Meeting Summary
Watershed Implementation Team
WRIA 55 & 57, Little Spokane – Middle Spokane Watersheds
May 2, 2007

Committee members recorded on the sign in sheet were:

Lloyd Brewer, City of Spokane
Mike Lithgow, Pend Oreille County
Mary Wren Wilson, City of Liberty Lake
Greg Sweeney, Eloika Lake Assoc
Rick Noll, Spokane Co Conservation Dist
Mike Hermanson, Spokane County
Brian Farmer, Dept of Ecology
Claudia Crawford, Whitworth Water

Consultants Present: Susan Gulick, Sound Resolutions

Introductions and Meeting Summary: Susan Gulick called the meeting to order. Committee members and guests introduced themselves. The meeting summary for April 18, 2007 was reviewed and approved with the changes from Sara Hunt.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

West Branch Little Spokane River: Tom Wimpy reported the members have identified issues of the West Branch. The next meeting on May 21 will be 3 hours and the group will work on identifying the issues that fit with the WRIA 55/57 recommendations. The Department of Ecology gave a presentation on the State of Washington Attorney General’s opinion on the definition of navigability for the Little Spokane River. Ecology asked the group to develop questions to pose to the Attorney General regarding the status of the Little Spokane River.

Stream Gauging on the West Branch of the Little Spokane River: Rick Noll presented a map with the locations of the two new lake gauges and five stream discharge gauges. The lake gauges may be affected by wave action so the readings will be taken at midnight to minimize the problem.

Middle Spokane Instream Flow Report: Reanette reported that the consultant has provided the response to comments on the Instream Flow report. Further details will be forthcoming. Ty Wick volunteered for the Instream Flow committee.

Irrigation Efficiency: Reanette reported the letters of agreements with the recipients of the irrigation grant money (City of Deer Park, Fairmount Memorial Foundation, East Valley School District and Spokane Public Schools) have been signed. There is $5,000 remaining from the irrigation grant that has to be used by June 30, 2007. Reanette received a proposal from Spokane County Parks on May 1, 2007 for the remaining grant money. There were no objections from the Planning Unit to use the money as proposed by Spokane County Parks.

SAJB Conservation Grant: Ty Wick reported the 1st commercial ad is airing on several TV channels. Three additional radio and TV commercial ads are finished. The web page is complete and the address is www.spokeanaquifer.org. Two virtual field trips are about complete.

Detailed Implementation Plan: The Planning Unit ranked and discussed recommendations starting with Issue VI.A.02 through VII.B.01.c. At the meeting on June 6th, the Planning Unit will continue this analysis beginning with Policy VII.C. An assignment was given to the West Branch Group to draft a preliminary grant application proposal for Issue VI.A.02.a.
Other Meetings:

Rathdrum/Spokane Aquifer Conference May 8 and 9, 2007

Moses Lake Watershed Meeting May 17, 2007; need to pre-register for this

West Branch Meeting May 21, 2007

Washington Citizens Advisory Committee May 24, 2007 Spokane Valley Hospital 6:30 p.m. Department of Ecology will have a presentation on planned clean ups, contaminants and monitoring.

Next Planning Unit Meetings:

May 16, 2007 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Conservation District Conference Room Please bring ideas for Department of Ecology grants that need to be submitted to Sara Hunt by June 11, 2007.

June 6, 2007 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Chattaroy Fire Station