

MINUTES

Coconino Plateau Water Advisory Council

Friday, January 25, 2013

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 PM

USGS Building #3

2255 N Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001

Present

Leslie Meyers, Bureau of Reclamation
John Martinez, City of Sedona
Deborah Tosline, Bureau of Reclamation
John Davison, Coconino NRCD
Mandy Metzger, Coconino County
Ron Doba, CPWAC
Don Bills, USGS
Brenda Smith, Fish and Wildlife
Matthew Wood, City of Page
Art Babbott, Coconino County Supervisor Elect
John Grahame, Friends of the Rio de Flag
Amanda Acheson, Coconino County
Mike Foley, Navajo Nation
Gerry Walker, ADWR
John Kocjan, City of Page
Doug McMillan, Citizen
Lionel Puhuyesva, Hopi Tribe
Pete Shearer, South Grand Canyon Sanitary District
David Newlin, Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D
Keith Self, Arizona Water Company
Jim Duffield, Hopi Tribe

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Mandy Metzger opened the meeting at 10:00 A.M. and introductions were made by all present.

2. Approval of Minutes – WAC Meeting of December 14, 2012

John Davison made a motion to approve the minutes from December 14, 2012. The motion was seconded by John Martinez and carried.

3. Action Items – None

4. Non-Action Items

A. Macro Rainwater Harvesting

Ron Doba introduced Doug McMillan who provided a PowerPoint presentation on the work done in the Prescott AMA to consider macro rainwater harvesting as a method to capture rainwater normally lost to evaporation and evapotranspiration. Doug's presentation is posted on the CPWAC website under "Presentations."

B. CPWAC Budget for FY 2014

Ron Doba gave a brief overview of the budget that was adopted by the CPWAC Board. He indicated there is some uncertainty built into it on the revenue and expense side. Funding support for the CPWAC will be the focus of the 2013 CPWAC strategic planning retreat. This year we had four entities that supported the CPWAC at \$10,000 each. During the retreat, discussion will take place on how financial and in-kind support can be shared by CPWAC members.

Ron discussed that the CPWAC would be forming an affiliate organization during the year so they can lobby on a federal level. Currently 501 (c) 4 organizations are prohibited from lobbying on a federal level if they utilize federal grant monies.

C. Strategic Planning Retreat

Ron Doba reported that the Board has selected April 26th to hold this year's strategic planning retreat, the same day as the regular WAC meeting. The location being considered is the Highlands Fire Department. A short survey is being crafted that will be sent out to the WAC members shortly for use in crafting the retreat agenda. All present were asked to complete the survey and return it to Ron. Ron and Mandy both emphasized the importance of completing the survey questions and returning them.

D. HB 2338, Regional Water Augmentation Authorities

Ron Doba gave a PowerPoint presentation on HB 2338 that had recently been introduced by Speaker Tobin. The bill would provide authority for water providers to form a Regional Water Augmentation Authority (RWAA) and modify the statute for the Water Supply Development Revolving Fund to become a trust fund accessible by a RWAA. The bill also includes a \$30 million dollar transfer from the State General Fund to the Water Supply Development Revolving Trust Fund. A Q&A paper was shared with the group and Ron was asked to send it out electronically to the WAC members.

5. Committee Reports

A. Technical Advisory Committee

Leslie Meyers reported the TAC met yesterday. Flagstaff has issued an RFP for the Red Gap Ranch work and evaluation is currently taking place. Reclamation is continuing work on pipeline location, turnout location and water volumes. The TAC is also working on the sustainable water budget project that was a priority of the WAC in past strategic plans. An update will be made at a future WAC meeting. Don Bills indicated grant funding of \$50 - \$100 thousand dollars may be available from the USGS Southwest Climate Science Center for some of the TAC work. He will be submitting a letter of interest. Leslie indicated the Landscape Conservation Cooperative will have a funding opportunity available in the near future as well.

B. Public Outreach Committee

Amanda reported the Committee recently met and is moving forward with the 4th grade water ethic contest. John Davison briefly discussed the proposal for the CPWAC Youth Council.

C. Government Affairs Committee

No report today.

6. CPWAC Member Roundtable

Mandy reiterated the Board is in need of an additional member and anyone interested in encouraged to contact Ron Doba.

John Martinez indicated Sedona is providing tours of their wetlands and is upgrading their WWTP to accommodate injection.

John Kocjan reported Page had passed a resolution to further the Page-LeChee Pipeline work.

Pete Shearer indicated he would like to make a presentation to the WAC in the future on the SGCS. March was discussed.

Brenda Smith reported endangered species protection has been proposed for the Zuni bluehead sucker in Arizona.

John Grahame reported the Friends of the Rio de Flag is having a party next Friday, February 1st at Mia's Lounge to celebrate the project progress. It will be held at 6:00 P.M.

David Newlin reported the Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D would be holding their annual Winter Watershed Conference in Show Low January 30th – February 1st and handed out a brochure on the conference.

Amanda Acheson reported they are currently doing a sustainability inventory for Coconino County.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 P.M.

The next regular WAC meeting will be on 2/22/2013 at 10:00 A.M.