

Meeting Summary
WRIA 54 - Lower Spokane River Watershed
October 26, 2011

Location: Airway Heights Advanced Water Reclamation Facility, Airway Heights, WA.

Planning Unit members and guests in attendance / recorded on the sign-in sheet were:

Mike Hermanson, Spokane County
Rob Lindsay, Spokane County
Mike McCollum, Retired Geologist
Mike Hamilton, Geologist
Doug Greenlund, City of Spokane
Bill Rickard, City of Spokane Water Department
Rusty Post, Department of Ecology
David Luders, Indian Village Estates Water Association
Linda McCollum, Eastern Washington University
Jeanne Barnes, Spokane Association of Realtors & Lake Spokane Park Homeowners Association
Lance Peterson, City of Airway Heights
Kelly Williquette, City of Airway Heights
Amanda Parrish, Lands Council

CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS

Rusty Post opened the meeting at 10:00 am. Participants introduced themselves. The group approved minutes from the September 28, 2011 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Hermanson told the group that Stevens PUD and Stevens County Conservation District are working on a grant application to the Centennial Clean Water Fund program to evaluate impacts to Lake Spokane water quality from septic systems. Charlie Kessler requested a letter of support from the WRIA 54 WIT for the project. The group discussed this request and decided to continue the discussion at the end of the meeting.

PHASE IV PROJECT UPDATES

Amanda Parrish provided an update on the Lands Council Deep and Coulee Creek Watershed Restoration project. They have visited 15-20 landowners, and sent out letters to 40 additional landowners. They are moving forward on finding locations for restoration.

Mike Hermanson provided an update on the West Plains Ground Water Elevation Monitoring project. There is a network of 14 wells with data loggers that take hourly water level measurements, 14 wells that are monitored monthly, and a synoptic water level measurement of over 100 wells was done the week of October 17th.

Mike and Rob are working with Stevens County Conservation District on an interlocal agreement for the Lake Spokane Water Quality Project, and Rusty is working with them on the Steven County education project grant. Ecology and EWU have developed the grant agreement for their work on the West Plains.

PRESENTATION OF EWU WEST PLAINS PROJECTS

Linda McCollum, Mike McCollum, and Mike Hamilton made a presentation of the projects that EWU will be doing and how the projects will improve the understanding of West Plains Hydrogeology. Linda discussed the geologic maps. The mapping portion of the project includes 9 quadrangles, 8 of which have never been published. One quad, Four Lakes, will update an existing map.

Mike Hamilton described the basalt stratigraphy portion of the project. The goal of this project is to develop cross sections and fence diagrams that show the major basalt flows and units by using surface exposures projected into the sub surface.

Mike McCollum described the structures (faults, fold, fractures, etc) portion of the project. The goal of the structure portion of the project is to develop a map of structures in the West Plains and describe the relationship to ground water movement

WRIA 54 PHASE IV MOA

Mike Hermanson told the group that the current Phase IV Memorandum of Agreement will expire in August 2012. The purpose of the current MOA is to complete the Detailed Implementation Plan and begin implementing it. When it expires a new MOA will be needed for the ongoing implementation of the watershed plan. The group discussed the possible integration of WRIA 55/57, 56 & 54. The discussion of this topic will continue at subsequent meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The group continued the discussion of Stevens County Conservation District's request for a support letter for their Centennial Clean Water Fund grant application. The group decided to provide a letter that supports the idea of evaluating the impacts of septic systems on Lake Spokane. The County will work with Stevens County Conservation District to draft the letter.

ADMINISTRATION & GENERAL SCHEDULE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next WRIA 54 meeting will be on December 14th, 2011 from 10-12 at the Airway Heights Water Reclamation Facility.

ADJOURN

Rusty Post adjourned the meeting shortly after 12:00 pm.