

MINUTES

Coconino Plateau Water Advisory Council
Friday, March 29, 2013
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 PM

USGS Building #3
2255 N Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001

Present

Mandy Metzger, Coconino County Supervisor
Brent Bitz, Sedona
Sybil Smith, ADEQ
Leo Manheimer, Navajo Nation
Rusty Tweed, Willow Bend Environmental Education Center
Craig McMullen, Arizona Game and Fish Department
Gerry Walker, ADWR
Kevin Hartigan, APS
Robert Petzholdt, South Grand Canyon Sanitary District
Don Watahomigie, Havasupai Chairman
Denise Stilley, NAU & Alma Libre Productions
Deborah Tosline, Bureau of Reclamation
John Davison, Coconino NRCD
Ron Doba, CPWAC
Don Bills, USGS
Brenda Smith, Fish and Wildlife
Art Babbott, Coconino County Supervisor
Amanda Acheson, Coconino County
Greg Bryan, Mayor of Tusayan
Brad Hill, City of Flagstaff
Pete Shearer, South Grand Canyon Sanitary District
Steve Rice, NPS
Jim Duffield, Hopi Tribe
Tom Gilardoni, Westland Resources
Leo Manheimer, Navajo Nation
Ray Benally, Navajo Nation
Margaret Vick, Havasupai Tribe
Peter Moorhouse, Coconino County
Zachary Schwartz, Coconino County
Eleanor McTyre, NAU

Some participants did not sign in

1. Welcome and Introductions

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

Don Bills announced the new security measures that would be going into effect at 11:00 A.M. today. Entrance will only be permitted at one door and visitors will be required to check in and obtain a visitors badge. The badge is to be turned in when the visitor leaves the building. Any door can be used for exit by pushing the red button at the door.

2. Approval of Minutes – WAC Meeting of February 22, 2013

John Davison made a motion to approve the minutes from February 22, 2013. The motion was seconded by Pete Shearer and carried.

3. Action Items – None

4. Non-Action Items

A. Presentation on South Grand Canyon Sanitary District

Pete Shearer gave an overview of the South Grand Canyon Sanitary District and the flood study that is in progress for Tusayan. Pete's PowerPoint presentation is posted on the CPWAC website

B. Federal Budget Update

Deborah reported the NCAWSFS is funded from the Rural Water Program that has no funding identified for FY 2013 – 2014. The current work is being done with funds from FY 2012. If no additional federal funding is identified or new cost sharing agreements are in place by June or July she has been instructed to issue a concluding report for the project. Questions regard what the concluding report means to the project and how much is needed for the cost share (by summer) were asked. Deborah indicated she needs to get more information from the policy administrator. Ron was asked to forward an email Deborah had sent with sample letters for support that had been written by other agencies along with the talking points paper that was developed last month. Deborah will get back to Ron with more specific information regarding what is needed to continue the project and avoid the concluding report. Ron was asked to get with Joanne with this information when he gets it.

The City of Williams has decided to not participate in the NCAWSFS.

John Davison asked if the Hwy 89 repair project would provide opportunity for the pipeline project. Deborah indicated she would need to check on it.

C. Sustainable Water Budget Subcommittee Report

Deborah provided a PowerPoint presentation on what has been done by the Sustainable Water Budget Subcommittee. The subcommittee determined it should be named the Sustainable Water Management Subcommittee instead of the previous name as it is more applicable to what the group is doing. A historical summary was provided and the framework that the subcommittee has developed was presented. The subcommittee is recommending a pilot study be conducted on Clear Creek and Chevelon Creek to test the sustainability framework. The group is not asking for decisions today. The PowerPoint will be posted on the CPWAC website and we will be asking the

WAC to approve the framework at the Strategic Planning Retreat. A Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) will be coming out from the Desert Landscape Conservation Cooperative that may be a possible source of funding for the pilot study. The FOA is projected to come out April 8th and will require 50/50 participation.

Art Babbott reported SRP has done climate analysis work that may provide helpful information. Art asked if a menu of regulatory strategies would be identified to mitigate the thresholds identified in the sustainable water management framework. Don Bills responded that mitigation is out of the current framework of what is trying to be done and that would be left up to the entities that have control of the thresholds.

D. Board Vacancy Discussion

Mandy reported the CPWAC is still trying to identify a person to fill the vacant board member position. We will be moving forward with filling the position at the next meeting (May) and anyone with interest should contact Ron or Mandy.

5. Committee Reports

A. Technical Advisory Committee

Deborah and Brad Hill reported the City of Flagstaff is negotiating a contract with a consultant for the Red Gap Ranch modeling project. A presentation will be given to Tusayan on the NCAWSFS Wednesday evening by Ron, Deborah and Tom Whitmer.

B. Public Outreach Committee

Amanda reported the teacher incentive of \$500 seems to be working as we have three submittals already for this year's water ethic poster contest.

John Taylor will be representing the school district as coordinator for the Youth Council and is anxious to start on the project as a result of discussions John Davison has had with him and Robert Kelty.

The film project is also progressing. Denise Stilley is a professional cinematographer and will make the water ethics film for the project. The film is hoped to be completed by September.

The City of Flagstaff's Earth Day will be celebrated April 20th and Amanda invited folks to help staff the booth. Amanda will send Ron a sign-up sheet for distribution.

C. Government Affairs Committee

Joanne Keene was unable to attend. Ron reported on the status of HB 2338. The bill is held for modifications and will be resubmitted next September.

6. CPWAC Member Roundtable

Mandy indicated we will be asking for WAC members to introduce their group's interest in the WAC in the "Member Corner" that is being included in the Member Roundtable discussion. Craig McMullen

volunteered to provide the group with his interest as he is the new member and this was his first meeting.

Members provided information regarding activities their agencies are involved in. Reports were made by Pete Shearer, Brent Bitz, Brenda Smith, Jim Duffield, Leo Manheimer, Don Bills, Steve Rice, Don Watahomigie, Margaret Vick, Ron Doba, Amanda Acheson, Brad Hill, Art Babbott, Mandy Metzger, and Mayor Bryan. John Davison introduced Rusty Tweed, the new Director for the Willow Bend Environmental Education Center.

7. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 P.M.