



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING & AGENDA

**UPPER VERDE RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION COALITION
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA
March 25, 2009**

MINUTES

A MEETING OF THE UPPER VERDE RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION COALITION WAS HELD ON MARCH 25, 2009 in the Prescott Municipal Building, 201 S. Cortez Street, Prescott, Arizona.

Chairman Fann called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

ITEM NO 1. Introductions, Awards, or Presentations

Members Present:

Mayor Karen Fann, Town of Chino Valley, Chairman
Councilman Mike Flannery, Town of Prescott Valley, Vice Chairman
Chairman Ernie Jones Sr., Prescott-Yavapai Indian Tribe
County Supervisor Tom Thurman, Yavapai County (Sitting in for Supervisor Carol Springer)
Mayor Jack Wilson, City of Prescott

Members Absent:

Councilman Floyd Wright, Town of Dewey-Humboldt

Staff Present:

Ed Muccillo, Program Manager
Rick Shroads, Assistant Program Manager
John Munderloh, Town of Prescott Valley
John Rasmussen, Yavapai County

Guests Present:

Councilwoman Fran Schumacher, Town of Prescott Valley
James Lawrence
Linda Campbell
Doug McMillan
Thomas Slaback
Robert Arambula
John Olsen

ITEM NO 2. Call to Public

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



VICE CHAIRMAN FLANNERY MOVED TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 25, 2009 MINUTES; SECONDED BY MEMBER WILSON; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ITEM NO 4. Discussion – TAC Meeting Summaries – February 17, 2009 and March 11, 2009

Program Manager Ed Muccillo said all of the discussion items from the TAC meetings are included in today's agenda except the grant research and application process. He said the Challenge Grant has come out and he has a draft Request for Proposals they hope to get out this week or next.

Chairman Fann said there is quite a bit of stimulus money set aside for water and asked if there is any way the Coalition can tap into that for some these programs.

Mr. Muccillo said yes and this is one of the ways it is manifesting itself because this grant was originally supposed to be out in the fall with a January or February 2010 due date.

Member Wilson said City of Prescott's Deputy City Manager Craig McConnell is tracking the water stimulus grants and they potentially may get one from WIFA.

ITEM NO 5. Discussion – Program Manager's Report

Mr. Muccillo said it has been pretty typical other than changing the workshop to take place next month prior to the regular Board meeting. He said if everything goes well today with the Recharge Study Scope that would be a good way to get that kicked off next month.

Chairman Fann asked that announcements about the workshop be sent out to elected officials.

Supervisor Thurman agreed especially since the Supervisors are now on the WAC.

Mr. Muccillo said he would have the venue changed to be in Council Chambers instead of the COP's Downstairs Conference Room already reserved.

Chairman Fann asked about how they were doing on the budget as the municipalities prepare next year's budgets.

Mr. Muccillo said everything is on schedule – no changes at this time.

Chairman Fann asked if he had these discussions with the TAC regarding how much each municipality needs to contribute for next year's budget and if the municipalities are ok with that.

ITEM NO 6. Discussion & Possible Action – New Recharge Task Authorization and Budget Review

Mr. Muccillo said the revised scope is on pages 6-9 of the agenda and is based on last month's Board meeting and the TAC meeting this month. He said they have renamed this to be TASK 5b – Recharge Source Water Pilot Project Study and are taking a twofold approach as recommended by the Board. He reviewed the Purpose/Goal of the new task saying it is a top priority for the Coalition. Mr. Muccillo explained there are two types of



projects with one on developed land that may be conducive to recharge and the other on undeveloped land to develop concepts for innovative source water capture. Mr. Muccillo said they feel like this is the next key step for the Coalition in taking a leadership role in regional recharge efforts.

Mr. Muccillo explained that Scope items 1-4 cover first piece comparing aerial photos with the recharge mapping and looking for obvious overlaps where artificial recharge may be possible. He said Scope items 5-9 are a somewhat reduced version of what the Board say last month as they pare down source water capture efforts. He said in Scope items 10-11 they will begin discussions with ADWR and to develop an inventory of non-technical questions and issues that will need to be addressed as they begin the next phase. He said they expanded the scope and reduced the fee in anticipation of being able to leverage the TAC a little more.

Supervisor Thurman asked how they quantify amount of recharge that is actually making its way back into the aquifer.

Mr. Muccillo said they do have the capability to use radio isotopes if they need to but what they are trying to do is come up with an approved technology that meets with regulatory conditions and accepted by ADWR. He said ADWR has accepted technologies for recharge itself. He said there are basically three types of recharge that ADWR would look at. Mr. Muccillo explained for 100% credit it is a constructed site that is either a basin or injection well; if it's a managed in stream site you get 50% credit. He said it is not the recharge piece they are trying to figure out rather they want to know the most efficient way they can capture rainwater on a site that is not necessarily all paved so they can use that water for recharge.

Supervisor Thurman said he wonders which approach is better and should they capture in stream like the Town of Prescott Valley is doing without letting the earth clean it.

Mr. Muccillo said he is not sure there is one clear answer because there are so many different things to consider.

Member Wilson said page 1 of the agenda item summary and to understand as it is written, "It is important to note that this effort would be the next phase of the overall recharge efforts. This task is a study to evaluate source capture alternatives. It does not include the actual construction of a recharge pilot project. Developing and evaluating the effectiveness of different source water capture methods will be the primary focus of this effort."

Vice Chairman Flannery said step five is to identify potential partners for a recharge source water pilot project and that entities to be contacted include regulatory agencies, contractors, local businesses, and material suppliers. He asked if the regulatory agencies included ADWR and if that was for the source water. Vice Chairman Flannery said waiting until step 10 is too late.

Mr. Muccillo said the list is not necessarily in sequential order. He said they will be meeting with ADWR sooner rather than later.



Vice Chairman Flannery asked if the cost listed is for project 1 or two and Mr. Muccillo explained that the cost is for the whole thing. Mr. Muccillo said he estimated at having up to five sites.

Chairman Fann said she knows Supervisor Springer had a lot of questions about this at the last Board meeting.

Mr. Muccillo said Supervisor Springer attended the last TAC meeting and had indicated the TAC was getting relatively close.

Howard Mechanic, 309 Bloom Place, referred to the agenda page that listed the deliverable, page 8 of 25, and asked how many artificial recharge projects would be on the undeveloped site.

Mr. Muccillo said they are trying to aim at one site with two or three or four different methods.

Mr. Mechanic suggested that they get an alternate site in case something falls through.

Vice Chairman Flannery asked if that would that come out in exploration and if they are targeting for one.

Mr. Muccillo said because there are so many things that need to fall into place they are aiming at one. He said with the second being relatively remote they are aiming at one.

Vice Chairman asked if it is in their best interest to approach it with a singular interest.

Mr. Muccillo said they can make that change today.

Member Wilson asked if they have scanned to see if anyone else has done anything like this in Arizona previously and to make sure they are not plowing ground someone else has already plowed.

Supervisor Thurman asked if the test location would be close to the site where they would actually want to recharge the water. He said due to the various compositions just because it recharges in one site two miles down the road may be a completely different situation.

Mr. Muccillo said maybe the data gathered will be used in a number of ways including estimating the most reasonable costs for collection within future developments by way of incentive or ordinance.

Supervisor Thurman agreed with Member Wilson and asked if others have done this according to soil types. He said if such relevant information has already been gathered it would be beneficial for potential developers by eliminating the added expense of extensive studies. He encouraged Mr. Muccillo to really do the homework before proceeding with studies that may have already been done.

Chairman Fann said water conservation and recharge is obviously the right thing to do and asked how does ADWR measure natural recharge in any given basin.



John Munderloh said he is not sure if there is a direct answer and said hydrologists compute natural recharge as a derivative of a water budget or a modeling process or something like that. He said there is no physical means of measuring recharge rather is is the derivative of all the other computations in a basin and it is a long term average. Chairman Fann asked if ADWR would tackle that problem in reverse, for example if the Prescott AMA is not in safe yield remaining then would they take the known factor of the artificial recharge and subtract it and estimate the derivative for what the natural recharge amount would be.

Mr. Munderloh said if he is following her correctly he thinks the answer is yes.

Chairman Fann said if they cannot specifically measure natural recharge then the only way to come close to it is by taking the available known factors and the remaining should be what is left over for natural recharge. Mr. Munderloh agreed. Chairman Fann asked if they do enhanced natural recharge by runoff how is ADWR going to measure the fruits of their efforts.

Mr. Munderloh said that is an integral part of this project and that is to measure the developed water. He said as Mr. Muccillo mentioned previously they are trying to focus on regulatory accepted type of scheme and to comply with ADWR policies and requirements. He said it is their intent to have recharge measurements acceptable to ADWR.

Chairman Fann asked if something of this nature has never been done in Arizona then the Coalition is setting precedent and needs to get ADWR on board early so at the end they will have something to quantify and something that ADWR will accept.

Mr. Munderloh said that in the Town of Prescott Valley they meet early and often with ADWR. He said most things they tend to do in this area are precedent setting.

Member Wilson said JW sound like they are trying to stay within existing water legislation and they are not trying to change anything. He said they are trying at the most to get ADWR to establish rule making that would favor what is being done as an accepted practice.

Mr. Muccillo said they are trying something different in scale and that most recharge projects are at the macro level. He said instead of building one huge recharge site where they pump all of the effluent from the wastewater plant they going to have a number of sites with each one small but it eventually adds up.

Supervisor Thurman said that is what is being done at Pioneer Park by Yavapai County.

SUPERVISOR THURMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE NEW RECHARGE TASK AND BUDGET; SECOND BY VICE CHAIRMAN FLANNERY; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ITEM NO 7. Discussion – Water Conservation Budget Update

Mr. Muccillo said he met with Shaun Rydell from City of Prescott to coordinate rather than duplicate water conservation efforts as previously instructed by the Board. He said the Board authorized the water conservation program for \$100,000 last fall. He said this is



an update on where the money is being spent and is in line with the report. Mr. Muccillo said it includes a \$12,000 contingency. He said they are very thankful for the work that has been done by Ms. Rydell and it is really good to be getting her involved.

Vice Chairman asked about the status of taking this back to each entity.

Mr. Muccillo said City of Prescott is the last one to sign the logo agreement.

Chairman Fann asked about the water conservation budget and if there is a component in working with educational systems.

Mr. Muccillo said not in a monetary amount but certainly the workbook can be utilized in educational programs.

John Rasmussen said Yavapai County and the WAC sponsor Project Wet and the folks at the Extension Office intend to work with the Coalition and is their avenue into the schools for grades K – 12.

Chairman Fann said the program is getting huge positive feedback. She said it is her understanding that much of the program is geared toward the younger students and asked if the Coalition can they step up awareness at the high school level.

John Olsen said there is an educational opportunity that has existed for quite a few years and that is the Conservation Education Center and is sponsored by the NRCD's. He said they have already been working with schools at the fourth grade level. He said they have in place a trailer that depicts a watershed activity. Mr. Olsen said they have some new people on the Conservation Education Board and they are working with the Cattlegrowers and the Farm Bureau. He said with 30 years in the Big Chino area he knows where there are some good percolation areas such as the Williamson Valley watershed. He said it is going to be hard to justify the cost benefit ratio to make it worthwhile due to the soils being clay based. Mr. Olsen said the watershed area of the Big Chino is ten times as big as the watershed of the Little Chino area. He said that allows for a lot of percolation spots and that they need to keep looking at the possibilities of how things are really going to work. He said the worst case scenario to him is if nothing gets done in the Big Chino and they keep dewatering the Little Chino aquifer.

Chairman Fann said as a Coalition they have do have Yavapai County as a partner so they are not only dealing with the Little Chino aquifer but the Big Chino as well. She said at some point Chino Valley is going to be experiencing growth in addition to the growth in Prescott and Prescott Valley. She if they can get some good tools in their tool box to provide good water conservation information when these areas do develop.

Mr. Muccillo agreed and said the impact 30,000 homes had on the water budget 20 or 30 years ago they are trying to make that considerably less in the future. He said in terms of education with the contingency that is certainly something that can be incorporated.

Vice Chairman Flannery asked in terms of education do they want to make that a subcategory of one of these elements



Mr. Muccillo said in the report they did public education and outreach was the main goal of it and what has been related today is the cost of the materials. He said that does not necessarily capture the heart of the program, which is education.

Supervisor Thurman said future studies can be aimed at different levels on the net.

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

Chairman Fann explained that there are five Wednesdays in April and that April 22, 2009 is the fourth Wednesday.

Mr. Muccillo said the next Board meeting will be April 22, 2009 at City of Prescott City Hall in Council Chambers and will begin at 2:00 p.m. He said they will also be having a Workshop meeting at 11:00 a.m. prior to the Board meeting with a break in between.

Mr. Muccillo said the study session agenda items will be recharge and at the regular meeting the main topics will be grants and water conservation efforts updates. He asked about the Coalition Board elections and when do they need to plan for them.

Chairman Fann said Jim Bunker will be the new Mayor of Chino Valley and he will be replacing Virginia on the WAC and Mayor Fann on the Coalition. She said he will be sitting in on the April 22nd meeting and then the election at the May 27th meeting. She said the May agenda items for the changing of the guard consists of 1) appointment of new board member 2) elect new board chair person. She suggested that they check with Dewey-Humboldt for any change of appointee.

Doug McMillan, 2150 Meander, said he has been involved in promoting a lot of ideas with the TAC and in to harvesting they want to do the least amount of work and cost as possible. He said that means going to where water is already concentrating and then follow the water to where eventually goes. He said a prime example is out at the Viewpoint and Pronghorn Ranch where there are lots of impervious surfaces and they already have storm drainage facilities that channel and concentrate the water in canals and detention basins. He said if the water is not collected it eventually ends up out in Lonesome Valley, spreads out in clay soils and is lost to evaporations. Mr. McMillan said water travels very slowly when it is recharged in the ground. He said Granite Creek north of 89A is a prime example of a much more effective widespread basin for recharge.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05



MAYOR KAREN FANN, Chairman

ATTEST:

LORRI CARLSON, Administrative Assistant