

WAC 03-15-2006 Summary of Agenda Items

Agenda Item 4: Coordinators Report and TAC Report

Budget: From "02/06 Financial Report": Account balance: \$285,406.36; YTD Deductions: \$43,466.97; YTD Additions: \$183,386.63 (Fiscal Year Starts July 1).

Other Coordinator/TAC items:

1. **Verde River Basin Partnership:** Meeting for initial organization of the Verde Partnership scheduled for March 18th at the Prescott College Crossroads Center. Information on this meeting has been circulating, mostly via email. Let John Rasmussen know if you have questions or have not received information.

The TAC briefly discussed how it might help the process. Agenda Item #6 has for consideration by WAC, a TAC review of the technical aspects of Title II. A report for WAC outlining the technical requirements and a cost analysis will be prepared at the request of WAC.

2. **Meeting with Representative Tom O'Halleran:** Coordinator John Rasmussen met with Representative O'Halleran on February 28 to discuss Rural Water Legislative Study Committee, current legislation, the WAC and water concerns in general. Regarding presenting at future Study Committee meeting, we talked about the format and strategies for effective communication with the Committee. Basically, we need to be able to clearly state the issues in our area and why they are important (e.g. population growth projections, available water resource, flow, ESA, land use, property rights, USFS mission, economics of water importation, economic growth, etc.). Presently no Rural Water Study Committee meeting is scheduled; however, it is apparent that the coordinator with the help of the WAC and TAC, and others, should do this anyway.

We also talked about a few pieces of current legislation and the Verde Partnership. According to my recollection, Representative O'Halleran emphasized amongst several minutes of conversation, public participation, ideas in unison, technical support, and working in sub-groups. He mentioned looking at governor Hulls "Governor's Water Management Commission" which mainly focused on AMA's but may have some structural aspects of interest to members of the Verde Basin Partnership (the executive order and final report can be found at: <http://www.azsos.gov/aar/2000/22/governor.pdf> and <http://www.water.az.gov/dwr/Content/Publications/files/FinalReport.pdf>).

We also talked about the unlikely prospect of HB 2462 going anywhere this year, and the groundwater basin planning aspect of HB 2294 (which is in the senate now).

After about an hour and a half we concluded a conversation about the WAC and the WAC Coordinators role would have to wait as he had to go to another meeting. I hope to have that conversation with O'Halleran soon.

I briefly met Representative Lucy Mason and indicated I would like to meet with her. No date was set. I also think a similar meeting with Senator Bennett may be in order. Additionally, I'm considering trying to talk Yavapai water with the Senator and Representatives from District 4 (Senator Jack W. Harper, Representatives Tom Boone and Judy Burges).

3. **Current State Water Legislation (2006):** Status and Full text of the bills is available at the State website (<http://www.azleg.gov/default.asp>).
4. **USGS Report:** [TAC] The TAC previewed and commented on the presentation we will see today. The TAC intends to contribute to the efforts of the WAC by continuing to clarify how this report (and other information) serves as a platform from which WAC can focus on management plans. As part of the TAC effort, a “white paper” with “bullet points” summarizing the report will be provided to the WAC members. The “white paper” is on the next TAC agenda.
5. **Dewey-Humboldt Well Monitoring:** TAC members have provided comments on Participant Survey Form. Coordinator is compiling and will give to Mayor Hintze. DH is also working with ADWR.
6. **Possible Presentation by Laurie Wirt (USGS):** She will be in the area on May 9th and 10th and has offered to present her Verde River Headwaters report (OFR 2004-1411) if there is interest, and we can arrange a meeting location. The normal WAC meeting is on May 17th.
7. **HB 2277 System Water Plans:** A Workshop led by Susan Craig of ADWR is scheduled for next Monday March 20, 2006 at 2 PM at the Cottonwood Board Room located in the County Building at 10 South 6th Street in Cottonwood. It will probably be about an hour long depending on the discussion that follows an ADWR presentation. Much of the information that will be covered is on the ADWR website.
http://www.azwater.gov/dwr/Content/Find_by_Program/Drought_and_Conservation/default.htm.

A press release has been sent out and everybody on my mailing lists has been asked to notify potentially interested parties. It was not possible to send letters to the 200+ entries (some redundant) on the ADWR spreadsheet of providers in Yavapai County. So, please notify any providers you can if you think they may be interested.

Agenda Item 5:

USGS Report - Presentation #3 (of 3): Today’s presentation by Kyle Blasch will focus on the Modeling aspects of the USGS Verde Report “Hydrogeology of the Upper and Middle Verde River Watersheds, Central Arizona” by Blasch and others (SIR 2005-5198). It is planned to be a “where do we go from here?” discussion (e.g. what we know now, how we are going to use it, and possible outcomes). The presentation may also discuss the product and expectations of what modeling will accomplish (this may set the stage for new work – i.e. data necessary to model at a fine scale).

Agenda Item 6:

Verde Basin Partnership (s. 161 Title II): Committee will lead discussion. Committee may discuss March 18th meeting, membership, purpose, and structure alternatives, etc. Committee may consider tasking the TAC to analyze technical requirements of Title II and report to WAC on technical requirements and potential costs.

Jrr 3-13-06