

MINUTES

Coconino Plateau Water Advisory Council

Friday, May 31, 2013

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 PM

USGS Building #3

2255 N Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001

Present

Mandy Metzger, Coconino County Supervisor

Rory Steinke, Coconino National Forest

Sybil Smith, ADEQ

Leo Manheimer, Navajo Nation

Pete Shearer, South Grand Canyon Sanitary District

Ron Doba, CPWAC

Don Bills, USGS

Brenda Smith, US Fish and Wildlife

Art Babbott, Coconino County Supervisor

Amanda Acheson, Coconino County

John Davison, CNRCD

Greg Bryan, Mayor of Tusayan

Brad Hill, City of Flagstaff

Steve Rice, NPS

Tom Gilardoni, Westland Resources

Justin Ramsay, Westland Resources

Nick Patton, Winslow/Bar T Bar

David Brown, Winslow/Bar T Bar

Ray Benally, Navajo Nation

Margaret Vick, Havasupai Tribe

John Martinez, City of Sedona

Mark Woodson, City of Flagstaff

Erin Young, City of Flagstaff

Keith Self, Arizona Water Company

Sue Pratt, Coconino County

Alicyn Gitlin, Sierra Club

Abe Springer, NAU

Karen Modesto, ADWR

Trent Larson, Navajo County

Allen Rosenbaum, City of Winslow

Tom Whitmer, City of Cottonwood

Leslie Meyers, Bureau of Reclamation

Bob Michaels, Bureau of Reclamation

John Grahame, Friends of the Rio de Flag

Some participants did not sign in

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Mandy Metzger opened the meeting at approximately 10:00 A.M. and self-introductions were made by all present. Ron Doba reminded everyone to please sign in.

2. Approval of Minutes – WAC Meeting of March 29, 2013

Mark Woodson made a motion to approve the minutes from March 29, 2013. The motion was seconded by John Martinez and carried.

3. Action Items

A. Consideration of Expansion of CPWAC Geographical Boundary

Ron Doba provided the background for the agenda item. The TAC Sustainable Water Management Subcommittee wants to apply for a \$160,000 grant from the Southern Rockies Landscape Conservation Cooperative to do the pilot study in the area of Clear Creek and Chevelon Creek. The project would determine the necessary environment that would need to be maintained for T & E species to continue to exist. Currently, the CPWAC geographical boundary does not include all of Red Gap Ranch or the subject area. The original boundary was based on limitations for the NCAWSFS. The expanded boundary map would be included in the grant application and would clearly delineate the study area as part of the CPWAC. Leslie confirmed the current map included the points of delivery that are identified in the NCAWSFS. Tom Whitmer provided additional information on the development of the original boundary. Ron responded that there had been no discussion with Winslow on the boundary expansion because the Subcommittee did not believe it would cause any impact or concern for Winslow. Winslow was not being forced to become a member of the CPWAC by the expansion of the boundary. Rory suggested the boundary be based on the watershed. Brenda commented the planning efforts of the CPWAC should be broader than just the feasibility study. Leslie and Don discussed the intent of the grant application and that the sustainable water budget was a component developed by the WAC at a previous strategic planning retreat.

Comments were taken from the public after discussion by the WAC. David Brown indicated he represented Winslow. Mr. Brown indicated individuals in Winslow had concerns about the boundary expansion and asked that before the boundary be expanded discussions take place with Winslow and Bar T Bar so they can understand how the expanded boundary would impact them. He thought that would go a long way to promote good will.

Comments and suggestions were made by Don, Leslie and Abe Springer regarding the need for the grant and the possibilities that the grant could be

submitted without a new map showing an expanded boundary. It was determined the original map could be used. Mandy indicated she was still interested in visiting with the City of Winslow and Bar T Bar. Mark made a motion to take no action on the item. The motion was seconded by John Martinez and carried.

B. Consideration of Letter of Support for Grant Application by USGS for WaterSMART Applied Science Grants for the Southern Rockies Landscape Conservation Cooperative

Ron introduced the agenda item and explained the letter is a requirement that needs to go along with the USGS grant application. Mark made a motion to approve the letter of support. The motion was seconded by John Martinez and carried.

4. Non-Action Items

A. Presentation on City of Flagstaff Adequate Water Supply Designation

Brad Hill introduced Erin Young who provided a presentation on the process Flagstaff had gone through to obtain its Designation of Adequate Water Supply. Erin's PowerPoint presentation is posted on the CPWAC web site.

B. Discussion of NCAWSFS Cost Sharing Spreadsheet

Ron introduced the item and Tom Whitmer reviewed the spreadsheets that had been developed in November of 2010. The original cost of the NCAWSFS was \$14,731,000 with a cost share amount of \$8,691,290. Since the start of the project, Williams has dropped out and Tusayan and the Grand Canyon Park are considering their involvement. These sheets were developed to determine the cost sharing for the NCAWSFS partners. Eight alternatives were presented. Tom indicated the alternatives that were preferred by most parties at the time were alternatives 7 and 8.

Some parties have already provided in-kind services and/or cash toward the project.

The question now is how the \$300,000 would be divided up that Reclamation needs to continue the feasibility study. Leslie indicated Reclamation needs commitments by the end of June and the money by October. ADWR has indicated they may be willing to commit so funds if local support is shown for the project.

Mandy asked that Ron provide information on what will be needed from the partners to them and they come back June 28th with letters of commitment that they will provide the necessary funding to keep the project going. Ron will try to set up a meeting with the partners to "hammer out" the funding.

Parties should be prepared to provide a letter from their agency to the CPWAC at the next meeting indicating their commitment and that funding will be made by October of this year.

C. Board Position Vacancy

Mandy reminded the group that a vacancy existed on the Board and asked if anyone had suggestions or interest. Mayor Bryan was asked if Tusayan would be interested in filling the position now that they have committed financial support for the CPWAC. Mayor Bryan indicated that he would be. Mark Woodson made a motion to elect the Mayor of Tusayan or his designated representative on the CPWAC Board. The motion was seconded by John Davison and carried.

D. Update on Application for Affiliate Organization

Ron reported there has not been any application filed as of yet for the affiliate organization. The WaterSMART Grant application that is being applied for can be used, if approved, to provide for fees and time involved in forming the organization. The Board still is considering whether the new organization should be a 501 (c) 3 or 501 (c) 4. This item is on the Board agenda for today.

5. Committee Reports

A. Technical Advisory Committee

Leslie indicated the TAC had met last Tuesday and the WAC has already heard everything that had taken place.

B. Public Outreach Committee

Amanda reported the POC had met in April. A winner has been selected from the 4th grade water ethics contest. The winning class gets a pizza party and an ice cream party will be given at the participating schools. NAU Agua has taken the leadership on the film project. John Davison reported on the status of the Youth Council. Amanda asked if it would be beneficial for the group to have a quarterly newsletter. This will be discussed in the Board meeting.

C. Government Affairs Committee

There was no report from the Government Affairs Committee.

6. Member Corner

Brenda Smith discussed the responsibilities of the US Fish and Wildlife service and their interest in the CPWAC. The Navajo Nation volunteered to present at next month's member corner.

7. CPWAC Member Roundtable

Leo Manheimer asked if the numbers for participation in the NCAWSFS could be provided by June 10th for their meeting in Farmington and if Ron or Tom could attend to present the numbers. Mandy asked if we could call in. Leo said he would check to see if a conference phone is available.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:40 P.M.

Next meeting date July, 28, 2013, 10:00 A.M.