

**FINAL**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**WRIA 54 - Lower Spokane River Watershed**  
**January 28, 2009**

**Location:** Lakeside High School Library, Ninemile Falls, 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	Larry Guenther, Stevens County Commissioner
Lloyd Brewer, City of Spokane	Brian Crossley, Spokane Tribe
Hank Nelson, Avista	Charlie Peterson, Spokane County Conservation District
Dave Moss, Spokane County Utilities	Craig Volosing, Landowner and Palisades Neighborhood
Dick Price, Stevens PUD	Dinah Reed, Planning Student, Eastern Washington University
Cynthia Carlstad, TetraTech	Bryony Stasney, Golder Associates Inc.
Wes McCart, Stevens County Farm Bureau, Stevens County Water Conservancy Board and Landowner	

**Call to Order**

Bryony opened the meeting at 6:00 pm. Attendees introduced themselves. Bryony requested that each attendee complete the sign-in sheet.

**Review and Approve December 2008 Meeting Summary**

The draft December 17, 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**

- Mike Hermanson informed the group that there is sufficient funding to complete the project. Mike noted that there is an additional \$6,600 that has not been awarded and was set aside as contingency monies / for early action items. Mike requested that this additional funding be applied to the consultant budget to continue facilitation of Planning Unit meetings in April, May and June 2009. The Planning Unit members approved this request. Rob Lindsay noted that it will be important for the Plan schedule to stay on track for the project budget to stay on track.
- Rob noted that Spokane County, as the lead agency, is contractually obligated to provide briefings to Stevens County and Lincoln County as well as to the Spokane County Board of Commissioners. Rob said that Spokane County will present information on the Watershed Planning process in WRIA 54 but has the expectation that the Planning Unit representatives from Stevens and Lincoln Counties will brief their commissioners on the specifics in the Plan relative to Stevens and Lincoln Counties.
- Mike noted that instead of conducting a public meeting to present the Plan, Spokane County suggests that each of the stakeholders represented on the Planning Unit present the Plan to their respective groups. Spokane County will provide a PowerPoint presentation and supporting materials to the stakeholders to help with this. Mike said that the County could send out emails / letters to facilitate this.
- Wes McCart asked that Sara Hunt give an update on Watershed Planning and the budget. Sara said that there are reductions in Ecology's operational grant. Ecology is anticipating that some Watershed Planning Units that are not active will be asked to go on hiatus. The WRIA 54 Planning Unit is considered by Ecology as an active Planning Unit. Rob requested that Sara provide Spokane County with an update prior to Spokane County preparing a Phase IV application.

**Presentation and Discussion of the Public Review Draft Watershed Plan – Cynthia Carlstad, TetraTech**

Cynthia provided a handout of the draft SEPA analysis for the Plan and hardcopies of the January 2009 Public Review Draft WRIA 54 Watershed Plan. Cynthia noted the following agenda:

- Orient the Planning Unit to the changes in this draft Plan relative to the earlier version.
- Review the schedule.
- Discuss the implementation chapter (distributed to the Planning Unit as a first draft in November 2008) and implementation matrix.
- Briefly discuss the draft SEPA analysis.

***Overview of Revisions included in Public Review Draft Watershed Plan***

- Edits agreed to by Planning Unit at Nov/Dec 2008 meetings
- Added water storage goal
- Figure 2-1, Airway subbasin – split out SVRP portion and name this subbasin “Riverside”
- Added population distribution map – Figure 2-6
- Table 2-5 (Fisheries in WRIA 54) – added info for tributaries and lake fisheries. *Cynthia asked Brian Crossley to review to make sure that his hand written notes have been accurately transcribed.*
- Chapter 10 - Updated the water quality write-up.
  - Current status of dissolved oxygen (DO) TMDL (Page 10-1 and 10-2). *Sara will check with Dave Moore (Ecology TMDL Lead) to make sure that the language is current / appropriate.*
  - Water quality issues downstream from Lake Spokane (Page 10-1 and 10-2)
  - Added information about Dawn Mine Mill Site (Page 10-4)
- Chapter 3 – Summary of Instream Flow Technical Study – added toe width results (Pages 3-8 and 3-9).
- Added the Implementation Chapter (Chapter 13), including recommendations. These recommendations still need to be added to the implementation matrix.

***Schedule***

- January 2009
  - Public Review Draft Watershed Plan – comment period begins today and will extend through Wednesday, March 11 2009.
  - SEPA
  - Spokane County staff will announce the comment period via press releases and existing email lists. Wes suggested also providing this information to the Commissioners’ Clerks.
- February 2009
  - Comment period for Public Review Draft Watershed Plan
  - No Planning Unit meeting
  - Briefings on the Plan
    - Rob Lindsay will provide briefing to Spokane County Commissioners on February 17. Once the Plan is approved by the Planning Unit, Rob plans to meet with the Spokane County Commissioners a second time to brief the Commissioners on any changes to the Plan.
    - Rob said that he is expecting the Stevens and Lincoln County representatives to schedule briefings to the Stevens and Lincoln County Commissioners and to request attendance from Spokane County at these briefings, if needed. Rob said that he will contact Stevens and Lincoln Counties.
    - Rob said that it is up to the other Planning Unit representatives to request briefings from the Lead Agency.
    - Lloyd will be seeking approval from the City of Spokane Council before he will approve the Plan. Lloyd is planning to schedule briefings with the City of Spokane Council in February and March.
    - Sara said that she will be available as needed to attend briefings.
- March 2009
  - Comments due on Public Review Draft Plan - March 11

- Planning Unit meeting – March 25
  - Response to comment record – include as Appendix to Draft Final Plan
  - Discussion on major comments
  - Draft Final Plan available?
  - First Planning Unit approval on Plan?
- April 2009
  - Draft Final Plan
  - Planning Unit second approval?
  - Celebrate!
- May – June 2009
  - Counties adoption process (each County will need to schedule a public hearing)
- August 2009
  - Initiate Phase 4

### ***Discussion of Draft Watershed Plan***

The following list summarizes the outcomes of discussion on the draft Watershed Plan text. Cynthia edited the draft Plan during the meeting with the changes shown on the screen. Cynthia will make these changes to the Plan and will provide the Public Review Draft Watershed Plan to Spokane County staff to post on the web site (<http://www.spokanecounty.org/wqmp/wria54.htm>).

- Pg 10-1: terminology for 2007 dissolved oxygen TMDL. Sara will communicate with Dave Moore (Ecology lead) to obtain up-to-date terminology.
- Pg 4-5, WRA-4: edit to read, “Recommend that the WRIA 54 Planning Unit considers prioritizing ....”
- Pg 6-7, WFN-4: leave as is for now. Obtain status update from Department of Health and discuss with Lincoln County.
- Chapter 13
  - Add section on funding options.
  - Pg 13-3: Inter-WRIA Coordination – note placeholder at end of the first paragraph to consider formatting list into a table.
  - Complete schedule for updating the plan (pg 13-5).
  - Planning Unit (esp. Wes) will review Chapter 13 and will provide comment to Cynthia over next few days.
- Develop table of contents.
- Planning Unit agreed not to include issue papers as appendices. The issue papers are posted on the web site and can be accessed there. Consider noting this in the Plan.

### ***Discussion of Draft Implementation Matrix***

The following list summarizes the outcomes of discussion on the draft implementation matrix. Cynthia edited the draft implementation matrix during meeting with the changes shown on the screen.

- WRA-1: add “including Spokane Tribe”, so that the recommendation reads, “Adjudicate water rights in WRIA 54, **including the Spokane Tribe**, considering ....”
- WRA-3: Sara will confirm that is OK for Ecology to take on as an obligation.
- WRA-6: Delete second sentence (starting with, “An adjudication ...”). Add, “including fee land” at the end of the first sentence.
- WUE-2: Add other local governments (e.g., park districts) as supporting entity. Add as obligation to the City of Spokane.
- WFN-5: Add Spokane Tribe as a lead / sponsoring entity.
- WS-2: Add “West Plains” so recommendation reads, “Promote connectivity of the **West Plains** area ..”
- LU-4: Add Spokane County as sponsoring entity.
- LU-7: Make Ecology the lead entity and Spokane County the sponsoring entity.
- ISF-3: Remove Planning Unit as lead entity. Add Planning Unit as sponsoring entity. Change from a recommendation to an obligation providing that funding is available.

- TI-4: Hank Nelson will check with Tim Vore to see if Avista wants to be included as a lead entity.
- TI-5: Add Planning Unit and Spokane Tribe as a lead entity. Add WDFW as sponsoring entity.
- Change EDU-1, EDU-3, EDU-5 from recommendations to statements of support.
- EDU-4: Change lead entity from Planning Unit to Legislature.
- Consider showing footnotes on each page.
- Remove priority and timeframe columns.
- Reword funding options column so that it is clear that these are potential funding options (i.e., not limited to the options listed).
- Where there is a YES and NO in the Coordination with other WRIAs column – YES prevails.
- Include implementation recommendations in the matrix.
- Consider separate table for obligations.

Cynthia will revise the sections worked on during the meeting and will email out the replacement pages. The public review draft on the website will include these revisions.

### ***SEPA***

Spokane County will work on the SEPA process for the Plan.

### **Public Comment**

None.

### **Administration and General Schedule Announcements**

The public comment period for the WRIA 54 Public Review Draft Watershed Plan will be open until the end of the day Wednesday, March 11, 2009. All comments should be sent to Cynthia Carlstad at:

Email: [cynthia.carlstad@tetrattech.com](mailto:cynthia.carlstad@tetrattech.com)

Fax: (206) 883-9301

Phone: (206) 883-9316

The following meetings are scheduled and open to everyone:

#### **FEBRUARY 2009:**

- ***WRIA 54 Planning Unit meeting cancelled.***

#### **MARCH 2009:**

- WRIA 54 Planning Unit, Wednesday March 25, 6 – 9 pm, Lakeside High School Library.

### **Next Meeting Date and Adjourn**

The next WRIA 54 Planning Unit meeting is scheduled for Wednesday March 25, 2009, 6:00 – 9:00 pm, Lakeside High School Library. Bryony adjourned the meeting at 9:20 pm.