

FINAL
Meeting Summary
WRIA 54 - Lower Spokane River Watershed
December 17, 2008

Location: Airway Heights Community Center, Airway Heights, WA.

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

Mike Hermanson, Spokane County	Sara Hunt, WA State Dept. of Ecology
Rob Lindsay, Spokane County	Lloyd Brewer, City of Spokane
Brian Crossley, Spokane Tribe	Courtney Harder, Lincoln County
Dick Price, Stevens County PUD#1	Cindy Reddekopp, City of Airway Heights
Brian St. Clair, City of Airway Heights	Charlie Kessler, Stevens County Conservation District
Edie Streicher, Spokane Homebuilders	Charlie Peterson, Spokane County Conservation District
Hank Nelson, Avista	Craig Volosing, Landowner and Palisades Neighborhood
Stan Miller, Citizen	Dinah Reed, Eastern Washington University
Cynthia Carlstad, TetraTech	Bryony Stasney, Golder Associates Inc.
Wes McCart, Stevens County Farm Bureau, Stevens County Water Conservancy Board and Landowner	
Jeanne Barnes, Spokane Association of Realtors and Lake Spokane Park Homeowners Association	

Call to Order

Bryony opened the meeting at 9:00 am. Attendees introduced themselves. Bryony requested that each attendee complete the sign-in sheet.

Review and Approve November 2008 Meeting Summary

The draft November 19, 2008 WRIA 54 Planning Unit meeting summary was reviewed and approved as final with no changes by those present. The final summary will be posted on Spokane County's web site at <http://www.spokanecounty.org/wqmp/wria54.htm>.

Public Comment

- The first Spokane River Forum conference (www.spokaneriver.net) will be held on January 22 and 23, 2009 at the Mirabeau Park facility in Spokane Valley.
- The Lands Council is sponsoring a forum on March 31 and April 1, 2009 to discuss how to proactively manage beavers to reduce unwanted damage while helping to restore wetlands and store spring runoff.

Presentation and Discussion of the November 2008 Draft Watershed Plan – Cynthia Carlstad, TetraTech

Cynthia Carlstad (TetraTech) provided an overview of the review process to date for the Watershed Plan:

- First working draft Watershed Plan mailed out to the Planning Unit in October 2008.
- Comment period for first working draft Watershed Plan ended on November 7, 2008.
- TetraTech compiled comments into a comment response document.
- Some major items discussed at the November 2008 Planning Unit meeting.
- Mark-up of the first draft Watershed Plan was emailed to the Planning Unit on December 3, 2008.
- Will work today on discussing and confirming items with the objective of having a second draft Watershed Plan that can be circulated in January 2009.

Cynthia presented a list of items for discussion at today's meeting:

1. Chapter 1 – Water Storage Goals
2. Chapter 4 Water Rights – review wording in the relinquishment section
3. Chapter 5 Promoting Efficient Water Use – review wording consideration of options section
4. Chapter 6 Providing Water for Future Needs – discuss recommendation for Spokane Tribe water system improvements

5. Chapter 6 Providing Water for Future Needs – discuss wording for livestock provision in permit exempt well section considering recent changes in state policy
6. Chapter 8 Land Use and Water Supply Planning – discuss recommendation LU1
7. Chapter 8 Land Use and Water Supply Planning – discuss recommendation LU3
8. Chapter 8 Land Use and Water Supply Planning – discuss recommendation LU6
9. Chapter 8 Land Use and Water Supply Planning – discuss recommendation LU8
10. Chapter 8 Land Use and Water Supply Planning – discuss recommendation LU11
11. Chapter 8 Land Use and Water Supply Planning – discuss statement of support LU1
12. Chapter 9 Instream Flow – discuss several items
13. Chapter 10 Water Quality – discuss updates to TMDL section
14. Chapter 10 Water Quality – discuss Spokane Tribe’s non-point source needs
15. Chapter 12 – discuss use of the term “environmental” education

The Planning Unit discussed and agreed on how to address items 6 through 12 above. Cynthia made the agreed changes to the electronic copy of the draft Plan that was projected on screen.

Bryony said that she would confirm with Sara and provide the Planning Unit with the citation for the information on hydraulic continuity provided in the handout. *Afternote: The handout on hydraulic continuity is taken from the 2005 edition of the Digest of Water Resources Decisions, Pollution Control Hearings Board and Appellate Courts, February 2006 (Ecology Publication No. 06-11-002).*

Cynthia agreed to email the marked-up version (showing the 12/17/08 edits) of the October 2008 draft Watershed Plan to the Planning Unit and noted that the Planning Unit could request by email that she send hard copy. The next version of the Plan will be the Public Review Draft Watershed Plan, which will be provided at the January 28th, 2009 Planning Unit meeting.

Public Comment

Hal Beecher (WDFW) will be discussing Spokane River spring flows at the February 4, 2009 WRIA 55/57 WIT meeting. *Afternote: Ecology notified Spokane County on January 9, 2009 that the State is not ready to discuss the proposed revisions to their recommended Spokane River Instream Flow with respect to spring flows and that Hal Beecher will no longer be attending the February 4, 2009 WRIA 55/57 WIT meeting.*

Administration and General Schedule Announcements

The following meetings are scheduled and open to everyone:

JANUARY 2009:

- WRIA 54 Planning Unit, Wednesday January 28, 6 – 9 pm, Lakeside High School Library.

FEBRUARY 2009:

- WRIA 55/57 WIT meeting, Wednesday February 4, 2009, 9 am – noon at the Chattaroy Fire Station, 3219 E. Chattaroy Road, Chattaroy, WA.

Next Meeting Date and Adjourn

The next WRIA 54 Planning Unit meeting is scheduled for Wednesday January 28, 2009, 6:00 – 9:00 pm, Lakeside High School Library. Bryony adjourned the meeting at 12:10 pm.