



Monthly Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2021

5 -7 p.m. – Via Zoom

Council Members Present: Mike Fort, Alyssa Jumars, Mayor Soo Ing-Moody, Jeff Sarvis, Ashley Thrasher

Others in Attendance: Jean Bodeau, Mark Edson, Jasmine Minbashian (MVCC) Virginia O’Kelly, George Schneider, Jeanne White,

Minutes recorded (Via Zoom recording) by: Sarah Lane, Administrator

Non-Procedural Motions

Motion #	Short Title	Yeas	Nays	Abstain

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Mayor Ing-Moody at 5:00 PM

2. Roll Call of Council Members

3. Agenda – Additions or Changes

The September 16, 2021 Agenda was approved as presented.

4. Minutes – Review and Approval

Previous meeting minutes were not available at this time to review.

5. Report from the Council Chair

Mayor Ing-Moody commented on the difficulty of having meetings in late summer due to fires and evacuations.

6. MWF Report: Chair- Craig McDonald

MWF Chair Craig McDonald was not present, so Councilmember Fort reported that the MWF met. Primary topic of discussion was funding for administrator. Billable hours will be held to \$1000 total through September, currently at approximately \$500. A grant payment due will pay the current accounts payable. MWF is still waiting to hear back on the RFQ, which was hand delivered to the County. Councilmember Fort feels MWF is in a strong position for the RFQ.

7. Subcommittee Reports:

Technical Review Committee, Chair – Fort

Councilmember Fort will address Technical Review items via agenda items.

Outreach and Education Committee, Chair- Knott

No Report

8. Ad Hoc Reports

CRM Subcommittee – Jumars and Tackman:

Councilmember Jumars reported that there has not been a meeting since July. The plan is to continue the work done on Water 2066, with more representation. Next meeting scheduled for the following Monday.

Resilient Methow Report – Ewing and Lane:

No Report

9. Initiating Government Reports

Town of Winthrop- Councilmember Sarvis had no report.

Town of Twisp- Mayor Ing-Moody had no water-related reports to share

Okanogan County- No Report

10. Ecology Report: No report

11. Agenda Item 9.16.21-01: Discussion on Metering Project

Councilmember Fort reported a final report due to DOE in March, with two items to consider. Does the MWC continue the volunteer metering program to collect more data? Or does the MWC use existing science and national data and use 710 gpd as the use number for the Methow.

Councilmember Jumars asked what current data from the volunteer program is showing. Councilmember Fort said that current data shows less than 710gpd, but noted it is a withdrawn amount, not a consumptive number, which the 710 is. Fort noted that with current zoning, 710 gpd consumed is sufficient for full buildout of single family domestic only, with the exception of possibly the lower reach. With 5-acre minimums and undevelopable lots due to slope, the lower valley is probably fine too, but needs to be analyzed. Mayor Ing-Moody asked for confirmation that the study was meant to fine tune consumption in the WRIA. Councilmember Fort believes that the scientific knowledge available shows less than 710 consumptive use. He does not believe there's a need to lower that number. Group B and A developments are not included in these estimates. Councilmember Jumars noted the number of volunteers is not statistically significant, but she would like to see the numbers from the program. Councilmember Fort said he would send the information to the Council and would like the full council to consider ending the program.

Councilmember Sarvis asked if these numbers are rural only. He stated any study MWC continues with would likely not be as comprehensive as Aspect's and others' data. Mayor Ing-Moody said this item will be on the next agenda, and either information or a recommendation from the Technical Committee will be helpful.

12. Agenda Item 9.16.21-02: Discussion/Action Re AESI and MAR for Streamflow Grant

Councilmember reported that an MAR is a possible way to create new water rights. He believes very few opportunities for MAR exist due tot the Foster decision, but reservoir increases are a possible way to do MAR. AESI is a contractor who is willing to write the grant. Councilmember Fort's question is, who will run the grant should it be awarded. Councilmember Jumars asked if AESI is willing to make a proposal. Councilmember Fort said they are willing. Mayor Ing-Moody agreed that the CRM group could be a place to discuss this. Councilmember Fort said he could ask AESI folks to resent at the next meeting, and Mayor Ing-Moody said that could be discussed after the next CRM meeting.

13. Agenda Item 9.16.21-03: Water Quality Proposal

Councilmember Fort reported that Commissioner Hover indicated some possibility for funding CRM. Another possibility could be used for a FLIR overflight to look for cold water refugia. The stakeholder group discussing these proposals needs to meet again. Councilmember Jumars reported that an idea for website development and improvement for water information pages was also included in the discussion. Mayor Ing-Moody asked if the MWC needs to prepare anything for this idea to move forward. Councilmember Jumars said the follow-up needs to be with Councilmember Knott. Councilmember Jumars added that it would be helpful, before investing time, that there is a clear process defined.

14. Agenda Item 9.16.21-04 Next Steps

- Thinking about what next steps the Council needs to plan: Councilmember Fort said completing current projects such as metering would be helpful.

- Discussion/Action on accepting 710 gpd and ending metering program.

15. Agenda Item 9.16.21-04: Public Comment

- Virginia O’Kelly asked what CRM and RFQ mean, which are Coordinated Resource Management, and Request For Qualifications
- Mark Edson, director for MVID, said he is very concerned about water in the valley. Recently, Ecology contacted entities regarding water (Crown Columbia?) but did not contact irrigation districts. Edson is very interested in water staying in the valley. MVID is maintaining its own water bank, and will be reclaiming water not currently being used on properties in the MVID boundaries. Edson was very concerned about the efforts to sell water from a claim on the Chewuch earlier. Thus, he is very interested in attending MWC meeting, and asked to be on an email list.
- Jasmine Minbashian (MVCC) said she has heard discussion on a drought management plan. She sees the need for such a plan and wondered if the MWC has discussed this as part of its work plan.
- Virginia O’Kelly asked if metering is to be used to enforce the 710 gpd? Councilmember Jumars said it is just data gathering, not enforcement. Councilmember Fort noted that permit exempt wells are allowed 5000 gpd. The 2 cfs refers to single family domestic exempt wells only. Enforcement is in Ecology’s prevue. The MWC does not plan to enforce rules.

16. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:47

Mayor Ing-Moody, Council Chair

Approved at the January 20, 2022 Council meeting.