

MINUTES

Coconino Plateau Watershed Partnership

501 (c)(3)

Friday, February 26, 2016

10:00 A.M.

USGS Building #3

2255 N Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001

Present

Mandy Metzger, Coconino County

Erin Young, City of Flagstaff

Alicyn Gitlin, Sierra Club

Kira Russo, Global Water Policy Consulting

Amanda Acheson, Coconino County

Don Bills, USGS

Ron Doba, CPWAC/CPWP

Mike Macauley, CNRCD

Kit MacDonald, Kaibab National Forest

Thomas Siyuja, Sr., Havasupai Tribe

Deborah Tosline, Reclamation

Shelton Manakaja, Havasupai Tribal Council

Sybil Smith, ADEQ

Jake Breedlove, ADEQ

Jim Duffield, Hopi Tribe

Brenda Smith, US F&W

Travis Hamidreek, Havasupai Tribe

Charles Mosley, City of Sedona

Brad Hill, City of Flagstaff

Cheryl Ann Martin, NRCD (? unable to hear on tape)

SOME PEOPLE DID NOT SIGN IN

1. Welcome and Introductions

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

2. Approval of Minutes – Meeting of January 29, 2016

Sybil Smith made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Brad Hill and carried.

3. Action Items - None

4. Non-Action Items

A. Groundwater Levels Presentation

Erin Young provided a presentation on groundwater levels and trends on the Coconino Plateau. Some wells have been showing decreasing water levels and some have been showing increasing water levels. Don Bills provided some additional slides on regional hydrogeology. Both presentations are posted on the CPWAC website.

5. Committee Reports

A. CPWP Technical Advisory Committee

Deborah Tosline reported on the previous day TAC meeting. Flagstaff recently entered into an agreement with ADOT to use the ADOT ROW for the Red Gap Ranch pipeline. Brad Hill described the ROW. Deborah reported Reclamation is winding down the engineering analysis and writing a concluding report on the project. She indicated she needs stakeholder cost share information sent to her. Mandy asked for a reminder to be resent with her tables. Ron has prepared a scope of services to update the water source menu maps. Erin discussed the presentation given to the TAC by Dr. Ty Ferre on a modeling concept to resolve conflicts.

B. Public Outreach Committee

Amanda reported on the previous day POC meeting. The Water Hero Toolkits are being distributed. The bathroom artwork is being updated. An information piece will be developed to go along with the bathroom posters. Amanda is in the process of bringing on an intern for help. Interest still exists for the film project. Earth Day will be coming up and we will be participating with several other groups. Sybil will be bringing a plinko board and the group is asking for water related questions that can be used. Mike Macauley suggested the group use the watershed display Willow Bend has. Mike also suggested we contact some of the people that have water hauled to find out how they are conserving water. They have very expensive water.

C. Government Affairs Committee

Brad Hill reported on SB 1268 and SB1400 that would impact current water adequacy requirements. He said the adequacy rules would be “gutted” as written. The bills seem to be gaining traction in the State legislature. Mandy indicated the Governor has also indicated the moratorium on rulemaking is still in place. ADEQ is also holding a listening session on reclaimed water rules throughout the State. Ron reported the first meeting of the Governor’s Water Augmentation Council focused on conservation. Discussion took place regarding lining agriculture ditches and canals.

6. Member Corner

Jake Breedlove gave the Member’s Corner presentation on ADEQ’s Water Quality Improvement Grant Program. The presentation is posted on the CPWAC website.

7. CPWP Member Roundtable

Brad Hill reported on a luncheon he had participated in yesterday. The Kyl Center is developing a “Water Index” for communities to gage themselves against. Sara Porter may be able to talk to the group about this.

Sybil Smith reported ADEQ has set up a track for owners and operators to understand what their responsibilities are when running a water system. It can be accessed on the ADEQ website.

Mike Macauley reported the NRCD is holding an outreach meeting in Williams the 24th of next month.

Shelton Manakaja reported on his work efforts on the Havasupai Reservation.

Amanda Acheson announced Coconino County is hosting their annual sustainable building awards ceremony. It will be April 2nd at the Museum of Northern Arizona.

Kit MacDonald reported the Kaibab is starting a groundwater vulnerability assessment for the forest. They are also working with the Grand Canyon Park on a dye tracing study for spring water.

Jim Duffield reported on the Hopi grant application process. He also said the Hopi would like to present on two of their projects to the CPWP.

Brenda Smith reported February 11th F&W published new final rules on critical habitat.

Deborah reported on grant opportunities that are available from Reclamation. She is also working on an erosion control structure project. There will be a one day seminar in Phoenix on May 24th. She will send out the information to Ron for distribution.

Kira reported she is looking at metrics for water conservation in the City of Flagstaff.

Charles reminded the group the Sedona Film Festival is going on. They are also making application to ADWR for their injection wells.

Alicyn said they are starting their planning meetings for Colorado River Days in Flagstaff.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:15 P.M.