

**MINUTES**  
Coconino Plateau Watershed Partnership  
501 (c)(3)  
Friday, September 25, 2015  
10:00 A.M.

**USGS Building #3**  
**2255 N. Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, Arizona**

**Present**

Mandy Metzger, Coconino County  
Brad Hill, City of Flagstaff  
John Martinez, City of Sedona  
Don Bills, USGS  
Ray Benally, Navajo Nation  
Greg Bryan, Town of Tusayan  
Charles Mosley, City of Sedona  
Ed Schenk, Grand Canyon National Park  
Brenda Smith, USFW  
Sybil Smith, ADEQ  
Bob Sejkora, AZ State Parks  
Karen Modesto, ADWR  
Jim Duffield, Hopi Tribe  
Abe Springer, NAU  
Russ Callejo, Bureau of Reclamation  
Michelle Ralston, Coconino County  
Ron Lee, Congresswoman Kirkpatrick's office  
David Newlin, Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D  
Hannah Griscom, AZGFD  
Ron Doba, CPWAC/CPWP  
Deborah Tosline, Bureau of Reclamation  
Trent Blanchard, Senator McCain's office  
Pete Shearer, Tusayan Sanitary District  
Todd Madeksza, Coconino County

**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 August 28, 2015**

John Martinez 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. Presentation: Navajo Generating Station EIS**

Russ Callejo, Project Manager for the USBR provided a presentation on the status of the EIS for the Navajo Generating Station. The presentation will be posted on the CPWAC website upon authorization from Russ.

At this time the agenda was moved to Item 6 and the Member Corner report was given by Ron Lee (see 6.).

#### **5. Committee Reports**

##### **A. CPWP Technical Advisory Committee**

Deborah reported the TAC met yesterday. There will be a presentation by Southwest Groundwater Consultants on the Red Gap Ranch groundwater modeling in December. The DLCC nomination application has been submitted. Ron and Deborah met with Senator McCain's staff recently regarding the reauthorization of the Rural Water Act and it does not appear it will happen next year. The Senator supports postponing the concluding report for the NCAWSFS and will ask the Bureau if other paths may be available to fund the project to 30%. Nick asked for a date when the study can get to 30%. Deborah is getting that information. Ron indicated Nick did ask if the non-federal parties could come up with additional funding. We also need to coordinate with Leupp on the visit.

There will be a field trip for the October meeting that will go to Clear Creek, Chevelon Creek, the Leupp wellfield and Red Gap Ranch. It should take 6-8 hours. Approximately 14 people indicated they wanted to go. Ron indicated he would try to get two vans. Deborah will send an email out to confirm attendance. The group decided to have lunch at La Posada in Winslow. Ron was asked to include the map when the invitation is sent out.

##### **B. Public Outreach Committee**

Ron reported the Public Outreach Committee had met yesterday and is working on the 4<sup>th</sup> grade water conservation contest. Willow Bend has indicated they would like to partner with the CPWP on the contest. He has a box of posters that have not been taken for posting in bathrooms and they are available to anyone that would like them. Numerous individuals raised their hands and he indicated for them to get with him after the meeting.

##### **C. Government Affairs Committee**

Brad Hill reported the newly formed Government Affairs Committee will be holding their first meeting today after the Partnership meeting.

#### **6. Member Corner**

Ron Lee gave an update on the potential government shutdown. It will not be known until Monday whether a shutdown will occur. It appears that Senator Cruz may object to a short term resolution that would keep the government operating. The Transportation bill is also facing congress. Additional news included the resignation of Speaker Boehner who will likely be replaced by Congressman McCarthy. John Martinez asked what Congresswoman Kirkpatrick's position is on the Grand Canyon Watershed National Monument. Ron Lee indicated she supports it as long as concerns are addressed. She has not taken a position on the Sedona/Verde Valley proposal.

## **7. CPWP Member Roundtable**

John Martinez reported on the upcoming wine festival in Sedona and that he is now on the board of a group against human trafficking.

Ed Schenk reported on October 13<sup>th</sup> their interns are giving their presentations on the work they have done over the summer. It should begin about 7:30.

Brenda Smith reported in early October decisions should come out on listings for the headwater round tail chub, Sonoran Desert tortoise, and the Page Springs snail.

Jim Duffield reported the Hopi are continuing with their Clean Water Act activities and closing out a wetlands grant they received two years ago. They have funding to build check dams in Keams Canyon.

Mayor Bryan reported Tusayan is still waiting to hear from the Forest Service on their Environmental Assessment. It will likely go to an EIS. They are also very concerned about the government shutdown. There are two bills sitting in the House that would address loss of revenue and previously lost revenue from the past shutdown and future shutdowns. Tusayan has also applied for a broadband grant to improve their broadband infrastructure.

Sybil Smith reported ADEQ is offering training for certified operators at Twin Arrows next week. Water Quality improvement grants are coming out again this fall.

Don Bills reported the Biannual Colorado Plateau Science and Management Conference will be taking place at the High Country Conference Center in two weeks. The USGS has recently brought on some new staff to expand their program activities.

Brad Hill Reported Flagstaff is doing computer modeling on Red Gap that will be done in December and are beginning a new storm water modeling project. The utility is also in the process of soliciting a rate increase.

Charles Mosley reported Sedona is moving forward with their injection wells.

Abe Springer reported the Kaibab Forest has approved permits to install instrumentation in the Sycamore impaired watershed. They are still working to get instrumentation employed in the Lake Mary watershed. The Arizona Riparian Council is meeting October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> in Flagstaff. Also, this year's Arizona Town Hall is all about water. Mandy indicated she will be attending.

Hannah Grissom announced the Coconino County Comprehensive Plan is out to the public for review and comment. The Plan has a water element that mirrors some of the work done by the Partnership.

Pete Shearer reported the 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher (Tusayan) is excited about taking part in the water conservation contest. They are working on increasing their water storage by four times by the end of next year.

Karen Modesto reported ADWR is processing this year's funding for the NCAWSFS and it should be paid today. They have also completed their review of the Red Gap Ranch groundwater model.

Ron Doba reported he had an opportunity to participate on a groundwater panel last night for the Flagstaff Science Festival. The water source maps made by the TAC were very popular.

## **8. Adjournment**

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