

Meeting Summary

Planning Unit

Little Spokane River – Middle Spokane River Local Watershed Plan

May 17, 2000

Stan Miller called the meeting to order at 10:10 am.

Committee members recorded on the sign in sheets were:

Pat Blau

Gary Fergen

Susan McGeorge

Lloyd Brewer

Steve Skipworth

Ann Murphy

Doug Allen

Stan Miller

Sandy Mack

Joel White

Walt Edelen

Ty Wick

Steve Davenport

Gene St. Godard

Sandy Mack

Reanette Boese

Dick Price

The meeting summary was approved by consensus of the group.

The Committee discussed the summary of projected staffing needs for Ecology's participation in watershed planning. Most members felt this was a reasonable estimate in light of the rapidly changing initiative toward watershed planning. The city representative indicated that they wished to remain "uncommitted," neither for or against the support level. The group consensus was that Stan Miller should write a letter of support to Melissa Gildersleve, Ecology's Watershed Coordinator in Lacey.

Dick Price brought up the question of whether the Planning Unit should become involved in "lobbying" for changes in the basic watershed planning law. The ideas of additional funding and granting additional authority to implement plans were discussed briefly. Doug Allen indicated that the legislature appears to be sincere about continuing the funding for the program at current levels so the commitment of \$500,000 per WRIA should be secure. It was pointed out that the current process is fairly tight on implementation of the items the IA's accept by consensus. We will discuss the idea further as we get closer to the legislative session.

The RFQ for a technical consultation is out. The response period closes on May 31. The review of the paper submittals will be done on June 2 and interviews, if held, will be on June 15. So far between 4 and 6 submittals are expected. Hopefully we will be able to introduce the selected firm at the June meeting.

Work Group Report Summary:

Delineation –

Current Water Use – The work group is nearly finished with collecting data from the large purveyors. The water uses from the larger industries will be derived largely from waste discharge data that has been collected at this time.

Future Water Use

Water Rights

Water Quality – A data base for the Spokane River has been developed using about 10 sources representing over 40 years worth of data. Over 70 different water quality parameters are represented in the data. There are several additional sources yet to incorporate.

The conservation district, as part of their non-point study in the LSR basin, is collecting the data on the Little Spokane.

The current target is to have the facilitator take over meetings in the fall. The committee indicated that the facilitator needs to have a basic understanding of the technical aspects of the work the Planning Unit is charged to do as well as be able to manage meetings.

The group agreed to not have full committee meetings in July and August. Some committee members including the IA's will want to comment on the items in the work plan with the consultant that will be developed over the summer. The committee will be kept up to date on progress via periodic mailings.

The next meeting was set for June 21, 2000 at the same time and location. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.