

OFFICE OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA

Prescott, Arizona

October 16, 2002

The Board of Supervisors met in special session on October 16, 2002.

Present: Lorna Street, Chairman; Chip Davis, Vice Chairman; Gheral Brownlow, Member.

Absent: Bev Staddon, Clerk, due to illness.

Also present: John Munderloh, Yavapai County Water Advisory Committee Coordinator.

Also present were the following Yavapai County Water Advisory Committee members and alternates: Co-Chairman Tony Gioia, Town of Camp Verde; Co-Chairman Larry Tarkowski, Town of Prescott Valley; Jim Williams, Yavapai County District 2, Dewey; Robert Behnke, City of Prescott; Anita MacFarlane, City of Sedona; Doree Christensen, Town of Jerome; Ruben Jauregui, City of Cottonwood; Art Coates, Yavapai County District 1, Chino Valley; Mike Bluff, Town of Clarkdale; Jane Moore, Town of Jerome; Carol Johnson, City of Sedona; Tom Whitmer, Arizona Department of Water Resources, Phoenix; Bob Hardy, City of Cottonwood

ITEM NO. 1 Meet in Joint Session with Yavapai County Board of Supervisors

1. **Introductions.** Chairman Street called the meeting to order and welcomed the other Supervisors, Water Committee members, and the public. Self- introductions followed.
2. **Presentation regarding Verde Valley Subflow.** Mr. Munderloh called the group's attention to the handout showing the list of parties that filed a response to the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) Subflow Technical Report, San Pedro River Watershed. Nineteen responses were recorded, of which three came from Yavapai County. He then introduced consultants Phil Briggs and Chris Garrett. Mr. Briggs gave a summary of his background qualifications, informing the group that his technical presentation was put together at the request of the Verde Valley Water Users Association (VWVUA) and partially funded by Yavapai County. He explained how his presentation was put together using the technology available, saying that a GIS database had been created that could be altered and updated acting as a continuous living document for current and future water studies. Mr. Briggs described the three primary areas that the court addressed in the adjudication process, namely the Holocene Alluvium, Cone of Depression Test, and DeMinimus wells. He characterized all three as important, but said that DeMinimus wells were very important in deciding who would be included in the adjudication process and who would not be included. Mr. Briggs then ran through the analysis of what the VWVUA submitted to the court. Following the presentation there were very few questions. Mr. Briggs thanked the Board of Supervisors and WAC for asking him to give the presentation.
3. **Review of WAC accomplishments.** Mr. Munderloh presented a slide show of the Committee's past accomplishments. The review covered Scientific Discovery; Public Policy and Regional Cooperation; and, Education and Community Outreach the WAC has actively been involved in or has supported. Review of accomplishments also included a Revenue Statement showing what the towns, cities, tribes and County contribute to the WAC along with revenue from other outside sources such as the state, federal government, Salt River Project, and universities. Chairman Street asked how southern Yavapai County (District 2) had been involved in the on-going scientific studies, water budget process and the like. Mr. Munderloh responded that he attends meetings that he is aware of and helps with various projects as requested concerning the Agua Fria and Bill Williams watersheds. He said that both he and the members of the WAC are always available to all watershed groups. Supervisor Davis commented that those watershed groups were citizen driven, and always welcome to attend WAC meetings to discuss their concerns. Supervisor Brownlow reported that the figures for the Las Vegas Ranch were available, according to Mr. Behnke. Mr. Behnke replied that he would provide a copy to Mr. Munderloh for distribution to the Board of Supervisors. Later in the meeting it was determined that the report was only in the preliminary stages and that Mr. Behnke would distribute it when completed.
4. **Follow up on Board of Supervisors/WAC Planning Retreat.** Mr. Munderloh reviewed the Digest of the YCWAC Retreat and the Facilitator's (Mette Brogden from the Udall Center at the University of Arizona) observations and notes about the outcome of the Planning Retreat held on July 18, 2002, at the Orme School. An observation made was that "in its future work together,the group be explicit about how its short term goals will help lead to long-term goals." The Facilitator noted that those who participated at the retreat made an excellent start on a strategic planning process. The

Facilitator posed a final question to the group during the retreat: Are there changes to the charge to the WAC, or to the WAC's representation, functioning, and/or structure, that will be needed in order to accomplish the next step? Recommendations included: 1) Refining a mission statement based on a current charge from the Board of Supervisors; 2) establishing specific goals and objectives with respect to the "next steps" outlined during the retreat; and 3) answering the final question posed to the group concerning any organizational changes. Mr. Behnke he believed that the WAC should form a working group with the Board of Supervisors and decide what next steps everyone wants to take in order to move forward. Mr. Tarkowski and Ms. MacFarlane commented that the Board of Supervisors needed to let the WAC know how far it could expand its scope of work and membership. Chairman Street again asked about her District, which she said did not seem to be included in anything. Supervisor Brownlow stated that water was a Countywide need, but that different areas of the County had different water needs. Mr. Behnke remarked that the group was looking for direction from the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Tarkowski asked if it was the desire of the Board of Supervisors for the WAC to look at things like subdivisions like Black Canyon City, saying that if this is what the Board would like, the committee would certainly look into those types of projects. Mr. Tarkowski referred to Coconino County trying to use water in the permitting process for subdivisions. Supervisor Davis asked Mr. Munderloh if he could provide a breakdown on all watersheds and their current issues. He again stated that water issues are citizen-driven. Mr. Gioia agreed, commenting that the WAC works through the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) which usually has the first contact with watershed groups. Mr. Behnke agreed but said that the WAC needs to let the Board know prior to such things as changing legislation. Ms. MacFarlane stated that the WAC members did not want to get their hands slapped again, and that the Board needed to guide them. Supervisor Davis said that the Board and the WAC brought people together and raised substantial funds to implement the studies needed to know the future of the County's water resources. He said that information from all the studies was starting to come in and that it was exciting. Supervisor Davis referred to Ms. MacFarlane's comment about being slapped on the hand, saying that with new and expanded challenges the Board would expand its way of thinking, which he said he believed was healthy. Supervisor Brownlow talked about all the grass, fountains, and so on in Phoenix, saying that things needed to start at the legislative level, for example with regard to Ranch Communities of America. He said there was a lot of water for the RCA development but asked how it would affect the Verde River, adding that this was something no one knew yet. Supervisor Davis spoke about the Coconino County court cases using water as a permitting measure, saying that those cases were prior to the Growing Smarter Act and that there was now a legal tool available. He said that Yavapai County should be the leader to start changing legislation. Mr. Behnke said the group needed to work toward policy development. Supervisor Brownlow said he would like to drop references to a "hand slap", adding that it came about because it looked like the WAC was trying to be like a Planning and Zoning department. Mr. Behnke stated that was not what the group was trying to do, and that they were trying to give recommendations. Chairman Street said there was more than the Verde, and she described her District's geographic area and said that it was more difficult to form watershed groups. She said that the Upper Hassayampa and Black Canyon City areas were working to form watershed groups to address current and future issues and that people needed to remember that there were three different Supervisorial Districts in the County.

4. Possible direction to WAC to develop a draft Water Conservation Program. Mr. Tarkowski asked what the Board would like the WAC to work on with regard to a water conservation program. Chairman Street replied that she would like to see something that could apply on a Countywide basis, such as a simple water conservation program. Supervisor Davis agreed that it would be appropriate to use the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Program along with others. He also suggested setting obtainable goals. Chairman Street requested that whatever the WAC put together be in layman's terms for education purposes. The Board asked the WAC to look at water conservation ideas and present to them for discussion. Staff will follow up on this request with the TAC.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

_____ Clerk _____ Chairman