



Monthly Meeting Minutes

December 13, 2018

5-7 p.m. – River Bank Building, Twisp, WA

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

Others in Attendance: Vanessa Brinkhuis (by telephone), Kent Hitch, George Schneider, Natalie Kuehler, Mary McCrea, Jennifer Molesworth, Melanie Rowland (MVCC), Marcy Stamper, Lorah Super (MVCC), and Jacquelyn Wallace.

Minutes recorded by: Sarah Lane, Administrative Assistant

Non-Procedural Motions

<i>Motion #</i>	<i>Short Title</i>	<i>Yeas</i>	<i>Nays</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
	<i>No motions were made</i>			

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Greg Knott at 5:03 p.m.

2. Introductions

None were made

3. Agenda – Review and Approval

The agenda was revised to make agenda item 12.13.01 into the regular Water 2066 report. Travis moved to approve the agenda, Soo seconded. The agenda was adopted by unanimous consent of all members present.

4. Minutes – Review and Approval

Ashley and George offered corrections to the minutes. Soo moved to approve the minutes and Mike seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved by unanimous consent of all members present.

5. Report from the Chair

- a. **Elections and Nominations Schedule:** Greg opened nominations for the position of chair and vice chair. Greg will not accept a nomination to continue as the chair. Positions three and four, currently held by Dick Ewing and Travis Thornton, are up for reaffirmation or election at the January 2019 meeting.
- b. Those wishing to make a nomination or reaffirm their continuance in their current positions, may notify Sarah by email before the January meeting, or make a nomination from the floor at the January meeting.
- c. Review of committee assignments will take place in January as well.
- d. Greg will nominate Dick and Travis to continue in positions three and four, respectively.

6. Grant Administrator Report

No Report

7. Ecology Report

Vanessa confirmed that files were sent for the hydrogeology report.

Thompson Creek is the next closed basin to be worked on. John Kirk wants to participate in the January meeting on the topic.

Concerning the request for outreach from the County and Ecology, Trevor Hutton will attend proposed outreach meetings with the County regarding closed basins.

No Methow requests were made for streamflow restoration evaluation.

Mike asked Vanessa if the edge of shape files is defined as inside or outside of the basin. Vanessa found an answer a little later, and stated that the restricted map areas reflect the best estimate of closed water bodies. Refer to the disclaimer at the bottom page of the Thompson, Beaver, and Wolf reports. Shape files for other watersheds are not yet complete. John Kirk has more information and would like to attend the January meeting. Mike stated that the county needs advice from Ecology on how to use shape files accurately. Vanessa stated that may not be available yet. This will be a topic for a phone meeting with Trevor.

8. MWF Report

Mary reported that with a couple more donation, Give Methow totaled over \$3500.

The Metering grant is now active. Water 2066 will be active starting in January. Methow Valley Fund request is due January 31. Sarah and Mary will work on it to fund an informational pamphlet about MWC and reaches.

Greg reported that he is looking at a series of grants targeting reclamation. He will discuss with Jennifer. A drought management plan has potential. Also, the Foundation completed a "wish list" budget.

9. Initiating Government Reports

Town of Twisp-

No Report

Town of Winthrop-

No Report, not present

Okanogan County-

No report, not present

10. Sub-Committee Reports

Instream Flow Rule Revision & Technical Review Committee, Chair – Fort

Mike reported that a contract is currently being negotiated with Aspect to get the database up and running. This is a \$6000 contract with a deliverable date in January, which will be adjusted based on negotiations with Aspect. It should be up and running by February depending on the data quality. Peer review is under discussion.

Regarding validating the water use study, it depends on metering being required on all new building permits, but there has not been action at the County yet.

Political Action Committee, Chair – Tackman

No report

Outreach and Education Committee, Chair – Knott

Greg reported that a series of Community information meetings are in the works.

1- January – Konrad _ Predictive Hydrograph Modeling

- 2- February - The Forest Service BAER Team
- 3- March – John Crandall – Water and Fish, How do increased sediments affect fish
- 4- April – Bureau of Reclamation – Sediment 101, flashy hydrograph effects

Water 2066 Committee, Chair – Thrasher

Water 2066 information is now on website. Sarah is working on EAGL, goal is to have EAGL complete by January. The RFP is in final stages, due out in January with a closing date of February 15. Community and stakeholder meeting are the main work to be done. Final report is due March 31, 2020.

Agenda Item 12.18.01

In order to review the RFP responses and complete follow up and references, the 2066 Committee proposes to move the February Council meeting the February 28. This date was confirmed.

Agenda Item 12.18.02

A discussion on planning for a public meeting and an MWC meeting involving Trevor Hutton, the County and the MWC resulted in a plan to try for January. Meeting with Trevor for before or after a public meeting is desired. An ad hoc committee was suggested to do the planning for the meetings. Lorah Super suggested as much publicity as possible ahead of time to avoid rumors. Information will be added to the MWC website.

Agenda Item 12.18.03

Soo reported that she had talked with Rep. Mike Steele, who is willing to assist with discussion with Council what the request is and general language. Desire to explore the 2cfs without risk to the reserve is how it's been worded so far.

The question is, how to come up with the proposal. Soo will work with Mike after getting direction from Council. She sees this as something needing to specifically local to keep it from having statewide significance.

Natalie asked about how the topic was addressed a couple of years ago, when moving water from Early Winters Creek Reserve to make it available for towns was discussed. George reported that he facilitated those conversations with Yakima and Colville Tribes and Council, to move part of Early Winters 2cfs to the lower river. The desire was to protect the entirety of the reserve, while moving resources within the reserve.

Mike stated issues he sees:

- Getting governments on board
- Housekeeping for 173-548, resolving issues.
- Moving water downstream from Early Winters was OK with Tribes as long as there was gallon for gallon mitigation.
- How to take high flows off closed basin hydrographs.

Travis said Council should ask Ecology if our interpretation of the rule is permissible without having to change the rule.

The following was identified as content for proposed legislation:

- Protect the 14 cfs of the whole reserve as much as possible/ 2 cfs rule.
- Address difficulties of changing the reserve to municipal use while protecting whole reserve.
- Concern for making lower valley whole.
- Would like to see SFR's charged with consumptive use only against reserve.
- Specifics of transfers should not be part of legislation

Natalie stated feedback from Tribes might be key before any legislation could move forward. Greg noted a written document would be needed to put before Tribes.

Soo stated main objective is protection and local authority for planning.

Travis noted that we want to be able to discuss changes through Water 2066 and protect current while doing so.

Ashley and Travis identified this conversation as part of Phase 2 of Water 2066. Water rules to match vision.

A conversation with Mike Kaputa could help assess viability of process.

Melanie noted Water 2066 and the Comp Plan revisions are working in tandem. MVCC supports moving growth toward towns. Comp Plan needs to be subject to amendment.

Next steps are for Soo to work on viable language with help from Mary and Travis. This can happen in tandem with 2066.

11. Agenda items for next meeting

- Metering Grant update from Tech Committee
- Nominations and Elections Chair and Vice Chair and Continuing Members
- Feb 28th meeting: Results of RFP presented

12. Public Comment

Natalie asked that the group use correct terminology; rather than “closed basin”, the terms “closed surface water with restricted areas around them.”

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Greg Knott, Council Chairman

Approved at the January 17, 2019 Council meeting.