

**Methow Watershed Council
Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2012**

Council Members present: Greg Knott, Chair, Vicky Welch, Bill Tackman, Dick Ewing, Clint Estes (Twisp Council Member) Hans Smith (Alternate/Town of Twisp) and Char Schumacher (Okanogan County) Council Coordinator Lee Hatcher and Jackie Moriarty, Secretary.

Guests: Mary McCrea, Cascadia Law Group and Aaron Penvose, Trout Unlimited.

Chairman Knott called the meeting to order at 5:10 pm.

Introductions

Chairman Knott asked those present to introduce themselves.

Agenda Additions and Deletions

Additions: Trout Unlimited – Washington Water Projects.

Changes: Move the Organizational Development Committee report back up under “Committee Reports”.

Motion:

Council Member Schumacher moved to approve the agenda with amendments. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ewing and passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion:

Council Member Ewing moved to approve the 04/19/12 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Tackman and passed unanimously.

Budget/Grant Status Report

Coordinator Hatcher presented the budget/grant status reports during his Coordinator’s Report.

Coordinator’s Report

Coordinator Hatcher reported on the following:

- He reminded everyone to turn in their volunteer hours.
- He presented Council with an updated timeline (June-September 2012)
- Grant reports were presented; Council felt the reports were easy to read and appreciate Grant Administrator Aimee Grant’s efforts.
- The MWC has been notified that \$50,000 for Phase 4 FY13 has been awarded; Hatcher will begin working on the grant budget.
- Council Member Smith reported Rule Revision work will begin again in July 2012; the committee will begin by reviewing the documents prepared by Ms. McCrea.

Three Initiating Governments Reports

Methow Valley Irrigation District

A representative was not present.

Okanogan County

Council Member Schumacher discussed an upcoming grant opportunity for Okanogan County.

Town of Twisp – Water Rights Mitigation

Council Member Smith announced he would be resigning his position with the Town of Twisp as Council Member effective May 31, 2012, but would continue to serve as Mayor Soo Ing-Moody's alternate designee on the MWC.

Council Member Smith reported a Scope of Work is being developed between the Town of Twisp and Aspect Consulting related to mitigation and acquisition of water rights; a meeting will be held on May 22, 2012 with the Town and Aspect Consulting.

Sub-Committee Reports

Political Action Committee

Bill Tackman, Committee Chairman, reported there has been no activity in the Political Action Committee.

Technical Review Committee

Chairman Knott announced that Council Member Fisher is now the Chair of the Technical Review Committee.

Organizational Development Committee

Council Member Ewing presented the Council a revised draft of RCW 90.92; the pilot local water management program for the Walla Walla WRIA. Council Member Ewing asked that the Council review the proposed document and send any comments to Coordinator Hatcher by May 31st. Ewing stated that if there are no significant comments presented by the Council the document will be presented to the Okanogan County Commissioners. Council Member Ewing will contact Perry Huston regarding a timeslot for June 4, 2012; it was agreed that Council Members Ewing and Tackman and Chairman Knott would attend the Commissioners meeting.

Council Member Smith requested Council Member Ewing do a presentation of the draft document to the Twisp Town Council; Ewing agreed to attend the May 22, 2012 Town Council Meeting.

Trout Unlimited – Washington Water Projects

Chairman Knott introduced Aaron Penvose of Trout Unlimited. Mr. Penvose discussed the following:

- He gave a brief history of his organization and the work they do in Washington; they've been working in the Methow Valley for about 3 years.
- He explained to the Council how the Trust Water Rights Program works and what projects they are working on.

- Current Projects:
 - Wenatchee - points of diversion:
 - Entiat
 - Methow
 - Chewach
 - Methow Valley Irrigation District
- Possible partnerships between Trout Unlimited and the MWC related to water banking.
- Public outreach, education and website development.
- Possible purchase of water rights to keep water from being sold outside the basin; this water could then be sold at a later date.

Chairman Knott commented that the MWC would be interested in seeing the Entiat water banking model for a reference and guide.

Water Storage Project

Chairman Knott, Council Member Tackman and Coordinator Hatcher discussed Aspect Consulting's work on the three potential projects for water storage; Walking D Ranch, Davis Lake/Bear Creek and Beaver Creek/Thurlow Ponds – Micro Storage. Aspect Consulting will be providing a draft report to the Technical Review Committee by June 7th and the full MWC will see the draft at their meeting on June 21st.

Next Meeting (June 21, 2012) - Agenda Items

Coordinator Hatcher and Secretary Moriarty will discuss agenda items prior to the next meeting.

Adjournment

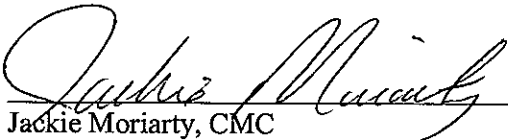
There being no further business to come before the Council Chairman Knott adjourned the meeting at 6:45 pm.

APPROVED:



Greg Knott, Chairman

ATTEST:



Jackie Moriarty, CMC
Secretary