



Monthly Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2026

Location: Twisp Civic Center and Zoom

Council Members Present: David Asia, Chair; Boo Turner, Wren Soperanez, Murray Taylor, Robert Grim, Hans Smith, Tim McGuire (Twisp alternate)

Council Members Absent: Lorah Super, Seth Miles, Andy Hover

Others in Attendance: Sarah Lane, MWF/MWC Administrator; Rita Stewart, MWC Outreach Coordinator; Susan Crampton, Curtis Koger, Associated Earth Sciences Inc; Jack Owen, OCD; Chris Smith, Jeanne White, Methow Conservancy

Minutes recorded by: Sarah Lane, MWF/MWC Administrator

[Recording available here](#)

Non-Procedural Motions:

Motion #	Short Title	Yeas	Nays	Abstain
1.28.26-01	David Asia Retained In Position Six, At Large	6	0	0
1.28.26-02	David Asia Elected Chair of Methow Watershed Council	6	0	0
1.28.26-03	Lorah Super Elected Vice Chair of Methow Watershed Council	6	0	0
1.28.26-04	Hold March 2026 MWC meeting in lower Methow Valley	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: Susan Crampton, Curtis Koger, Associated Earth Sciences Inc; Jack Owen, OCD; Chris Smith, Jeanne White, Methow Conservancy
4. Agenda – Additions or changes, Approval. Councilmember Turner moved to approve the agenda; Councilmember Taylor seconded; motion carried.
5. Minutes – Review and Approval of November 17, 2025 and December 19, 2025 Minutes. Councilmember McGuire moved to approve the minutes. Councilmember Taylor seconded; Councilmember Grim abstained; motion carried.
6. Presentation: None
7. Agenda Items

Item #	Agenda Item	Presenter
1.28.26-01	<i>Public Comment:</i> Public comment consisted of a short discussion led by Curtis Koger, Senior Principal Geologist and Hydrologist at Associated Earth Sciences, Inc.; the topic was primarily the work that AESI had done on a grant request for a feasibility study for managed aquifer recharge for the Town of Twisp. (See entire conversation at 5:31 timestamp of the recording .) With MWC’s renewed interest in water retention, this topic was of interest to many. Koger will have an associate forward the final grant application materials to the MWC. Jack Owen (OCD) requested a copy as well.	Asia
1.28.26--02	<i>New Member Welcome: Winthrop Mayor Grim</i> The new mayor of Winthrop was welcomed to the meeting.	Asia
1.28.26--03	<i>Elections: Positions 6 (David Asia) for renewal</i>	Asia

	<p>David Asia was nominated in December for renewal in position six. No other nominations were made. Councilmember Turner moved to close nominations. Councilmember Taylor seconded the motion. The Council voted unanimously to retain David Asia in Position Six, and the recommendation will be sent to Towns of Winthrop, Twisp, and Board of County Commissioners to approve the choice.</p> <p><i>Chair - Nominee(s): David Asia</i> Chair David Asia was nominated in December for renewal as MWC Chair. No other nominations were made. Councilmember Taylor moved to close nominations. Councilmember Turner seconded the motion. The Council voted unanimously for David Asia to serve the new term as Chair.</p> <p><i>Vice Chair - Nominee(s): Lorah Super</i> Vice Chair David Asia was nominated in December for renewal as MWC Vice Chair. No other nominations were made. Councilmember Smith moved to close nominations. Councilmember Grim seconded the motion. The Council voted unanimously for Lorah Super to serve the new term as Vice Chair.</p>	
1.28.26--04	<p><i>Position 5 Outreach Plan</i> MWC currently does not have a member in position five for the lower valley. A few potential interested people were identified. Outreach Coordinator Steward plans to reach out to one of these people. Chair Asia thinks having a meeting in the lower valley could drive interest, and made a motion that the March MWC meeting be held in the lower valley, possibly the Methow Store. Motion carried.</p>	Asia
1.28.26--05	<p><i>Firewater: PUD MOA</i> Chair Aisa gave an overview of the project to date. Fire Chief Cody Accord identified Twisp River as a high priority area for siting tender refill infrastructure. PUD acclimation pond site is a good location. PUD is supportive of the idea of developing a site there. Asia has been working on a formal agreement. Asia has had an attorney review the MOA/U. Councilmember Smith recommended using MOU with MWF as the signing party.</p> <p>Items to sort out include who will maintain the infrastructure, snowplowing, contingency funds for repair, and insurance coverage. Councilmember Turner asked about giving feedback. Asia requested feedback by February 4 on the current version. Councilmember Hover should be asked specifically for feedback, as he has been absent.</p> <p>If this effort is successful, Asia would like MWC to explore potential in Chewuch, Lost River, and other piped ditches.</p>	Asia
1.28.26--06	<p><i>2026 Work Plan: SWOT and Next Steps for Planning</i> Councilmember Turner reminded the Council about pre-scoping for strategic planning needed to move forward into the five years as we get to the end of current work planned for 2026. Turner proposed a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) survey to be completed by Council members and to be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p>Questions would get to the topics of what is our role, and what is our role in relation to other organizations in the valley? Turner suggested MWC have conversations with other organizations in the valley to identify our best role.</p>	Turner

	Next step- members due date: Feb 13, followed by review at the next MWC meeting. It was suggested that MWC perhaps engage Easton Brannan again for full strategic planning.	
1.28.26--07	<i>Council Google Drive review</i> Administrator Lane gave a brief tour and overview of the Council's shared files, which members have access to, highlighting the calendar.	Lane
1.28.26--08	<i>Communication Survey</i> Chair Asia encouraged everyone to fill out the communication survey. Some results have been summarized by technical committee member Melissa Brumer, giving some ideas for improvements. More information will help.	Lane/Asia
1.28.26--09	<i>2026 Meeting Schedules: MWC</i> Note: a presentation could be added to any meeting per Outreach. Meeting will stay at 3:00PM. Although meeting may contain presentations of interest to the public, the main purpose of these presentations is for councilmember education and guidance. The schedule for 2026 is agreed as below: February 25, 2026: Winthrop Library, with presentation March 25, 2026. Methow, with presentation TBD April 22, 2026: Twisp Town Hall Skip May; June 24, 2026: Twisp Town Hall, regular meeting September 23, 2026: Twisp Town Hall, regular meeting October 28, 2026: Mazama Club, with presentation Skip November; December 16, 2026: Twisp, regular meeting Committee meeting schedules will be set separately from this meeting.	Lane

8. Report from the Council Chair: Chair Aisa expressed that hew would like to follow up with the Perceptions of Drought Interviews by possibly having a public discussion with long time valley residents who have a lot of information to share. He will do some outreach to specific people. Administrator to send the public version of the document to the councilmembers.
9. MWF Report, Chair – Michael Bastian.
 - a. County Support Contract has been completed and will provide funding for 2026 only. Funds will be very tight until end of February.
 - b. Icicle and Methow Valley Funds grants were submitted. MWF continues working on opportunities for commerce to fund fire water
 - c. Commerce meeting for committee and council chairs Feb 3, 2:30 via zoom
 - d. Next MWF meeting, Feb 19, at 12:00 p.m.
10. Committee Reports: Skipped this meeting
11. Local Governments Report
 - a. Town of Winthrop: New Mayor and Councilmember Robert Grim reported that Winthrop is raising water and sewer rates to help finance loans for upgrades to those systems. \$1.4M is coming from federal sources for 2027 work. The town is working with the Chewuch Canal to gain additional water rights for the town. Winthrop will be nearing the end of available hookups in about 20 years given current resources.
 - b. Town of Twisp: Councilmember Smith reported that the Twisp water system plan update should be completed by the end of February. The plan projects out twenty years and is updated every 6-8 years. Smith said that if the population doubles in 20 years, Twisp may be nearing the end of available hookup with current resources. The previous update projected 2% growth. This iteration projects at 5%/yr. Capacity upgrades for treated discharge to the Methow were finalized.
 - c. Okanogan County. Councilmember Hover was absent.
12. Members Report: News from the Community and Upcoming Events: None

13. Next Steps

- a. Tasks:
 - i. Meeting w/ N Central Community Engagement Specialist Brisa Sanchez-Cornejo: February 3 at 2:30PM.
- b. Next Agenda Items:
 - i. SWOT review. Survey Due Feb 13
- c. Next meeting dates:
 - i. February 25, 2026: Winthrop Library, with presentation
 - ii. March 25, 2026. Methow, with presentation TBD
 - iii. April 22, 2026: Twisp Town Hall
 - iv. Skip May; June 24, 2026: Twisp Town Hall, regular meeting
 - v. September 23, 2026: Twisp Town Hall, regular meeting
 - vi. October 28, 2026: Mazama Club, with presentation
 - vii. Skip November; December 16, 2026: Twisp, regular meeting

14. Adjourn. Councilmember McGuire moved to adjourn; Councilmember Taylor seconded. Motion carried; Chair Asia adjourned the meeting at 5:01 p.m.