



**UPPER VERDE RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION COALITION
WORKSHOP MEETING
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA
Wednesday, February 24, 2010**

MINUTES

A MEETING OF THE UPPER VERDE RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION COALITION WAS HELD ON FEBRUARY 24, 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

Guests Present:

Melody Reifsnyder
Ben Davidson
Thomas Slaback
Bob Luzius
Lou Bellesi
Candace McNulty
John Zambrano

ITEM NO 1. Introductions, Awards, or Presentations

Mr. Ed Muccillo presented an award of appreciation to Ms. Shaun Rydell, Water Conservation Coordinator for the City of Prescott. Mr. Muccillo commended Ms. Rydell for her dedication and accomplishments in water conservation education in the region.



Ms. Rydell thanked the Coalition Board Members for their leadership in adopting the program and for facilitating the public's access to water conservation education.

Chairman Flannery said Ms. Rydell has done an outstanding job with the program.

ITEM NO 2. Call to Public

Nothing from the public at this time.

ITEM NO 3. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – January 27, 2010

Councilwoman Mary Ann Suttles moved to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2010 Board Meeting; second by Member Jim Bunker. **Motion passed unanimously.**

ITEM NO 4. TAC Meeting Summary – February 18, 2010

Mr. Muccillo said the TAC discussed the gathering of data from monitoring wells through ADWR. He said the TAC will be looking at that more next month and the topic will come back to the Board as an agenda item in March. He said the other topics discussed by the TAC are addressed in this agenda.

Chairman Flannery asked how voluminous does Mr. Muccillo think that will be.

Mr. Muccillo said that is part of the problem and they want to be careful to not have any misrepresentation of the data.

ITEM NO 5. Water Smart Application

Mr. Muccillo said this was discussed at the TAC meeting and the recommendation is that the Water Smart designation be used to endorse a project, a facility, or general requests for use of the logo. He said they started down the path of a lengthy application with a lot of categorized questions. He said the TAC is recommending to the Board to simplify the application. Mr. Muccillo said the last two pages of the agenda packet are the current application proposal. He said it includes some background about the Coalition, it's goals, and the Water Smart goals. He said they are asking the applicants to attach a letter that describes the project, facility, or purpose for use of the logo.

Councilwoman Suttles asked for an example of some groups that would use the logo.

Mr. Muccillo said it could be a water company, another municipality that is not a member of the Coalition, or they may request to just purchase some of the Water Smart materials already published. He said they are not trying to be protective and that they want the brand out there however, they want it out there for the right reason.

Vice Chairman Springer said Councilwoman Suttles is on the right track and that she frankly does object to the terminology to allow someone to use the logo. She said they are not establishing any criteria for how it be used. She said she still likes



the idea that every request to use the logo comes before the Board. She said she would like to take out the language about use of the Water Smart logo from the application. Vice Chairman Springer said she really likes the short form and the idea that they keep an open enough mind on any project. She said if the person brings the project name, contact, and a description is good for evaluating each project on its own merit. She recommended eliminating the second page as well.

Mr. Muccillo said the second page is to suggest some potential evaluation criteria to give a guide but that can be a slippery slope.

Chairman Flannery said he prefers the narrative form rather than the check box style. He said to keep the suggestions available in case an applicant requests suggestions. He said if somebody goes down this path they are going to be proud enough to bring out every aspect of the project they have just completed and they can probably provide every positive aspect without being directed.

Councilwoman Suttles suggested that the Board keep this as a reference for future evaluations of applications.

Mr. Muccillo asked if they should put some type of term and verification process in place.

Chairman Flannery asked if he meant some sort of annual review.

Vice Chairman Springer said when they come in with an application and there should be a response form that goes back to the applicant with an answer that also includes the language indicating that if any changes were made to the project/property they would have to reapply.

Chairman Flannery said rather than it being a time frame it should be something of a disqualifier. He asked if the TAC talked about some sort of incentive for this.

Mr. Muccillo said the main incentive is the designation by a placard that the facility is Water Smart. He said they talked about mentioning the achievement in the Coalition radio spots.

Chairman Flannery said so much is crammed into those spots right now. He said they should have something that is separate in radio or print that acknowledges Water Smart accomplishments so as to not take away from the value of the current spots. He said the TAC needs to give some more thought to this.

Vice Chairman Springer said one way to do this is part of the standard procedure and that once the Board approves a project then they issue a press release. She said some of the media are likely to pick that up.

Mr. Tom Slaback, 715 E. Goodwin Street, said he finds the application to be very good. He said he thinks the second page would be very helpful if they change the



name to something like “suggestions” or “topics” to use in the application description. He said as far as having a carrot to go with this, allow them to use the Water Smart logo in their advertising.

Chairman Flannery said those are very good suggestions.

Mr. Muccillo said he will bring it back one more time after running it through the TAC.

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

Mr. Rick Shroads said the first two projects that they have brought to the Board are shovel ready as soon as they find funding. He said they have been talking to the Public Works Departments for the both of the towns and they are aware of what is trying to be accomplished. He said they are focusing the APS solar facility now. Mr. Shroads said they obtained some recent aerial topography from the City of Prescott and that the whole City has been flown over in two foot contours. He said they also have photos of the area and they are very pleased with the data provided by the City. He said they have a well driller’s log for the site that helps them to know what the sub strata consists of in the area. Mr. Shroads said they have walked the site with Mr. Mike Johnson from APS and they are very excited about helping with the project. He said they think they know where they want to put the ponds but they want to wait until they get the topo analyzed and know better where the flows are going. Mr. Shroads said they are developing an MOU to work through with the City of Prescott and that will include some data regarding photos and description of what the project will be.

Councilwoman Suttles asked if the City is dragging their feet.

Mr. Shroads said no, that the ball is in his court on that because they want to wait until they have a little better indication on what the topography looks like. He said they really did strike gold on that thanks to the City because they were not sure if they were going to have to fly the project or do some more surveying.

Mr. Shroads said they have been in touch with Ms. Leslie Graser and Mr. Bruce Canavan with the City of Prescott and both are receptive to receiving the preliminary MOU and he just has to compile it for submission.

Chairman Flannery said for clarification is at the east end of the airport.

Mr. Shroads said it is northeast of the airport, it is City property, and it is a joint City/APS facility. He said there are a lot of existing solar panels on the site, which is about 50 acres. He said there is a lot of potential there. He said this is their Plan B site after the Plan A site at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University went by the wayside. Mr. Shroads said when they walked the site they noticed there is a considerable amount of surface clay and that is exactly what they were hoping for because when clay gets wet it absorbs water. He said according to some geologic mapping and the well driller’s logs they would like to get a little more subsurface



data. He said they might be able to pierce that clay and get down to some sands and gravels to where they could have a lot better infiltration into the groundwater.

Member Bunker asked how much money is needed for each of the sites.

Mr. Shroads said with some very preliminary cost estimates he thinks they are going to be running somewhere in the neighborhood of \$300,000 - \$500,000 to do all the projects. He said he does not have the break down on the top of his head. He said they are trying to stay creative and flexible enough to fit into some grant opportunity money and that Ms. Melody Reifsnyder has been very creative in trying to throw money their way.

ITEM NO 7. Grant Opportunities Update

Ms. Melody Reifsnyder said she is resubmitting the grant to Bureau of Reclamation on Friday. She said the National Science Foundation letter of intent is due March 17 and that is one where they are going to have to be creative on how they develop and manage the project. She said the grant is worth \$1,000,000 with no match. Ms. Reifsnyder said they have plenty of intellectual property sitting around and they should be able to design a project that will make them competitive. She said the full proposal is due in April and they are going to have to sit down as a group to see how to make this work. She said recharge is one of the eligible approaches mentioned in the grant but it needs to be new and different from the other recharge projects.

Ms. Reifsnyder said the EPA CARE grant is due March 8th and they are planning to apply for that one and that it only has a 10% match. She said the Laura Jane Musser grant has been suspended on the environmental round until next Spring 2011.

Mr. Muccillo asked for the BOR grant amount.

Ms. Reifsnyder said it is for \$30,000. She said Water 2025 is about four months late from previous years but it should come out in the next month. She said it has a hefty match and they need to be a little creative to meet it.

Chairman Flannery asked regarding the Water 2025 Grant what the match would be.

Ms. Reifsnyder said it has been 50% percent in the past with a combination of in-kind and cash so they are looking at about \$25,000 for each to be considered seriously.

Member Bunker asked if capturing rainwater as they are discussing would be unique enough for the National Science Foundation Grant.

Ms. Reifsnyder said it could be with some creativity and if they can make it a replicable project.



Mr. Shroads said the two projects are not solely recharge projects and already consist of some innovative qualifications with the underground drain systems and soil repellency being considered.

Ms. Reifsnyder said they basically need to design a science project and show the National Science Foundation something new and different.

ITEM NO 8. Next Meeting / Location / Agenda Items

Chairman Flannery said he received the card from Burgess & Niple announcing Mr. Muccillo's promotion and congratulated him.

Mr. Muccillo said thank you very much. He said four agenda items will be the Grant Application update, Recharge & Source Water Pilot Projects Study Update, a follow up on the Water Smart Application, and the Safe Yield Report will be presented. He said regarding the meeting schedule he suggested having some sort of altered meeting schedule such as one meeting every other month.

Vice Chairman Springer said there are number of reasons to consider that and one obviously is the economy. She said they have a couple of members on the TAC committee missing and that would give the cities some time to address that. She said they have accomplished a great deal of what they set out to do with a public education campaign, the pilot project studies in the works, and it seems to her that for this year doing an alternative month schedule probably makes some sense.

Councilwoman Suttles said she agrees and point being if there is a need to have an additional meeting she is sure that can be done.

Chairman Flannery said he thinks they have some momentum right now and he asked if Ms. Reifsnyder will need any approvals for the upcoming grants. She said the Board has already approved the upcoming grants.

Vice Chairman Springer said she thinks they need to have the March meeting but to add to that agenda coming back with a revised meeting schedule for 2010.

Mr. Muccillo said the TAC meeting for March will be on the 18th due to some scheduling conflicts.

Chairman Flannery thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

ITEM NO 9. Adjourn Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.