



**Monthly Meeting Minutes**

October 17, 2019

5 -7 p.m. – Twispworks Conference Room, Twisp, WA

**Council Members Present:** Dick Ewing, Mike Fort, Soo Ing-Moody, Greg Knott, Bill Tackman, and Ashley Thrasher.

**Others in Attendance:** Chris Branch (Okanogan County Commissioner), Curtis Koger (Assoc. Earth Sciences), Craig McDonald via phone, Wyatt Southworth (MWF), Lorah Super (MVCC)

Minutes recorded by: Sarah Lane, Administrative Assistant

**Non-Procedural Motions**

Motion #	Short Title	Yeas	Nays	Abstain
10.19-01	Current MWC/F Brochure does not need edits	5	0	0

**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by Ashley Thrasher at 5:01 P.M.

**2. Introductions**

All introduced themselves.

**3. Agenda – Review and Approval**

Dick moved to approve as written, Bill seconded. Agenda was approved.

**4. Minutes – Review and Approval**

Dick moved to approve the September minutes as amended. Bill seconded. Minutes were approved.

**5. Report from the Chair**

Ashley reported that Sarah has talked with Patagonia about a potential grant. They are looking for project-based grants. Metering looks to have the most potential, and Bill will take the lead on getting the Tech Committee together to move forward.

**6. Ecology Report**

No report

**7. MWF Report**

Greg introduced Wyatt Southworth, new board member. Also noted that Steve Ralph has accepted membership. Wyatt shared why he joined the Foundation. Mary will be resigning her position at the Foundation at the end of December, but will stay available for advice.

**8. Initiating Government Reports**

**Town of Twisp-** Still dealing with water issues: flooding and erosion. Thanks to the Council for the letter of support for the Ecology grant to increase collection lines and capacity of sewer plant. This improvement will support new local business.



**Town of Winthrop-**  
No report

**Okanogan County**

Guest Chris Branch stated that litigation limits his comments, but more information will be shared soon, perhaps by the end of the year. The Planning Director now has nine applications, with about four top contenders. Initial review will begin shortly, and Chris is optimistic about options.

Regarding WRAI 49 effort, study is taking place, and Chris thinks the planning unit may reconvene by next month. Current work is on GIS and net ecological benefit.

**9. Sub-Committee Reports**

**Technical Review Committee, Chair – Fort**

No change to report

**Political Action Committee, Chair – TBD**

Nothing to report

**Outreach and Education Committee, Chair – Knott**

Steve at MWF will be talking to theatre folks about films, and Wyatt is doing some research on potential films. Chris suggested looking into California water issues.

**Water 2066 Committee, Chair – Thrasher**

Water 2066 South will happen Sunday October 27. Survey closed, and we now have 144 responses total. Contactor report is in Council packet, and they are working on scheduling interested parties. Ashley reviewed our contract with WWT for what we are looking for in our Final report summarization of results from the meetings. Ashley would like to see a recommendation for the Council to hire an analyst to review the challenges with law and policy, and to have the contractors recommend grants that can help fund further work.

Sarah will share a link to the raw data with Council members. Data is laid out per work station, and in results from the online survey. Compilation of data will begin after South Valley meeting. Dick said a trend analysis earlier in the process would be helpful. Greg asked what Lisa produced on her Skagit project, so that the Council can decide what their deliverable contained and what would be helpful for the Council to similarly request. Greg said that he heard that feelings and “soft” opinions were heard, but more hardball opinions may be missing. Dick asked and Greg agreed that useable information will be likely coming from the Interested Parties. Ashley will contact Lisa for the Skagit information. Ashley asked if Lorah and Bill were set for assisting with the South Valley effort. Lorah said that the non-political nature of the Tuesday group is a challenge to bringing a potential political issue (the Sunday meeting) to the Tuesday group, but she will share it conscientiously to the Tuesday Meeting.

**Agenda Item 10-19.01: MWC Brochure:** Re: Last month’s member of public comments about the brochure that the MWC priorities may not be represented as are in present practice. Greg said that a possible outcome of 2066 is a new look and restating priorities. Dick said we could put edit to say that the MWC is working to balance human and fish needs. Soo said the current priorities as listed are pretty vague. Lorah said that it was specifically the lack of the mention of fish that caused concern. Mike said that in the Methow Plan and DIP, there are multiple mentions of fish. Water 2066 mentions fish, though the priorities do not. Ashley asked, how does the Council feel about



revisiting priorities. Greg stated a preference for taking out the priorities from the brochure for now. Soo said listing priorities seems to be an important element, and that they are what the group agrees on and guides the long-term vision. Lorah supports keeping the priorities in, and since the Council does support fish, maybe that could just be added, along with “current” priorities. Soo noted that the wording regarding fish is already in another location in the brochure. Ashely asked for a motion. Dick moved that we keep the brochure as is, and Soo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ashley asked if the wording for the brochure for Water 2066 was sufficient. Council agreed it is, and Greg noted that the change that will come is in revisiting instream flow. It will come up as an issue with climate change impact to the hydrograph. The Council does not need to add wording regarding habitat.

**10. Agenda items for next meeting**

Terms for Council that are up in January will be reviewed at the November meeting.

**11. Public Comment**

Lorah strongly encourages the consultants on Water 2066 to look at Comp Plan comments, as many contain thoughts on water and future vision. Lorah, in her other role with Okanogan Conservation District, was successful in getting a resolution to get the district behind limiting out of basin water transfers. She hopes that this will be extended through the state meeting in December.

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 P.M.

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Ashley Thrasher, Council Chair

Approved at the November 21, 2019 Council meeting.