

MINUTES

Coconino Plateau Watershed Partnership
501 (c)(3)
Coconino Plateau Water Advisory Council
501 (c)(4)
Joint Meeting
Friday, March 31, 2017
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
Jim Parks, Coconino County
Frank McNelly, City of Williams
David Newlin, LCRP RC&D
Robert Kirk, Navajo Nation
Brad Hill, City of Flagstaff
Don Bills, USGS
Ron Doba, CPWP
Karen Modesto, ADWR
Gil Arviso, Navajo Nation
Ed Schenk, Grand Canyon National Park
Brenda Smith, U.S. Fish and Wildlife
Jim Duffield, Hopi Tribe
Brent Bitz, City of Sedona
Thomas Siyuja, Sr., Havasupai Tribe
Alicyn Gitlin, Sierra Club
Kira Russo, Global Water Policy Consulting
Tom Klimas, Westland Resources
Pete Shearer, Tusayan Sanitary District
Charles Mosley, City of Sedona
Stefanie Smallhouse, Water Protection Fund
Jan Balsom, GCNP

Some attendees did not sign in

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Coral Evans opened the meeting at approximately 10:00 A.M.
Self-introductions were made by all.

2. Approval of Minutes – Meeting of February 24, 2017

John Martinez made a motion to approve the minutes from February 24, 2017. The motion was seconded by David Newlin and carried.

3. Action Items

A. Consideration of Election of Secretary Treasurer for CPWAC and CPWP

John Martinez made a motion to elect Supervisor Jim Parks as Secretary/Treasurer for the CPWAC and CPWP. The motion was seconded by Frank McNelly and carried.

4. Non-Action Items

A. Presentation – Arizona Water Protection Fund

Stefanie Smallhouse gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Arizona Water Protection Fund for which she is the Director. Stefanie's presentation is available on the CPWAC website.

5. Committee Reports

A. CPWP Technical Advisory Committee

Ron Doba reported the TAC had met yesterday and gone through "dry runs" of their presentations to the Partnership for next month as well as discussing the FOA for the WaterSMART grant that could be used for the Ecosystems Services Assessment. This year's September field trip planning continues with plans to visit reuse sites in Flagstaff, Sedona, Prescott, Prescott Valley and wineries in the Cottonwood area. There will be a stop for lunch and possibly a wine tasting opportunity. John Martinez and Brent Bitz indicated Yavapai College has a complete wine program (with a vineyard) and they might be a good place to visit.

B. Public Outreach Committee

Ron Doba reported the POC had met yesterday and reviewed upcoming events for staffing. Events include a Water Awareness Event in Flagstaff, Earth Day, Flagstaff Festival of Science, the 4th Grade Water Ethics Contest, and Colorado River Days. We will be one of the sponsors for the Colorado River Days event.

C. Government Affairs Committee

Brad Hill gave an update on March 10th's meeting of the GAC. The committee discussed whether House Bill 2230 (tax credit for rainwater harvesting systems) should be worked on for next year. It did not make it out of committee this year. The group also discussed a recent Court of Appeals ruling that applied to Federal Reserved Rights for groundwater.

6. Member's Corner (none this month)

Ron asked if anyone had anything for the Member's Corner for next month. Alicyn Gitlin volunteered to give an update on the Colorado River Days next month. Frank McNelly volunteered to do the Member's Corner for the month of May on ranching water systems.

7. CPWP Member Roundtable

Jim Parks discussed the closing of the Navajo Generating Station and the associated schedule. Jim also discussed the upcoming military "stand down" that will be held in Flagstaff on May 19th. Frank McNelly indicated the reservoirs in Williams are still flowing over.

David Newlin reported on the problem Navajo County is having with property assessments dropping. This is a forerunner of what could happen with the Navajo Generating Station shutting down. He also indicated the presentations from the Winter Watershed Conference are available on their website.

Jan Balsom reported visitations at the Grand Canyon are up to summer levels.

Jim Duffield reported the Hopi finished their reporting sampling and are writing several grant applications.

Pete Shearer reported Odessa, Texas is experiencing a "boom" due to fracking operations. He also has his rainwater harvesting system in operation.

Brent Bitz gave information on the State of the Watershed Conference that will be held in Clarkdale May 10 – 11th. The new Verde River Greenway organization would like to give a presentation in October.

John Martinez reported Sedona is experiencing an influx of visitors due to Spring Break. They will also be dedicating a new monument in Cottonwood dedicated to "Rosie the Riveter" on March 21st.

Robert Kirk reported on the proposed agreement with SRP regarding the NGS. He also gave an update on various water supply projects taking place on the Reservation. They are in the process of looking at intake alternatives with the City of Page and will be improving the water treatment plant that provides water to LeChee.

Brad Hill reported April is "Water Awareness" month and Flagstaff is doing numerous things. The Flagstaff Council has made a "water conservation pledge" and Upper Lake Mary has been spilling over for the past six weeks.

Kira Russo announced she attended the recent U of A conference on Ag water. She is also submitting an abstract for a paper to be given at a global water conference in Tel Aviv.

Alicyn Gitlin discussed a trip she participated in looking at uranium mines in Arizona. An issue was identified with water at a Canyon Mine. Contaminated Water is having to be trucked off site. Water is being sprayed for disposal and it is going through the fence into the forest.

Charles Mosley reported Sedona is still trying to get two disposal wells going. They are looking at a total of six wells.

Mayor Evans reported her great aunt was a "Rosie the Riveter." Flagstaff is also making a "Water wise" challenge to residents to go online and take the challenge to conserve water. She encouraged residents in Flagstaff and the County to take the challenge. Access can be made through the Facebook page.

8. Adjournment

Frank McNelly made a motion to adjourn at approximately 11:45 AM. The motion was seconded by John Martinez and carried.