

Methow Watershed Council
Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2007
Twisp Town Hall

Council Members present were: Chairman Katharine Bill, Greg Knott, Marty Williams, Ray Campbell, Nate Wehmeyer, Okanogan County, Tom Gehring, Council Member Town of Twisp and Secretary Jackie Moriarty.

Council Members Absent: Vice-Chairman Mike Fort, Vicky Welch and Tim Johnson, MVID.

Guests present: Rusty Post, Department of Ecology (DOE).

Chairman Bill called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Council Member Gehring asked to discuss a conversation that he and Clerk/Treasurer Colleen Storms recently had regarding inconsistencies with DOE meetings and staff.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 8, 2007 MEETING

The council asked that the following language be included in the minutes: In the Methow Valley, metering data from Twisp plus 5% of users outside of the towns would be enough to estimate average use. Metering outside of towns would be voluntary. This data would be considered representative for the area.

MOTION:

Council Member Campbell moved to approve the minutes of November 8, 2007 as amended and to include as an attachment the notes taken by Chairman Bill regarding discussion held with Bob Barwin, DOE. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gehring and passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY GRANTS

Rusty Post reported that the grant the council submitted for Instream Gauging was no longer a project that was being funded by the DOE. Post explained that there are no grants currently available for other means of measurement at this time.

Secretary Moriarty reported that the Rule Revision Grant scope of work still needed discussed and that it was left with Mr. Post to prepare a new scope of work according to the comments received during the October 17, 2007 meeting.

REVIEW TIMELINE, THE PHASE 4 GRANT AND THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Council had a brief discussion regarding the importance of both the Rule Revision Grant and the Phase 4 Grant and agreed that some of the items overlapped and needed to be reviewed and revised.

MOTION:

Council Member Knott moved to prepare and submit the Phase 4 Grant now and prepare the Rule Revision Grant at a later date. The motion was seconded by Council Member Campbell and passed unanimously.

Council began comparing both grants to develop an idea of importance of the projects listed. As council discussed and review both scopes of work and decided to apply for both grants.

MOTION:

Council Member Knott amended his motion to included preparing and submitting the Rule Revision Grant now also. Council Member Campbell seconded the amendment and it passed unanimously.

Council Member Knott suggested the following changes to the Rule Revision Grant Scope of Work: Remove Task #3 – Transferring portions of the reserve to other sub-basins and Task #4 – Information related to determinations of future water use under the reservation and add the \$1,000 budget from each to Task #5 in Fiscal Year 08 bringing that total to \$3,000 and Task #6 in Fiscal Year 09 bringing that total to \$4,000.

*Note: Task #5 and #6 will be Task #3 and #4 in the final scope of work.

MOTION:

Council Member Knott moved to Remove Task #3 and Task #4 of the Rule Revision Grant Scope of Work and to add the \$1,000 budget from each to Task #5 in Fiscal Year 08 bringing that total to \$3,000 and Task #6 in Fiscal Year 09 bringing that total to \$4,000. The motion was seconded by Council Member Campbell and passed unanimously.

Secretary Moriarty suggested that the Council consider developing a Contractors list in order to save money and time for future projects. Moriarty explained that if a Request for Qualifications was developed and advertised, a list could be compiled and used when specific jobs and projects were identified by the Council. Council Member Knott asked for a cost to be presented to the Council for the development of this list.

Action: Secretary Moriarty will report back at the next meeting with a budget for developing a contractor's list.

Council Member Knott led the discussion on the Phase 4 Grant Scope of Work. Knott requested that a budget for Task#1 of the Phase 4 Grant be prepared by Clerk/Treasurer Storms by the next meeting. The Council agreed that Task #2 needed to be revised to cover any work or gathering of information that still needs to be done regarding the Rule Revision Grant. The Council agreed that Task #3 was well worded and that the budget should be reconsidered and possibly revised. Council Member Knott volunteered to work with Rusty Post and Secretary Moriarty to work out some of the above issues regarding the Phase 4 Grant and report back to Council at their next meeting.

DISCUSSION REGARDING BOB BARWIN'S COMMENTS

Council held a brief discussion regarding the concept of mandatory metering and the belief by Bob Barwin that it was inevitable in the near future.

HIGHLANDS ASSOCIATES CONTRACT

Council requested Secretary Moriarty contact Kurt Danison, Highlands Associates and report to him the timeline the Council anticipates before obtaining the funds to follow through with the proposed contract and list of work outlined in Task #1 of the Rule Revision Grant proposal.

COUNCIL MEMBER TERMS AND OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Secretary Moriarty explained to the Council that Position #1 – Katharine Bill and Position #2 – Mike Fort were up and needed to be discussed. Concern was voiced as to how to fill the two positions. According to the By-Laws the three initiating government agencies choose by a majority vote. Discussion was held on whether the heads of the three initiating governments or their designees were in charge of making those decisions. More research will be done prior to the next meeting.

Council Member Knott suggested opening up nominations to those members present at the meeting and to email those not in attendance, have Secretary Moriarty gather those nominations with a deadline of December 31, 2007 and discuss and vote at the next meeting. The Council agreed.

Council Member Knott nominated Katharine Bill for Chairman and Mike Fort for Vice-Chairman.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

The Council agreed that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, January 10, 2007 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm at the Town Hall. Rusty Post requested 15 minutes at the next meeting to give the Council a DOE update.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

A motion was made by Council Member Campbell to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm. The motion was seconded by Council Member Williams and passed unanimously.

Katharine Bill, Chairman

ATTEST:

Jackie Moriarty, CMC
Secretary