

DRAFT

YAVAPAI COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YCWAC)
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 17, 2007

NOTE: Presentations and attachments may be accessed by clicking on the following link:
<http://www.co.yavapai.az.us/Content.aspx?id=24848>

The Water Advisory Committee (WAC) met on January 17, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. at the Red Rock State Park, 4050 Red Rock Loop Road, Sedona, Arizona.

Members present: Co-Chair Jane Moore, Town of Jerome; Co-Chair Art Coates, District 1, Paulden; Bob Roecker, City of Prescott; Steve Estes, District 3, Verde Valley; Roger Swenson, Town of Dewey-Humboldt; Diane Joens, City of Cottonwood; Tom Whitmer, ADWR, Phoenix; Doug Von Gausig, Town of Clarkdale; Pud Colquitt, City of Sedona; Jim Williams, District 2, Dewey; Alternates: Tony Gioia, Town of Camp Verde; Dorothy O'Brien, District 3, Verde Valley; John Munderloh, Town of Prescott Valley; Len Marinaccio, Town of Dewey-Humboldt; Bob Rothrock, City of Cottonwood

Members absent: Virginia Reid, Town of Chino Valley; Mike Flannery, Town of Prescott Valley; Brenda Hauser, Town of Camp Verde; Harold Wise, Town of Prescott Valley; Christopher Moss, Yavapai Prescott Indian Tribe; Charles Bonnaha, Yavapai Apache Nation; Alternates: Mary Hoadley, District 2, Mayer; Leslie Graser, ADWR, Prescott; Doree Christensen, Town of Jerome; Mark Holmes, Town of Chino Valley; Jerry Wiley, Town of Clarkdale; John Bradshaw, City of Sedona; Billie Garner, Yavapai Apache Nation

NOTE: *Meetings are tape recorded and available to listen to upon request. Contact 928-639-8110.*

ITEM NO. 1 Introductions.

- Co-Chair Moore called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. and welcomed those attending. Self introductions followed.

ITEM NO. 2 Approve December 20, 2006 meeting minutes.

- Consensus reached to approve the December 20, 2006 minutes.

ITEM NO. 3 Informational reports.

- Doug Von Gausig announced that a letter was written by Senator McCain and mailed to The President of the United States requesting \$610,000 in fiscal year 2008 to begin the Verde River Basin Partnership's work. Doug also summarized his recent trip to Alaska saying that the cost of water in the area he visited is 10 cents per gallon. If you want to conserve water you do it in the rates. He gave some of his observations on water use and rates in that part of the region. He doesn't feel that Arizona really represents the true cost of water stating that what is missing in the equation is depletion which needs to be taken into account.
- Tom Whitmer briefed the group on legislation coming out of the SWAG. Two pieces of legislation will be introduced for sure 1) Provide Local Authority to Require Adequate Water Supply. This would allow counties to require new subdivisions to have a determination of adequate water supply from ADWR and 2) Water Development Fund. This would create a Water Supply Development Revolving Fund to provide loans and grants to water providers for water supply development. Creates a Fund Committee within the WIFA to evaluate applications and select projects to receive financial assistance. Another piece may be introduced which is Restrictions on Drilling Wells in Contaminated Areas. It was suggested that these legislative proposals be discussed at the next WAC meeting.
- Greg Kornrumpf with SRP announced a new website showing Low Flow Gage Sites along the Verde River. This website is under development and Greg is looking for your comments. The address is www.watershedwise.com
- Roger Swenson passed out the second edition of the Dewey-Humboldt newsletter and hopes everyone will read and enjoy.

ITEM NO. 4 Coordinator's and TAC Report.

- Coordinator Rasmussen has sent a draft of the Conservation Report out to the Committee showing significant changes. He said the Report should be out in the next couple months.
- The White Paper for the Wirt Report should be out next month in final form.
- Coordinator Rasmussen is setting up a scoping meeting hosted by TAC for February 8th at 1:00 p.m. held at the County Annex building in Cottonwood regarding the Verde Valley Surface Water System Model.

ITEM NO. 5 Presentation and Discussion: Digital Hydro geologic Framework Model of the Upper Verde River Headwaters

- Co-Chair Moore introduced Matt Fry and Abe Springer with NAU. Following a brief introduction by Mr. Springer, Mr. Fry begin his presentation. The presentation is the result of Mr. Fry's Masters Thesis work on the Big Chino area.

- Please click on <http://www4.nau.edu/geology/theses/fry06.pdf> to review presentation.
- TAC will discuss requesting a model for the Verde Valley.
- Completing the presentation there was a brief question and answer period.

ITEM NO. 6 Discussion and Possible Action: WAC budget and Work Proposals (i.e. USGS Groundwater Flow Model – Scenario Development (Hoyt Johnson), Decision Support System (Kevin Lansey), Verde Valley Surface Water Model (TAC scope), Persistent Chemical Compounds in Wastewater (Rob Carruth), Project WET in Yavapai County

- Please click on <http://www.co.yavapai.az.us/Content.aspx?id=24848> to review attachments for Item No. 6.
- Coordinator Rasmussen reviewed the January 2007 WAC Budget. He explained that there are a couple of time sensitive items on the spread sheet that need to be addressed today by the WAC. One is the proposal on Long-Term Development Scenarios by Hoyt Johnson. This is a growth model and would cost \$60,000. The other is the Decision Support System proposal by Kevin Lansey. The Lansey proposal needs a support letter and/or matching funds of \$15,000. The other somewhat time-sensitive proposal is the Facilitated Scenario Tool by Susan Eden. The TAC needs to review and discuss this proposal prior to the WAC's review.
- Following discussion on the above projects, Consensus was reached to have staff move forward with the Long-Term Development Scenarios proposal by Hoyt Johnson by placing on the February 5, 2007 BOS agenda for approval. Consensus was reached not to take action at this time on the Decision Support System proposal by Kevin Lansey. This proposal may be pre-mature.
- Other projects on the spread sheet included: Project WET County-wide; Water Festivals; Verde Valley Surface Flow Model and Emergent Chemicals USGS. These items will be on the next agenda for further discussion. TAC recommends that the WAC move forward with the Verde Valley Surface Flow Model and Persistent Chemicals in order to gather more information.

ITEM NO. 7 Discussion and possible action: Common ground and WAC priorities.

- Co-Chair Moore mentioned the letter that the Co-Chairs and Coordinator received from Supervisor Davis requesting information from the WAC in preparation for the future WAC/Board joint meeting to be scheduled soon. He asked for a current budget and revenue sources; accomplishments since inception and within the last 12 months; goals and objectives current and long-term. Moore said the Chairs and Coordinator are preparing the information for the Supervisor.
- Co-Chair Moore asked the group what questions they and their councils needed/wanted answered regarding water issues. A few example questions might be: How much water do we have in storage (aquifers)? How much do we need for projected growth? How does drought affect water supply? She would like the WAC representatives to talk with their councils updating them on what WAC is doing and ask them (councils) what they want answered. Would like to educate councils on the studies that have been completed so they have some understanding of these studies. Moore feels strongly that the study information needs to get out to the public somehow. Co-Chair Coates agrees and also asked about the White Paper that the TAC has been working on. He would like to see comments from TAC members and why they make the determinations they make. Would like to see an overview of reports by scientific experts with some conclusions. Tom Whitmer said that modeling will help answer some of these questions. Steve Estes commented that we need to trust the data that the USGS supplied. John Munderloh said he wasn't sure correct data was received. Coates said that since the WAC commissioned USGS for studies that we need to trust them until the time that there is better information. Bob Hardy stated that the TAC is trying to extract information from the reports and provide layman's terms to the WAC.
- Co-Chair Moore asked again if it were a reasonable request for WAC representatives to go back to their councils and areas they represent and ask what questions they would like answered.
- Consensus reached for the WAC to come back to the February 21st meeting with questions that their councils or areas they represent would like WAC and TAC to research and answer.
- Consensus reached for the WAC to discuss at the February 21st WAC meeting what issues WAC wants to discuss at the yet-to-be scheduled WAC/BOS joint meeting.

ITEM NO. 8 Set date, time, location, and agenda items for the next meeting.

- Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held at County Administration Building, Board of Supervisors Room, 1015 Fair Street, Prescott, Arizona.
- (The third Wednesday in February is February 21, 2007.)*

Reviewed by: Co-Chairs Jane Moore/Art Coates and WAC Coordinator

Respectfully submitted by: Chris Moran, Board of Supervisors, District 3, and Recording Secretary for the WAC.