



Monthly Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2025

Location: Twisp Civic Center and Zoom

Council Members Present: David Asia, Chair; Boo Turner, Murray Taylor, Wren Soperanez, Seth Miles, Tim McGuire (Twisp alternate)

Council Members Absent: Lorah Super, Andy Hover, Hans Smith

Others in Attendance: Sarah Lane, MWF/MWC Administrator; Rita Stewart, MWC Outreach Coordinator; Sandra Strieby, MWC Project Coordinator; Michael Bastian (MWF); Susan Crampton

Minutes recorded by: Sarah Lane, MWF/MWC Administrator

[Recording available here](#)

Non-Procedural Motions:

Motion #	Short Title	Yea	Nay	Abstain
11.19.25-01	Four members will constitute two thirds of the quorum of council members.	6	0	0
11.19.25-02	Added new section 4.6 regarding Letters of Recommendation Process to the Bylaws of the Methow Watershed Council (2018)	6	0	0

1. Call to order: David Asia called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.
2. Roll Call. Administrator Lane administered the roll call.
3. Guests in attendance: Brent Paul, Tristan VanStirum, Mike Bastian (MWF), Joanne Marracci
4. Agenda – Additions or changes, Approval. Councilmember Turner moved to approve the agenda; Councilmember McGuire seconded; motion carried.
5. Minutes – Review and Approval of October 22, 2025 Minutes. Councilmember Turner moved to approve the minutes with the following amendment: with corrections regarding numbers of wells. Councilmember Taylor seconded; motion carried.
6. Presentation: Councilmember Soperanez gave a presentation entitled: "Restoring the Health of Earth's Water Cycle," highlighting worldwide water restoration projects and discussing potential for local projects. View presentation [here](#), and timestamp 6:50. Soperanez offered those present the opportunity to sign up for a water restoration workshop by emailing them or the council administrator.
7. Agenda Items

Item #	Agenda Item	Presenter
11.19.25-01	<i>Public Comment: None</i>	Asia
11.19.25-02	<i>Define "2/3 Quorum" for voting on Bylaw Change:</i> For purposes of voting where two thirds of the Council need be present, Chair Asia made the motion that four members will constitute two thirds of a quorum of members. Councilmember McGuire seconded the motion; motion passed.	Asia
11.19.25-03	<i>Letters of Support Process – Bylaw Change</i> Addition Text: Section 4.6 Title: Letters of Recommendation	Asia

	<p>A letter of support issued by the Methow Watershed Council requires full consensus of members for approval. Requests must allow for at least one week for consideration. A special meeting may be called, or the request can occur as part of the regular meeting agenda, or the request may be considered by email. All members of the Council must be notified, be able to review the material and vote. Electronic (phone, digital meeting or email) or in person voting may be used. Non-response or non-attendance of a council member upon sufficient notice, other than those in government positions will constitute an abstention. Government representative members or alternates must vote on the request before it can be approved.</p> <p>Councilmember McGuire made a motion to approve the new section regarding letters of recommendation to MWC Bylaws. Councilmember Tuner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.</p>	
11.19.25-04	<p><i>Approval: Tech Committee Member Recommendation</i></p> <p>Technical Committee Acting Chair presented a request to the full council to approve community volunteer Melissa Brumer for membership on the technical committee. The Council agreed without a vote (none required).</p>	<i>Bastian</i>
11.19.25-05	<p><i>2026 Work Plan and Grant Application Planning</i></p> <p>Administrator Lane informed the Council that a work plan addressing applications for grants was in development for applications to Methow Valley Fund and Icicle Fund, both due before the January Council meeting. A more complete outline will be presented in December so that members can be informed, and support, the purpose and goals presented to funders.</p>	<i>Asia/Lane</i>
11.19.25-06	<p><i>Notice of Elections at January Meeting: Pos 5 and 6, Chair and Vice Chair</i></p> <p>Nominations will take place at the December Meeting.</p>	<i>Asia</i>
11.19.25-07	<p><i>Advise and Consent: Well Offset Exploration</i></p> <p>The Chair is interested in exploring the idea to incorporate an offset mitigation for new wells drilled. Asia has not heard of anything like it, and Ecology has not responded to his inquiry to date. Questions from the Council about the idea included: Who would be the governing body? Could it be a voluntary program? The Council supported, without a vote, the Chair's further investigation.</p>	<i>Asia</i>

8. Report from the Council Chair. Chair Asia had no report.

9. MWF Report, Chair – Michael Bastian. Mr. Bastian reported that Give Methow brought in about \$7800, and MWF would end the year with \$5200. MWF is applying to Icicle Fund, Methow Valley Fund, and may look at Moccasin Lake Foundation and other options for water retention and outreach. The request to the County for administrative support contract for \$20,000 is still pending. Mr. Bastian spoke about the need to align grant application with a narrower focus tied to our goals. Councilmember Soperanez spoke to supporting water retention projects, in particular some sort of wetland restoration demonstration project.

10. Committee Reports

a. Outreach and Education Committee, Chair – Turner. Outreach Coordinator Stewart reported that posters are being put still for the LDPP survey. To date 147 surveys have been submitted. There is no end date set, and efforts continue. Chair Asia requested information on how to share with others. Stewart has an outreach email with link and will share with Council. Turner described some of the outreach efforts planned for 2026, which are dependent on grants, including opportunities with Methow Conservancy. Chair Asia would like to see MWC put on a panel with some of the interviewees from the Perceptions of Drought Interviews. Turner suggested including enough of those individuals to represent different water users. Stewart would like to find a speaker from Methow Descendants both for the panel, or for a 20-minute presentation to the council. Turner stressed

the need to build on work we've done, and the Perception project would be a logical option. Stewart spoke about the need for an over-arching vision and goals to narrow focus to align with budget.

b. Policy Committee, Chair - Super. Councilmember Super was absent.

c. Technical Committee, Chair – Bastian, Acting Chair. No report

Ad Hoc: Fire Water, Chair - Asia, Acting Chair. Chair Asia reported that a formal proposal and site map for formal approval of an easement has been sent to the PUD regarding the possibility of siting a well, access road, and well house. Asia thinks the project may cost in the range of \$280,000.

11. Local Governments Reports

Town of Winthrop: No report.

Town of Twisp: No report

Okanogan County. Councilmember Hover was absent.

12. Members Report: News from the Community and Upcoming Events. Councilmember Turner chatted with an Okanogan County Electrical Coop board member regarding the increasing electrical costs. In particular, the board member mentioned that ag energy costs are subsidized by other users. Administrator Lane shared that Councilmember Super hosted a realtor's education workshop. Lane attended the first half, where representatives from Okanogan County Planning and Health gave detailed presentations on water, permitting, and changes.

13. Next Steps

a. Tasks: Stay tuned for more information on grant applications.

b. Next Agenda Items

i. Next Meeting Dates Scheduled: December 17, 2025; January 28, 2026.

ii. Location: The December meeting will be a Zoom meeting.

1.

14. Adjourn. Councilmember Turner moved to adjourn; Councilmember Taylor seconded. Motion carried; Chair Asia adjourned the meeting at 4:46 p.m.