

# **MINUTES**

## **Coconino Plateau Watershed Partnership**

501 (c)(3)

## **Coconino Plateau Water Advisory Council**

501 (c)(4)

Joint Meeting

**Friday, January 26, 2018**

**10:00 A.M.**

USGS Building #3

2255 N. Gemini Dr., Flagstaff, Arizona 86001

### **Present**

Coral Evans, City of Flagstaff

John Martinez, City of Sedona

Don Bills, USGS

Tom Klimas, Westland Resources

Tanya Owens, Westland Resources

Ron Doba, CPWAC/CPWP

Karen Modesto, ADWR

Kira Russo, Global Water Policy Consulting

Audry Kruse, City of Flagstaff

Hannah Griscom, AGFD

Jim Parks, Coconino County

Frank McNelly, City of Williams

David Newlin, LCRP RC&D

Brent Bitz, Friends of Verde River

James Meza, AZ State Parks

Alicyn Gitlin, Sierra Club

Shelton Manakaja, Havasupai Tribe

Michelle Ralston, Supervisor Babbott's Office

Jim Duffield, Hopi Tribe

Pete Shearer, Tusayan Sanitary District

Kayci Cook Collins, NPS Flagstaff Monuments

Amanda Acheson, Coconino County

John Snickers, Arizona Water Company

Erin Young, City of Flagstaff

Sharon Masek Lopez, H2O Consulting

Mellisa Yin, City of Flagstaff

Jan Balsom, Grand Canyon National Park

27 people were in attendance

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Coral Evans called the meeting to order at approximately 10:15 A.M. Self-introductions were made by all.

**2. Approval of Joint Meeting Minutes – Meeting of December 8, 2017**

John Martinez made a motion to approve the minutes from December 8, 2017. The motion was seconded by Jim Parks and carried. It was pointed out that the date for the minutes on the agenda is incorrect. The date on the minutes is correct.

**3. Action Items**

**A. Voting Membership Approval: Friends of the Verde River**

Ron Doba discussed the procedure for becoming a voting member of the Partnership and that the Friends of the Verde River have asked to become a voting, funding member. Brent Bitz, representing the Friends of the Verde River gave a brief overview of the organization and programs. He indicated they would be honored to be part of the Partnership. Jim Parks questioned the relationship of the Friends with agriculture. Brent reviewed the ag participants that work with the Friends. Jim Parks then asked about ranching interest. Brent said more of the interest in the Verde Valley deals with agriculture. David Newlin asked if there is a relationship between his group and SRP. Brent responded there is not, they do not see themselves as a political body. Supervisor Parks asked what organizations they have collaborations with. Brent indicated they deal with political entities and funding agencies (formally). On a collaborative basis they deal with individual entities and ditch organizations. Jim Parks asked if they had been in contact with the AZ Cattle Growers Association and AZ Farm Bureau. Brent indicated they had not. Sharon Lopez discussed the existing grasslands restoration project the Friends have been involved in. Mayor Evans asked if Supervisor Parks could forward questions to Mr. Doba so he can get them to Brent and they be addressed for next month's meeting. Consensus is required for approval of this item and it appears Mr. Parks still has concerns and questions. John Martinez asked for a position from Supervisor Parks. He said if we agree to the Friends we should have the AZ Cattle Growers Association and AZ Farm Bureau. He feels that agriculture needs their voice to be heard in the organization. He also expressed concerns about the Navajo/Apache Tribe is not represented. Brent indicated one of their Board members is from the Navajo/Apache Tribe. Frank McNelly made a motion to table the item until next month. The motion was seconded by Jim Parks and carried.

**4. Non-Action Items**

**A. Presentation §11-823. Mandatory Water Adequacy Outside of AMAs**

Ron Doba gave a PowerPoint presentation on § 11-823, the Statute that provides counties with the authority to adopt rules that would require an adequate water supply for approval of a subdivision plat. His presentation is posted on the CPWAC website. Discussion took place regarding thoughts of whether individual providers should be able to decide for themselves if they wanted meet water adequacy requirements or not. Also discussed was the economic importance of having an adequate water supply as well as whether a water supply for 100 years could really be guaranteed. The suggestion was made by Mayor

Evans that we should ask Ag and Ranchers to come to the table and hear their concerns about water providers obtaining designations of adequate water supplies.

**5. Committee Reports**

**A. CPWP Technical Advisory Committee**

Ron Doba indicated the TAC had met yesterday and discussed the planned Private Well Owner's Forum, the grant application package that is being submitted to Reclamation and the 2018 TAC field trip. This year's field trip may focus on springs.

**B. Public Outreach Committee**

Amanda Acheson reported the committee did not meet yesterday but they were wrapping up the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Water Ethics Contest. Sarah is working on the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Water Ethics calendar that was suggested. The Art Exhibition is moving forward and meetings will start in February on the project.

**C. Government Affairs Committee**

There was not a report from the Government Affairs Committee.

**6. Member's Corner – None this month**

**7. CPWP Member Roundtable**

David Newlin reported on the upcoming Winter Watershed Conference.

Shelton reported on the new clinic and the shade facility.

Jim Duffield reported Lionel was awarded a Region 9 EPA award.

Sharon Lopez reported on an upcoming Oak Creek Watershed Council meeting where a presentation from Larry Stevens will take place.

James Meza reported on activities the Arizona State Parks have been involved in (noise in recording).

Tom Klimas discussed ADEQ stakeholder meetings for taking over the 404 permit process.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:45 A.M.