

# **MINUTES**

Coconino Plateau Watershed Partnership  
501 (c)(3)  
Friday, December 12, 2014  
10:00 A.M.

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

## **Present**

Supervisor Mandy Metzger, Coconino County  
Mayor Jerry Nabours, City of Flagstaff  
Councilor John Martinez, City of Sedona  
Mayor Greg Bryan, Town of Tusayan  
Pete Shearer, Tusayan Sanitary District  
Karen Modesto, ADWR  
Ron Doba, CPWAC/CPWP  
Thomas Siyuja Sr., Havasupai Tribe  
David Newlin, LCRP RC&D  
George Mase, Hopi Tribe  
John Davison, CNRCD  
Don Bills, USGS  
Joanne Keene, Coconino County  
Sybil Smith, ADEQ  
Deborah Tosline, Bureau of Reclamation  
Kayci Cook Collins, National Park Service  
Brenda Smith, Fish & Wildlife Service  
Brad Hill, City of Flagstaff  
Ben Tobin, Grand Canyon National Park  
Matt Rinker, Arizona Game & Fish  
Robert Petzoldt, Tusayan Sanitary District  
Lionel Puhuyesva, Hopi Tribe  
Martha Hahn, Grand Canyon National Park  
Jake Breedlove, ADEQ  
Jim Duffield, Hopi Tribe  
Clint Chandler, Senator Flake's Office  
Amanda Acheson, Coconino County  
Alicyn Gitlin, Sierra Club  
Rachel Heydorn, Coconino County  
Shayla Woodhouse, 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 October 31, 2014

Mayor Bryan made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by John Martinez and carried.

**3. Action Items** - None

**4. Non-Action Items**

**A. Update from Senator Flake's Office**

Clint Chandler provided an update on issues from Senator Flake's office. Some "takeaways" from Clint's presentation are as follows:

- Water is a major emphasis for the Senator.
- Senator Flake has taken over Senator Kyl's water leadership role in the State.
- Senator Flake recently introduced the Bill Williams Water Settlement Act.
- The Senator will be collaborating with the Morrison Institute and the Kyl Center for Water Policy.
- Senator Flake will be conducting water town halls during the upcoming year (2-3).
- The Tonto Apache Settlement is the next in the que to be addressed.
- The Senator, along with Senator McCain have opposed the Forest Service groundwater initiative but so far the agency has been unyielding. It remains to be seen if the proposed policy will change.
- Three letters have been submitted in opposition to the "Waters of the U.S." proposed definition change. There has been significant opposition to this.

Clint addressed the funding issue for the Feasibility Study. He has been told much of the problem is that the pipeline has not been viewed as a reasonable solution due to cost. Ron Doba explained that the Partnership submitted a proposal last month to the USACE to complete the Feasibility Study to a reduced scope (30% design). This would provide cost estimates and a portable product from the project that could be used for planning purposes. The Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 provided the USACE with funds for feasibility studies and the D.C. office had verbally encouraged the group to submit the proposal. If authorized, it would mean the \$5 million dollars already spent would not have been wasted. Ron provided a copy of the proposal to Clint for the Senator's office to review.

**B. ADEQ Water Quality Improvement Grant Opportunities**

Jake Breedlove provided a presentation on the ADEQ Water Quality Improvement Grant Program. Jake discussed the program that is available for impaired waterways within the State. The program typically has between \$1 million and \$2 million available each cycle. A 40% match is required to be funded under the program. Jake's presentation is posted on the CPWAC website.

## **5. Committee Reports**

### **A. Government Affairs Committee**

Joanne Keene gave report on the Government Affairs Committee efforts during the past year that included the Legislative Water Briefing in Prescott Valley. Gubernatorial candidates were invited prior to the election and Governor Elect Doug Ducey was in attendance.

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

Amanda Acheson introduced the members of the Public Outreach Committee and gave a Power Point presentation on the year's activities. Amanda's presentation is posted on the CPWAC website.

### **C. Technical Advisory Committee**

Deborah Tosline reported on the water resource menu the TAC is working on and invited participants to become involved in the TAC. The North Central Project is still moving along. Federal funds are used up and the non-Federal partner's contributions are now being used.

## **6. Members Corner**

Kayci Cook Collins gave a Power Point presentation on her role with the Flagstaff National Monuments. Kayci's presentation is posted on the CPWAC website.

## **7. CPWP Member Roundtable**

John Davison reported the Coconino NRCDC is hosting a holiday reception. John Martinez invited everyone to come down to Sedona and see Tinsel Town. Brenda Smith reported two Condors are scheduled to arrive at the Phoenix Zoo next Monday.

Jim Duffield reported the Hopi are finishing up a two year wetlands program development grant and is applying for more 319 money.

Clint Chandler indicated a budget may soon be sent to the President.

David Newlin reported they are finishing up a 319 grant program and the Winter Watershed Conference is coming up.

Amanda reported the County is working on the Water Element of the Comprehensive Plan and it would be good to have it as a presentation to the Partnership in February.

Thomas Siyuja reported he recently traveled to D.C. and spoke to the Secretary of Interior's office and others to discuss water related and mining issues.

Alicyn Gitlin indicated they are initiating planning for the Colorado River Days.

Martha Hahn reported recently the water pipeline at the Grand Canyon Park broke again. It should be repaired soon.

Karen Modesto reported an MOU had been signed to keep more water in Lake Mead between Nevada, California, and Reclamation.

Ron Doba gave some information regarding next year's strategic planning retreat.

## **8. Adjournment**

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