

**Methow Watershed Council
Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2011**

Council Members present: Greg Knott, Chair, Bill Tackman, Dick Ewing, Hans Smith (Alternate/Town Council Member), Perry Huston, (Okanogan County), Council Coordinator Lee Hatcher and Secretary Jackie Moriarty.

Guests present: Mary McCrea, Cascadia Law Group.

Chairman Knott called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm.

Agenda Additions and Deletions

Deletions: Septic Recharge – Dave Hilton, Okanogan County – Not able to attend

Additions: Grant Funding Allocation

Motion:

Council Member Huston moved to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tackman and passed unanimously.

Coordinator's Report

Coordinator Hatcher reported on the following:

- Grant Updates
- The Fiscal Year 2012/2013 timeline
 - Organizational Development
 - Small Water Storage Project Development
 - Small Water Storage Project Implementation
 - Instream Flow Rule Revision Writing Support Tasks
 - Instream Flow Rule Revision Process

Three Initiating Governments Reports

Okanogan County

Council Member Huston reported on the following:

- The Volunteer Stewardship Program – His recommendation to the County Commissioners will be to opt into the program. Chairman Knott requested updates from Council Member Huston.
- He discussed the issues of exempt wells in subdivisions relating to the Washington Association of County Commissioners.
- Water banking/local bank – Council Member Huston will keep the MWC informed on this issue.

Town of Twisp

Council Member Smith briefly discussed the Town's water rights acquisition budget.

MVID

No representative was present.

Sub-Committee Reports

Political Action Committee

Council Member Tackman had nothing to report at this time.

Technical Committee

Council Member Tackman stated the committee met on Tuesday, December 6, 2011; he deferred discussion until the Water Feasibility Study Scope agenda item comes up later in the meeting.

Grant Funding Allocation

Council Member Smith reported to the MWC that the DOE had informed the Town that the Phase IV grant could not be used 100% for administration and that the Water Storage Feasibility Grant should have had funding built into it for administration; this will require a 10% shift of approximately \$9,800. Coordinator Hatcher shared that he had discussed the issue with Greg Schuler, DOE and that Mr. Schuler was going to speak with the DOE Grant Administrator to see if the amendments were really necessary.

Water Feasibility Study Scope of Work

Coordinator Hatcher discussed the following:

- Water storage site identification and preliminary evaluation – a scope of work and budget developed by the Technical Committee and reviewed by Tim Flynn, Aspect Consulting
- Working with Ken Woodruff, Forest Service, related to the Beaver Relocation/Reintroduction Program
- Discussion of the increase of the range for instream flows into winter months; Hatcher will make the changes to the draft.

Instream Flow Rule Revision Committee

Council Member Smith reported the Instream Flow Rule Revision Committee met on December 13, 2011. Council Member Smith presented the Council with three draft documents (dated December 15, 2012) for their review: 1) Purpose and Scope of the Methow Watershed Council Instream Flow Rule Revision Committee; 2) Rule Revision Discussion Topics List for the Methow Watershed Council Instream Flow Rule Revision Committee; and 3) a revised copy of the Brainstorm Instream Flow Rule Revisions/Issues that was originally developed in September of 2010 by the Council.

Council Member Smith began discussion on the Purpose and Scope of the Methow Watershed Council Instream Flow Rule Revision Committee.

Motion:

Smith moved to approve the purpose and scope of document submitted by the Instream Flow Rule Revision Committee as revised. Council Member Tackman seconded the motion. The Council discussed the Purpose and Scope document further. Chairman Knott mentioned the council's previous discussions regarding a mitigation/water banking mechanism being added to the document. Coordinator Hatcher

suggested removing any language related to a timeline; the dates will be removed. The motion was not voted on by the Council.

Motion:

Council Member Huston moved to Council moved to postpone consideration of this motion until a future meeting. The motion died due to lack of a second.

Council Member Smith began discussion on the Brainstorm Instream Flow Rule Revisions/Issues. Council Member Smith suggested the full Council have a chance to review the documents before they were voted on.

The Council discussed local authorities' role in the management or the development of a mechanism for water banking; creating local control. Chairman Knott would like this item to be added to the purpose and scope.

Council Member Smith suggested the addition of an item on the purpose and scope document stating: "Attempt to create opportunities for increasing local control on components of water resource management".

Council Member Smith discussed the Rule Revision Discussion Topics List. This is an internal working document to track the committee's discussions through the rule revision process. Council Member Smith suggested sharing this document with individuals/agencies; Chairman suggested not sharing the draft at this point, but to have the committee develop a list of individuals/agencies to have review it when the time is right.

Amendment of Motion:

Council Member Smith and Council Member Tackman amended and seconded the above motion to include approval all three of the draft documents, as a full package as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion:

Council Member Huston moved to authorize the expense of \$2,200 to contract with Mary McCrea to complete the Instream Flow Rule Revision. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ewing and passed unanimously.

Action: Coordinator Hatcher will prepare a scope of work/contract related to the proposed work Ms. McCrea will perform for the MWC and provide a copy to the Town of Twisp for grant management purposes.

Motion:

Council Member Huston moved to authorize Chairman Knott to sign all necessary documents related to the scope of work and contract related to Ms. McCrea's work on the Instream Flow Rule Revision. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ewing and passed unanimously.

Council Member Smith stated that the IFRR Committee will probably stop meeting in approximately March 2012 and then start up again when the Council feels it's necessary.

Organizational Development Committee

Council Member Ewing reviewed his written notes from his interview with Cascade Water Alliance with the Council. Ewing identified the problems the MWC may face with each way these groups are formed.

Council Member Ewing asked if the Council would agree to direct the Organizational Development Committee to re-write sections of each of the options, make a proposal that fits the MWC within the RCW's that govern watershed planning and present it to the County Commissioners for feedback. Then if the County Commissioners agreed with the proposal the Committee could take it to the legislature.

After more discussion the following plan was developed:

- Develop language
- Submit for MWC review
- Present to the County Commissioners and get feedback on whether they support the proposal
- Go to the legislature

Motion:

Council Member Huston moved to approve the plan as outlined above as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smith and passed unanimously.

The next Organizational Development Committee meeting will be held on January 9, 2012 at 5:00 pm at the Riverbank Building.

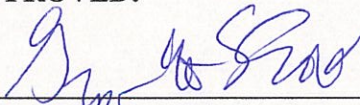
Next Meeting Agenda Items

- Water Storage Feasibility Study Scope

Adjournment

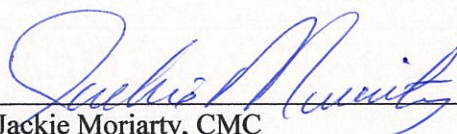
Council Member Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 pm. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tackman and passed unanimously.

APPROVED:



Greg Knott, Chairman

ATTEST:



Jackie Moriarty, CMC
Secretary