

## WAC 9-20-2006

### Agenda Item 4: Coordinators Report and TAC Report

Budget: From preliminary "06/06 Financial Report": Account balance: \$361,227; YTD Deductions: \$12,620; YTD Additions: \$119,191 (Fiscal Year Starts July 1).

TAC Meeting (September 14, 2006):

Scenario Development: Northern Arizona Regional Groundwater Flow Model: Phone call with lead USGS modeler Don Pool. TAC discussed generalities of scenario development for USGS modeling effort. Such as, the types of inputs, temporal and geographic scale, write-up and coordination of scenario development with other groups (e.g. Coconino) and city general plans. TAC plan is to develop broad scope in next months TAC meeting, make information available for WAC input, then fine tune as model develops.

WAC potential projects: TAC briefly discussed status of new-well logging program development and well monitoring program development. Detailed updates will be provided to WAC at next WAC meeting.

White Paper on Wirt Report: In draft form. Anticipate delivery at October or November WAC meeting.

Other Coordinator Items:

1. "Identification of Historically Irrigated Acres in the Big Chino Subbasin" by ADWR PrAMA. Report is published – copies are available at Prescott ADWR office. Report will be available on-line soon.
2. Statewide Water Advisory Group is continuing to meet and progress. Website is: [http://www.azwater.gov/dwr/Content/Hot\\_Topics/SWAG/default.htm](http://www.azwater.gov/dwr/Content/Hot_Topics/SWAG/default.htm) (Update in Agenda item #5)
3. Request has been made to have potential grants from WAC as agenda item. Specifically, WAC grants for Master Watershed Steward Program, however it opens a more general subject of WAC grants. If committee agrees, this topic will be placed on next agenda.
4. USGS has reprogrammed \$13,000 to Numerical Model Development.

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### Agenda Item 5: TAC Appointment: Dr. Abe Springer

The purpose of this agenda item is to ascertain whether or not to forward and recommend this appointment to the Board of Supervisors. The Board can then affirm and officially recognize Abe Springer as a TAC member filling the one currently vacant seat on the TAC.

Abe Springer is qualified to be appointed to the Technical Advisory Committee of the Water Advisory Committee. He was asked to serve on the TAC by TAC member Bob Hardy. The TAC has discussed Dr. Springer's appointment and agrees that he will be a valuable addition to the TAC.

The following is a brief biography primarily based on information from the Northern Arizona University (NAU) website. Abe is an associate professor in the Geology Department at NAU. He holds a PhD from The Ohio State University and his Specialty is Hydrogeology.

He and his students have been instrumental in recent updates of the Prescott AMA hydrologic model. He also has extensive experience with springs along the Mogollon Rim and has an excellent understanding of the local geologic systems. Dr. Springer is aware of local issues and science needs of local communities and is well known, and respected by the community of scientists in this region.

Quote from the website: *"My students and I study local and regional groundwater flow systems and human impacts on them, apply principles of sustainability to aquifer management through models, quantify the hydrological function of groundwater dominated ecosystems, the role of land-use change and disturbance on groundwater flow systems, and restoration of riparian ecosystems. Most of these studies are interdisciplinary and consist of a mix of field and lab work, and basic and applied research. I have collaborated with ecologists, botanists, plant physiologists, foresters, land managers, engineers, and many different sub-disciplines within the Earth Sciences."*

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Agenda Item 6: \$65,000 increase in WAC contribution to Joint Funding Agreement with USGS.

The purpose of this agenda item is to determine if the WAC is willing to increase the WAC's contribution to the USGS numerical modeling project. The TAC recognizes the value of this work and recommends an additional \$65,000 be committed to this project. This will make the total WAC contribution for the year equal \$130,000.

Background and Need: The need is based on ADWR Verde funding reductions. The ADWR was scheduled to pay \$230,000 but will be able to contribute only \$165,000 towards the Verde project this year. Thus, the financial need and request for the additional WAC contribution. The WAC is currently scheduled to pay a total of \$65,000 this year. An increase of \$65,000 will make the total WAC contribution equal \$130,000.

Benefits: This action benefits the WAC communities by ensuring that the complete scope of work will be accomplished and helps ensure the Numerical model for the Verde will be completed by December 2007.

Budget: The WAC budget currently has the funds available for this request. This increase will put the WAC in more line with previous years total WAC contributions to USGS Verde projects. Since 2001 the WAC has contributed \$149,300 (2001), \$183,000 (2002), \$189,000 (2003), \$150,800 (2004), \$65,000 (2005), and \$65,000 (2006). Note that a significant portion of this was for data collection efforts in the early years (geologic division in addition to the water resources division of the USGS). All of the USGS information obtained with the WAC funding has contributed to the conceptual model and the numerical model development to date.

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Agenda Item 7: Draft Conservation Report

This purpose of this agenda item is to follow up on previous WAC meeting discussion on this subject and determine how to proceed.

The Draft report was prepared by the Water Conservation Workgroup in September, 2004 and has not been adopted by the Board of Supervisors. The report recognizes the benefits of conservation and develops a series of water conservation strategies.

The report has been sent to WAC members and is available on the County website  
<http://www.co.yavapai.az.us/Content.aspx?id=20562>

It is the coordinators opinion that while the report is coherent, some of the items in the report should be updated to reflect current conditions. For instance, the section on existing water conservation programs is not current (e.g. Prescott has a full-time conservation coordinator, and Prescott changed its code; the ADWR has furthered implementation of some new programs and has a recently completed document on drought tolerant plants for our area; there is a Central Yavapai Conservation Committee that meets regularly; these are not mentioned in the report). Consequences of the 2005 Arizona House Bill 2277 are not reflected in the report either.

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#### Agenda Item 8: WAC Retreat: Planning Update

The purpose of this agenda item is to update the WAC on Retreat preparations.

The retreat is scheduled for Wednesday October 4, 2006 at Mingus Springs Camp on Mingus Mountain. The time will be 9:00 AM to approximately 4:00 PM. Snacks and lunch will be provided for WAC members, alternates and TAC members. Members of the public are welcome but will need to bring their own lunch.

A final agenda is being formulated. WAC members and alternates may have already spoken with the facilitator Anne Browning Aiken of the Udall Center for Public Policy at the University of Arizona.

The WAC will pay for the facility and lunch (\$20 per person). The WAC will pay for the facilitators expenses including telephone calls, printing, university car rental and gas, payment for work for 3 days of work (per diem), and room and board for one night October 3rd.

The questions she is asking are below.

--1 From your perspective what are the key issues for the WAC in addressing water issues in Yavapai County?

--2 What do you think needs to be done to address these challenges?

--3 What advice can you give me on the selection of concerns, conditions or issues that you think should be addressed in the retreat?

--4 Do you have any advice on how to handle any media present at the retreat. Since the retreat is a "work in progress," do you want to establish any rules for the press and for WAC members being interviewed by the press outside the retreat room?

--5 What kinds of outcome would you prefer:

....group joint public statement at the end of the retreat ....decision for next steps with the issues that the group wants to continue working on ....a summary of the Udall Center's observations with no names circulated for comment ....other?

*The purpose of these interviews is to organize an agenda based on the WAC's expectations. Stress that these interviews are confidential and that I will mention no names in discussing the results of the interviews. I will begin contacting participants Sept 15 and will complete the interviews before the WAC meeting on Sept 20, which means we should have an agenda before the end of the WAC meeting.*

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### Agenda Item 9: Removal/Appointment Procedure for TAC.

This agenda item is intended to allow the WAC to discuss issues surrounding the appointment and removal process for TAC members. An agreement may be reached regarding the procedure.

#### Previously submitted Draft Technical/Administrative Subcommittee (TAC) appointment procedure:

Yavapai County Board of Supervisors Resolution 1270 established the TAC (November 2000) in response to a need for technical assistance identified by the WAC. The resolution specified TAC membership is to be comprised of six individuals with technical expertise in the area of water resources and water management (three from the Prescott area and three from the Verde Valley). Currently a seventh TAC seat is filled by a representative from the ADWR.

A set of minimum technical qualifications have been identified by the TAC and approved by the WAC in January, 2004. The qualifications are "a minimum of BS in Geology, Hydrology, engineering or related field, and 10 years of water resource related experience, or an equivalent in post graduate education and experience with post graduate education counting as one year of experience". The basic TAC tenet is to have diversity of hydrologic expertise represented; work in interest of the County and in support of WAC goals; be science based; and work in a collaborative manner.

The WAC adopted four year terms for TAC members with reappointment or new member selection options. The BOS will make final approval. According to the TAC Bylaws, the WAC can appoint additional members from other watersheds if it so desires. It is the WAC's choice to provide input or changes to the bylaws.

According to Resolution 1270, the TAC members are to serve until such time as they resign or are removed by the Board of Supervisors (BOS). Appointments to the TAC shall be made by the BOS.

#### Basic procedure:

1. Vacancy is identified
2. Candidate who meets minimum qualifications is identified (typically, has been a recommendation from a TAC member at a TAC meeting)
3. Recommendation goes to WAC (action item)
4. Approval and Official Appointment by BOS