid for her work but that she appreciates the compliment. She said the federal fiscal year is October 1 to September 30 and does not always jive with the municipal fiscal year.

**ITEM NO 8. Discussion & Possible Action – Next Meeting Time / Location / Agenda Items**

Vice Chairman Springer said she likes it when the TAC members there and that some are missing from the meeting. She said she would like to go back to the Water Smart signage issues and she thinks they have gotten lost. She said several months ago the Board had some recommendations on what the application should contain and she has not seen it since. She said directed the TAC to bring back the application and bring back an application for Water Smart recognition.

Vice Chairman Springer said something she keeps bringing up is how to measure and whether they are accomplishing anything or not. She said it occurs to if they are trying to do something on some sort of mass scale it is cost prohibitive to measure every area or project. She said she recalls about 10 15 years ago there were about 80 monitoring wells. She said she would like to see the TAC come up with about half a dozen wells and take the map Mr. Shroads just showed the Board and monitor them. She said if they are going to achieve safe yield, contrary to comments in the paper, this would be the first step in an overall process to evaluate where they are.

Chairman Flannery asked if she is talking about existing wells.



Vice Chairman Springer said yes, she is talking about existing wells and not new ones.

Councilwoman Suttles asked who is going to do that.

Vice Chairman Springer said ADWR collects the data and the TAC just has to select which of the wells they want to monitor.

Mr. Shroads said they have been keeping an eye on the ADWR website with regards to a number of wells in the AMA and they may have gotten a head start on this idea. He said they are mapping the trend of a whole bunch of wells.

Vice Chairman Springer said she would like the TAC to pick half a dozen wells in representative areas around the AMA and monitor them quarterly or twice a year.

Member Bunker said he would guess they need more than that.

Vice Chairman Springer said she does not want the TAC to have a burden and go out to do a bunch more work.

Mr. Shroads said they could look at regions and look at a group of wells within each region rather than trying to average the date. He suggested getting direction from the TAC on the number and location of the wells to get a representative group.

Vice Chairman Springer said the question that comes to mind is if they reach safe yield how would we know it.

Mr. Mechanic said ADWR measures overdraft and it is not based on the well data rather by the amount of water going into the ground and the amount coming out. He said the wells are confirming that they are in an overdraft situation. He asked how often ADWR does these measurements.

Mr. John Rasmussen said ADWR has son continuous well measurements and that this task is not going to be difficult. He said it is going to take long term observation of trends to really know.

Chairman Flannery asked if some monitored more frequently than others.

Mr. Rasmussen said yes and there are key wells for continuous monitoring.

Mr. Mechanic said this is basically publicizing what ADWR is already doing and he thinks that is a good idea. He asked what is the difference between what ADWR is doing and what will be done here.

Chairman Flannery said the suggestion is to test sample wells and indicate a trend within an area. He said he is not sure ADWR does anything with trends.



Vice Chairman Springer said she is not talking about trends rather actual water levels.

Mr. Rasmussen said what he heard is to take the actual information that is there and bring it to the Board.

Vice Chairman Springer said it is very helpful to get a historical perspective on the wells and what they are doing.

Mr. Doug McMillan said he has spent weeks going through the ADWR website, gathering information and yields from Daniel Timmons. He said he has formatted that information into a 40 page excel spreadsheet. He said there are three main ADWR monitoring wells in the Little Chino with one connected to telemetry. He said he came up with an independent calculation of 13,000 ACF per year deficit using that method.

Mr. Muccillo said he will have Mr. McMillan bring that to the TAC for discussion.

**ITEM NO 9. Meeting Adjourned at 3:06 p.m.**