

**Methow Watershed Council
Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2010**

Council Member present: Greg Knott, Chairman, Bill Tackman, Don Phillips, Brian Fisher, Tom Gehring (Town Council Member) Perry Huston (Okanogan County Planning), Lee Hatcher, Council Coordinator and Jackie Moriarty, Secretary.

Guests present: Mary McCrea, Cascadia Law Group, Pam Jenkins, Tim Flynn and Bill Sullivan of Aspect Consulting and Greg Schuler, DOE (by phone)

Chairman Knott called the meeting to order at 5:07 pm.

Agenda Additions and Deletions

Addition: County Comprehensive Plan Update – Perry Huston, Okanogan Planning Department
Council Member Leave of Absence

Deletion: None

Motion:

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

Approval of Minutes – December 16, 2011

Motion:

Council Member Gehring moved to approve the minutes of December 16, 2010 as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fisher and passed unanimously.

Coordinator's Report

Council Coordinator Hatcher reported on the following:

- The DOE has verbally approved (according to Mr. Schuler) an addition of \$10,000 in grant funds to add the Hydrology Study back in to the Instream Flow Rule Revision (IFRR) project which had previously been cut due to lack of funding.
- The Planning Unit Grant amendment has been verbally agreed upon and dated back to 10/01/10.
- The applications for the IFRR Completion, Water Storage and Water Storage Capital Project have been submitted.
- His contract with the Town of Twisp has been signed and will be in effect until June 30, 2011.
- He presented and reviewed a timeline for January 2011 through June 2011.
- The Technical Sub-Committee met today (01-20-10) from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm. Those present were Sub-Committee Chairman Tackman, and Council Members, Phillips, Fisher, Knott and Coordinator Hatcher, along with Tim Flynn and Bill Sullivan of Aspect Consulting.
- He reported Organizational Development as a priority of the Council.

Chairman Knott confirmed with Mr. Flynn that the timeline proposed by Hatcher worked for their schedule; Flynn agreed with the timeline.

Ms McCrea stated she didn't feel enough time was reflected on the timeline to complete the rule revision discussions.

Chairman Knott discussed mapping out a timeline for all aspects of the rule revision. Coordinator Hatcher requested Knott review the Three Year Plan he has prepared for discussion later in the meeting; Hatcher believes this will map out the timeline Knott is requesting.

Sub-Committee Reports

Political Action Committee

Council Member Tackman reported on the following:

- He was able to contact Representative Linda Evans-Parlette and feels very positive about the conversation they had regarding current and future watershed planning. Tackman feel confident in the sincerity of her verbal support.

Technical Review Committee

Council Member Tackman reported the Technical Review Committee had met today (01/20/11) and requested Mr. Sullivan give the group update. Mr. Sullivan reported the group discussed the following issues:

- Reach Boundaries
- Logic for Development – Post 1976
- Logic for Development – Current Zoning
- Water Use Analysis – Group A & B Users
- Irrigation Purveyors
- Confirm Assumptions

Mr. Sullivan referred the group back to the MWC's previous work on the reach boundaries. The sub-committee reviewed the Winthrop Area and the Mazama Area maps that had discrepancies and agreed with Aspect's suggestions for the boundaries based on existing and historical information.

The Council agreed that when a reach becomes close to build-out and regulating needs to be implemented a more detailed approach will need to happen.

Mr. Sullivan discussed the work being done on the water tracking database, with information being provided by Okanogan County; Mr. Sullivan stated Okanogan County staff has been great to work with. Mr. Flynn discussed the irrigation ditch maps and feels that tracking irrigation users may be somewhat of a moving target and the Council needs to weigh the need.

Mr. Schuler questioned the margin of error related to the tracking database. Mr. Flynn explained they recognize the uncertainty of the information but intend to document the process well to backup all assumptions and plan to be conservative in those assumptions.

The Council discussed the possible effects of accessory dwellings. The Council will need to determine if these types of dwellings will increase inside or outside use significantly enough to be a concern.

Motion:

Council Member Gehring moved to approve the following issues discussed and recommended by the Technical Review Committee to allow Aspect Consulting to continue their work: Reach Boundaries,

Logic for Development – Post 1976, Logic for Development – Current Zoning, Water Use Analysis – Group A & B Users and Irrigation Purveyors. The motion was seconded by Council Member Fisher and passed unanimously.

County Comprehensive Plan Update – Perry Huston, Okanogan Planning Department

Perry Huston, Okanogan County Planning Department, at the request of the MWC gave an update on the plans the County is currently revising; the Shoreline Master Plan, the Comprehensive Plan and the Critical Areas Plan.

- He began with a history of planning and procedures versus law.
- He does not anticipate any significant changes to the Comprehensive Plan related to the Methow Valley at this time.
- The County agrees that WAC 173.548 needs to be revised and supports the MWC's work.
- The Comprehensive Plan public hearings are set for February and March 2011.
- The Shoreline Master Plan public hearings will follow soon after the Comprehensive Plan.
- The Critical Areas Plan is still at the Planning Commission level.
- He anticipates that zoning updates will soon follow and he is hopefully optimistic that all four of these items will be passed by the end of 2011.

Mr. Huston suggested the MWC create a Capital Facilities Plan that would describe the MWC's short and long-term plans and in his opinion would aid in implementation of building projects identified in the plan.

Chairman Knott announced that an Annual Water Report will be available from the MWC by the end of 2011.

Council Member Leave of Absence

Chairman Knott gave the unfortunate news to the Council that Council Member Welch is ill and is expected to be receiving treatment for some time. The Council discussed the issue of replacing Welch or granting a leave of absence; the Council felt it should be her decision at this time and Coordinator Hatcher volunteered to discuss it with her. Chairman Knott reminded everyone that Council Member Fort is still technically on a leave of absence and volunteered to check in with him to determine if he still wishes to serve on the MWC.

Action: Chairman Knott will contact Mike Fort and Coordinator Hatcher will contact Vicky Welch to ask them if they would like a leave of absence from the Council or would rather be replaced due to their personal situations.

Action: Secretary Moriarty will get a card to have the Council sign for Ms. Welch at the next meeting.

Rule Revision Process

Mary McCrea went over the changes made as a result of council discussion at the December 16, 2010 meeting.

Mr. Huston suggested the definitions used for the rule revision coincide with definitions that are used by the County for zoning so that they are more universal. Mr. Huston will have Council Member Schumacher compare the definitions already existing in the county zoning documents with the definitions the MWC is working on for rule revision.

Action: Council Member Schumacher will report back to the Council regarding her research.

“Community Domestic Use” was deleted.

The Council agreed that group systems are preferable to multiple individual systems. Group systems should not be over regulated so they are avoided in favor of single exempt wells, which can further jeopardize our aquifers.

Three Year Plan

Coordinator Hatcher distributed and asked the Council to review a draft Three Year Plan for discussion at the next meeting.

Next meeting

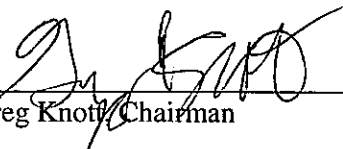
The next meeting will be held Thursday, February 17, 2011. The following are suggested agenda items:

- Rule Revision Process
- Three Year Plan
- Council Members - Leave of Absence
- Sub-Basin Boundary Memo Approval
- Update on Aspect Projects

Adjournment

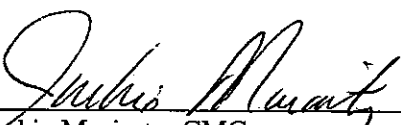
Council Member Fisher moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 pm. The motion was seconded by Council Member Phillips and passed unanimously.

APPROVED:



Greg Knott, Chairman

ATTEST:



Jackie Moriarty, CMC
Secretary