

**WRIA 55/57: Little Spokane River and Middle Spokane River Watersheds
WRIA 56: Hangman/Latah Creek**

Joint Watershed Implementation Team (WIT) Meeting

**Wednesday October 10, 2012
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Spokane County Water Resource Center
Spokane, WA**

Committee members recorded on the sign in sheet were:

Walt Edelen, <i>SCD</i>	Rob Lindsay, <i>Spokane County Utilities</i>
Bill Rickard, <i>City of Spokane</i>	Henry Allen, <i>City of Spokane Valley</i>
Linda Kiefer, <i>Avista</i>	Ty Wick, <i>SAJB</i>
Howard Rowley, <i>WBLSR (Horseshoe Lake)</i>	David Armes, <i>Avista</i>
Greg Sweeney, <i>Eloika Lake Association</i>	Doug Greenlund, <i>City of Spokane</i>
Rusty Post, <i>Department of Ecology</i>	
Susan McGeorge, <i>Whitworth Water District</i>	
Amanda Parrish, <i>Lands Council</i>	

The meeting was called to order by Walt Edelen and the committee members introduced themselves. The September meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

Issues/Announcements:

Rob Lindsay reported that the SINES group would be holding a meeting at Luigi's Restaurant tonight at 6pm. A presentation by the McCoullums' on the West Plains work would be featured.

The Water Sustainability and Availability Group will meet two more times and wrap up their recommendations. Contact Rob Lindsay for more information. The next meeting is on November 15th.

Amanda announced that the Lands Council is working with Diamond Lake. They are working on an agreement in dealing with the beaver situation.

Rob Lindsay gave a review of the USGS modeling work that is to be conducted in the LSR Watershed.

Project Prioritization:

Rusty announced that that funding for the projects may or may not be available, but that we should be ready and have proposals detailed and completed. There are only a few projects across the entire state and the Spokane Area is very active. Our area will submit the most project proposals. Rusty also announced that there is still plenty of time to submit more proposals this month. The projects would begin FY 14 (July 1, 2013).

Projects:

A. Project Title: WRIA 55 Ground & Water Modeling of the Little Spokane River Basin

Spokane County USGS Study of LSR Watershed – a hydrogeological study that involves modeling. It will be utilized for guiding rural development.

Sponsor: Spokane County Utilities, Rob Lindsay

Budget: \$393,700

B. Project Title: WRIA 55/57 Beaver Management

An outreach and implementation project designed to provide awareness of beaver benefits to watersheds, beaver management and monitoring.

Sponsor: Lands Council, Mike Petersen

Budget: \$84,000

C. Project Title: WRIA 56 Native Nursery and Riparian Enhancement

Develop and maintain a native plant nursery for local restoration projects.

Sponsor: Lands Council, Mike Petersen

Budget: \$104,000

D. Project Title: Hangman Creek (WRIA 56) Irrigation Efficiency Program (Capital Funding)

An irrigation efficiency project focused on the watershed by providing professional audits, irrigation design, and retrofitting for antiquated and wasteful irrigation systems (schools, towns, parks, golf courses, and businesses).

Sponsor: Spokane Conservation District: Walt Edelen

Budget: \$226,600

E. Project Title: WRIA 56 Garden Springs Creek Restoration

A restoration project designed to remove flow barriers, re-channelize the stream, and re-establish habitat along Garden Springs Creek in the Finch Arboretum.

Sponsor: City of Spokane Environmental Programs, Doug Greenlund

Budget: \$84,000

F. Project Title: WRIA 55/57 Mirror Pond Renovation Conservation Plan

G. (Capital Funding)

Installation of an outflow control structure to measure the pond level. Site work includes pipe installation, a control structure, and a vault for the controls. The project will conserve water flowing to the pond.

Sponsor: City of Spokane Environmental Programs, Doug Greenlund

Budget: \$40,000

H. Project Title: WRIA 55/56/57 Scenario Planning Development

A planning study designed to demonstrate a pilot project to evaluate both a sub-watershed scale issue and a watershed wide issue by utilizing a pro-actively thinking method of planning for future water resource related issues

Sponsor: Spokane Conservation District: Walt Edelen

Budget: \$160,000

After much varied discussion regarding proposals, the following projects were ranked and prioritized by WRIA;

WRIA 55/57

1. USGS LSR Study (7 votes)
2. Beaver Management Project (3 votes)
3. Scenario Planning (1 vote)

WRIA 56

1. Native Plant Nursery (7 votes)
2. Garden Springs Project (2 votes)

The WRIA 56 irrigation efficiency project and the Mirror Pond Project were both noted to be under the capital funding sources and were not ranked.

The remaining topics on the agenda were not addressed in detail and were noted for the next meeting in November.

Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm. The next meeting was set for November 14th and will be held at the Spokane Water Resources Center. Spokane County will be facilitating.