

MINUTES

Coconino Plateau Watershed Partnership

501 (c)(3)

Coconino Plateau Water Advisory Council

501 (c)(4)

Joint Meeting

Friday, February 24, 2023

10:00 A.M.

Meeting Location:

Virtual Zoom

Present

Ron Doba, CPWAC/CPWP

Don Bills, USGS

Pete Furman, City of Sedona

David Newlin, LCRP RC&D

Austin Aslan, City of Flagstaff

Alicyn Gitlin, Sierra Club

Keith Brekus, Coconino County

Erin Young, City of Flagstaff

Zach Ferrie, NRCE representing the Havasupai

Kira Russo, Friends of the Rio

Roxanne Holland, City of Sedona

Nancy Steele, Friends of the Verde River

Emily Melhorn, City of Flagstaff

Alan Dulaney, Kachina Village Improvement District

Deborah Tosline, Reclamation

Kevin Lane, ADWR

John Martinez, Sedona

Lori Matthews, City of Flagstaff

Shannon Jones, City of Flagstaff

Jon Mason, USGS

Chris Kuzdas, Water for AZ Coalition

21 people were in attendance.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Austin Aslan called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 A.M.

Self-introductions were made by all.

2. Approval of Joint Meeting Minutes – Meeting of January 27, 2023

Pete Furman made a motion to approve the minutes from January 27, 2023. The motion was seconded by Austin Aslan and carried.

3. Action Items

a. Presentation SB1306/HB2731, Local Groundwater Stewardship Areas

Ron Introduced Chris Kuzdas and the background on the topic of the presentation. HB 2731 is still be re-written to take into account comments and suggestions that have been received from stakeholders so it is not expected the meeting participants will have enough information today to vote on a position. Chris gave the presentation and took questions from the group. The presentation will be posted on the CPWAC web site.

4. Non-Action Items

a. None

5. Committee Reports

A. TAC: Don Bills reported on yesterday's TAC meeting. The TAC is working with Robert Kirk to plan a field trip that will cover the Navajo Generating Station, LeChee intake at Lake Powell, LeChee water treatment plant, the Colorado River impacts on the operation of Glen Canyon Dam and Bodaway Gap wellfield development. They are also attempting to find funding partners to get the Clear Creek and Hidden Hollow stream flow gages up and running.

B. GAC: The presentation on SB1306/HB2731 covered the GAC report.

C. POC: Emily reported the winners have been selected for the 4th Grade Water Ethics Contest. The artwork and essays are being showcased at the Coconino Center for the Arts. In April the winners will be moved to First Friday, an event in Heritage Square.

5. Members Corner - None

6. CPWP Members Roundtable

Erin Young introduced Shannon Jones, the new Water Resources Director for Flagstaff. John Martinez reported on the Veterans Day events in the Verde Valley area on March 29th to April 2nd.

Alicyn Gitlin reported on an EA coming out on the operation of the Glen Canyon Dam. Also, the Low Head Hydropower Project being considered by Reclamation.

Nancy Steele reported tomorrow there is a Verde Valley Sci-Tech Event at the Sedona Wetlands Preserve.

Emily let the group know they are in the process of doing water awareness events. There is an exhibit and tour/talk at Cline Library on Glen Canyon Dam April 10th.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned for lunch at approximately 12:00 p.m.