

Meeting Summary
WRIA 54 - Lower Spokane River Watershed
November 28, 2012

Location: Airway Heights Advanced Water Reclamation Facility

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

Mike Hermanson, Spokane County
Rob Lindsay, Spokane County
Doug Greenlund, City of Spokane
Bill Rickard, City of Spokane Water Department
Rusty Post, Department of Ecology
Charlie Peterson, Spokane Conservation District
Dick Price, Stevens PUD
Lance Peterson, City of Airway Heights
David Luders, Indian Village Estates Water Association
Meghan Lunney, Avista
Amanda Parrish, Lands Council
Mike McCollum, Citizen
Charlie Kessler, Stevens County Conservation District

CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS

Rusty Post opened the meeting at 10:00 am. Participants introduced themselves. The group approved the October 24, 2012 meeting summary.

PUBLIC COMMENT/WIT MEMBER UPDATES

Charlie Peterson updated the group on the WRIA 54/56 Hydrogeologic Characterization & Monitoring Well Drilling Project. The Conservation District received some additional funds from Ecology to complete a shallow well at the Marshall Pit Site. At the Marshall Pit site drilling was stopped on the first borehole prior to reaching the lower basalt aquifer due to drilling difficulties. A second borehole was drilled that did reach the lower basalt aquifer and it was completed as a monitoring well in Spring 2012. The first borehole did penetrate a shallow aquifer, but was not completed as a monitoring well with the initial project funds. The shallow well was completed this fall.

Rob Lindsay reported that the Spokane County indoor water conservation program will be ending at the end of November. A program for multifamily and commercial uses will continue.

PHASE IV PROJECT UPDATES

Amanda Parrish provided an update on the Deep and Coulee Creek Restoration project. They are currently organizing raw data that they have collected such as tree vigor, stream class, and erosion levels at project sites. They have also done some replantings and maintenance at project sites. They are planning to work on identifying the most efficient way to protect new plantings and identifying new project sites for the spring.

Charlie Kessler provided an update on the Stevens Conservation District Lake Spokane Water Quality project. The focus of the project is sampling in the near shore area for optical brighteners and fecal coliform. To date the results have not been very definitive. Some optical brighteners and elevated fecal coliform have been found, but no clear patterns have developed.

Charlie Kessler also provided an update on the Stevens County Education project. They are working with Lakeside Middle and High School students. Various natural resource professionals have presented on topics related to water quality. They will also incorporate students in sampling events in the spring.

AVISTA LAKE SPOKANE DISSOLVED OXYGEN WATER QUALITY ATTAINMENT PLAN

Meghan Lunney gave a presentation on the Avista Lake Spokane Dissolved Oxygen Water Quality Attainment Plan. As part of the 401 water quality certification for Long Lake Dam and in conjunction with the Spokane River DO TMDL, Avista is required to develop a plan to improve dissolved oxygen in Lake Spokane. The plan focuses on measures to reduce phosphorus loads in the Lake. Several measures were evaluated and carp population reduction and aquatic weed management were prioritized for further evaluation and feasibility analysis.

ADMINISTRATION & GENERAL SCHEDULE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next WRIA 54 meeting will be on January 23, 2013 from 10-12 at the Spokane County Water Resources Center.

ADJOURN

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