



Monthly Meeting Minutes

August 16, 2018

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

Council Members Present: Mike Fort (by phone), Andy Hover, Soo Ing-Moody, Greg Knott, Bill McAdow, Bill Tackman, and Ashley Thrasher.

Others in Attendance: Logan Johnson, Kevin Bergstrom, Vanessa Brinkhaus (by phone), Kelsey Collins, Natalie Kuehler, Mary McCrea, Melanie Rowland, Roger Rowatt, Jacquelyn Wallace, Jennifer Molesworth, Lee Bernheisel.

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>
	NO MOTIONS WERE MADE			

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Greg Knott at 5:06 p.m.

2. Introductions

3. Agenda – Review and Approval

Andy Hover moved to adopt the agenda of August 16, 2018, as presented. Bill Tackman seconded, and the motion carried.

4. Minutes – Review and Approval

Ashley Thrasher moved to approve the Minutes of July 19, 2018, as presented. Bill Tackman seconded, with a correction on pg. 3 of NVCC to MVCC. The motion to approve, as corrected, carried.

5. Report from the Chair

Greg also reported on meeting with Ecology with a representative of Wolf Creek at the spill site. Kurt Bovey, John Kirk and Mark Schuppe were in attendance, as well as Aspect Consulting representative Bill Sullivan. Mark hadn't seen the site before and identified two issues: the certainty of the availability of water if WCRD's water right was modified by Ecology to include deliveries to TLAC, and the certainty of the quantity of consumptive use water available for redistribution if this were done. With water from Patterson Lake encumbered by multiple users, claims, and delivery locations, for Ecology to approve the

proposed changes to the WCRD water right they need assurance that those two issues will be resolved by the interested parties up front rather than at the end. Ecology is going to have an internal discussion on these issues and will be in contact with both the MWC and MWC's consultant as they move forward with their analysis. .

Vanessa noted that Mark had John Kirk review Aspect's work. Vanessa noted the following issue: if there was to be a temporary placement of water into trust by WCRD to allow implementation of Phase One of the project, what would the temporary transfer of water into trust look like? It couldn't be considered a donation. Could be transferred by other means. There is a need to look at historic use and delivery.

Lee Bernheisel asked if the water was not available for the trust yet. He said it's not clear if the water is not currently available or is waste water and implied he thought that this was a Reclamation project. Jennifer Molesworth stated that it is not a Bureau of Reclamation project, she is just assisting with technical support.

In response to questions from the floor about the use of the Trust Water Program for this project State Program Director, Kelsey Collins, stated that Ecology wants to facilitate solutions but that they are bound by their need to act in accordance with law.

6. Grant Administrator Report

7. Ecology Report

Vanessa reported that she is working with two grants that are directed, at least in part with creating a database for water withdrawals in the Methow, one with the MWF, and one with the County. For Ecology, issues that need clarification are reservation accounting and defining roles. There should be no overlapping tasks between the grants and the databases which result should be compatible. Vanessa would like to have common goals and roles clarified and proposed that we include that topic to be on the next month's agenda.

Andy Hover reported on the discussion about the deliverable of truing well logs. Not every well log may be able to be pinpointed to a parcel; this may not be a totally complete-able deliverable. He is working on timelines, and with Assessor overlays to confirm parcel and well links.

8. MWF Report

Mary McCrea welcomed new staff Sarah Lane, who will be assisting with the Give Methow Campaign. The Foundation will send postcards to previous donors and also send out emails for the campaign in October. A Foundation meeting is scheduled for Tuesday August 21.

9. Initiating Government Reports

Town of Twisp- Nothing to Report

Town of Winthrop- New Public Works Director hired. Noted opportunity to save water through fixing leaks.

Okanogan County- Working on getting their database grant moving and hiring an employee for project. Regarding 6091 and other rules, there was some discussion about what people want to see counted for water usage.

Greg asked if there was an update for WRIA 49 – a list of participants, senior water rights. Andy stated that Perry is thinking of a first meeting at the end of September.

A local capacity grant provides \$150,000 for planning for 2018-19, and \$150,000 for the work. Current work is to identify needed technical studies and recommended projects.

Andy reported that Oroville – Tonasket Irrigation district made a proposal to the County for a water banking system. Soo Ing-Moody asked if OTID received a grant for the project. Andy stated that OTID can get money from 6091 fund and 2/3 of the way through the process.

10. Sub-Committee Reports

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

Mike reported that issues were covered in Vanessa's report

Political Action Committee, Chair – Tackman

No report

Outreach and Education Committee, Chair – Tackman

The committee is going to meet and review the poster and outreach project for water banking next week. USP submittal has been made, comments were due last week. Final comments are due August 24. The committee is looking at winter programs and requests possible topics. Regular committee programs are desired. Carlene Anders from Pateros expressed interest in the MWC and asked to be invited and put on contact list.

Water 2066 Committee, Chair – Thrasher

Ashley attended a presentation given by Lisa Dally-Wilson on the work of Skagit 2060, and the Icicle project. Ashley followed up with Lisa, who recommends the Council take on a day-long workshop to bring everyone on board for the MWC Water 2066 project. Should a citizen council be developed? Ashley would like to plan such a meeting for October. Buy-in is needed for process development and outcome agreement. A grant is pending from Ecology and she is initiating the process of hiring a facilitator but may wait until after the October planning session.

For an October meeting, a list of stakeholders is needed. Ashley reported that Lisa cautioned taking care with group size and suggested possibly having an application process for citizen participants.

Greg stated that he is impressed with Lisa's discussion of how government is involved in the Skagit project. Her point was that to be successful, this needs to be a citizen- driven process with input and support from government – not guidance. Initially getting Ecology, and the local governments on board and understanding their roles is important, allowing government to help keep the process on track. For the Skagit process, 15 members attended who were a cross section citizens, both geographically and their backgrounds. Citizen members had a 1 year commitment which helped be self-selective. Skagit had 60 applicants for citizen members.

According to Lisa, the driver of the process was the Skagit County planner. Would the MWC have a similar role providing support the citizen members?

2066 was planned to expand beyond the Council. A planning day can help build parameters for the group and goals.

Andy asked what we are looking for in 2066. Economic Development? Planning? Water? Is this a sub-Comp Plan?

Greg stated that we need to get together to decide these things. Council should stick to the original vision: What will water look like in the Methow in 2066? One possibility is that the MWC would identify outcomes based on the community vision.

Andy stated the need for preemptive outreach that won't be obsolete at the county level.

The day-long workshop will be to build the framework based on the consensus of the participants from governments and the MWC. Lisa is willing to help lead the process.

Soo asked if the Council needs to do another survey of what the county citizens want to see.

Greg endorsed the idea of the day-long meeting. Andy said he will go. Proposed: for the next agenda, planning a date for the meeting and deciding who will be invited to the day-long 2066 conference. Some of that meeting should be open to the public.

11. Public Comment

Kevin: Thanked the Council for their work.

Kelsey: Kelsey is the STE Director of the Water Rights Trust Program and is in the area working for water acquisition for fish enhancement. She is available if anyone has questions about water trust acquisitions.

Melanie: Expressed appreciation. Asked, what does the community want to see? Before Andy's time, there were advisory groups around the county. Preceding commissioners disregarded that input. This is a possible starting point for 2066. Land and water use cannot be separated. Melanie asked if interested publics will be included in the October preliminary Water 2066 planning meeting. Ashley stated that Lisa recommends starting with the Council and Foundation before adding the public to the group.

Jacquelyn: Said she is excited about 2066 and education opportunities.

Natalie: Reported (with her Chewuch hat on) that the Lundgren water transfer has been discussed by the Water Conservancy Board. It's a tricky proposal to go forward. She doesn't think the water will be proved available. Many people attended the WCB meeting. The next WCB meeting is September 5th, and the Lundgren issue is not on the agenda.

SEPA notice has been issued for short plats at Pine Forest. Two sets of issues were raised with respect to the Methow Plan: How to determine hydraulic continuity, and how are closed basins drawn? How related to single domestic vs. group domestic use?

How far out can water be transferred without a possible end point? Do we have to pre-define water use with a narrow scope?

Lee: No decision from Ecology on Lundgren, as WCB hasn't passed the issue on to Ecology yet. Public interest in the issue is very high.

Mary: Mary is working independently to draft legislation regarding out-of-basin water transfers, designed to protect basin interests.

Jennifer: Go see the water art show at the Confluence!

Roger: Legislation will be needed to protect basins.

Natalie asked if anyone is monitoring legal public notices. (Perhaps a task for Admin) There is a RSS feed on Ecology's website for 30 day comments on new decision drafts. Sarah will find the sign up for RSS feed and forward to all.

Lee: Lee stated that Chris Anderson in Olympia will share info on the Chewuch and Wolf Creek. If sent to Ecology and a decision is made, the PCHB can be a place for comment. SEPA review is simultaneous with the WCB process.

Kelsey stated that the 30 day comment period on new draft decisions is a critical point for input, and that she is excited individuals are drafting legislation.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.