

Meeting Summary
WRIA 55/57 Watershed Implementation Team
Little Spokane - Middle Spokane River Watersheds
March 3, 2010

Committee members recorded on the sign in sheet were:

Reanette Boese, <i>Spokane County</i>	Mike Hermanson, <i>Spokane County</i>
Claudia Crawford, <i>Whitworth Water</i>	Todd Henry, <i>Vera Water & Power</i>
Steve Skipworth, <i>Vera Water & Power</i>	Bill Rickard, <i>City of Spokane Water Dept</i>
Rusty Post, <i>Dept of Ecology</i>	Rod Lindsay, <i>Spokane County</i>
Lloyd Brewer, <i>City of Spokane</i>	Bill Harmon, <i>Eloika Lake Assoc</i>
Greg Sweeney, <i>Eloika Lake Assoc</i>	Tom Wimpy, <i>Diamond Lake</i>
Linda Kiefer, <i>Avista</i>	

Guests Present:

Dale Gill, *Little Spokane River Property Owner*

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 February 3, 2010 was reviewed and approved as presented.

Updates:

Legislative Issues: Susan Gulick reported that the House budget has no funding for Watershed Planning while the Senate budget does include funding. The difference will be worked out between the two bodies. Letters or phone calls to legislators advocating for continued funding of watershed planning could be helpful.

West Branch LSR: Greg Sweeney reported the next meeting will be Monday April 26, 2010, at the Riverside Fire Station, 6 pm. Greg also advised that the WDFW Citizen Advisory Meeting on public access and potential uses on the Rustler's Gulch property held in February was very successful; approximately 30 people were in attendance.

Conservation: Reanette Boese reported that two irrigation workshops were scheduled for March 15th and 16th. There were still a few openings.

Lloyd Brewer reported the city's indoor water rebate program is still available. There will be changes made to the outdoor program because the lawn removal was not as successful as hoped. The city is using conservation funds to line Cannon Hill Pond. This will reduce the need to maintain the level of the pond with City drinking water. The Lincoln Street SURGE project is designed to divert extra treated storm water runoff to the Cannon Hill Pond. He also reported that the City Hall has installed low use water fixtures in half of the building and will wait for the savings results before finishing the balance of the building.

Rob Lindsay reported that the county rebate program has been extended to the Little Spokane River area for the low flow toilets and washers. Also Rob reported that Spokane County may obtain a grant for a Resource position, which will deal with water, energy and solid waste issues.

Stormwater: No Update.

APC Meetings: Reanette reported the next meeting will be held at the Post Falls Public Works Building on March 9, 2010 at 2 pm.

Instream Flow: Rusty Post reported that the Department of Ecology will present their recommendations for instream flows on the Spokane River at the May meeting.

Water Use Inventory and Demand Forecast: Mike Hermanson gave an update on the water use inventory and demand forecast. Tetra Tech and CDM are creating a model for the demand forecast. Water quantity data for different uses are being collected within the urban areas and in the rural areas to use in the model. The model is being developed so anyone with Excel skills can use it. It will forecast water use in 5 year increments to 2040. The first deliverables are due at the next advisory committee meeting on April 27th which will be a half day workshop. There will be a training session in June on using the model as part of the contract. A discussion followed.

Other Issues:

A discussion on the future of Spokane-Area WRIAs will be on the agenda for the April Meeting. WRIAs 56 and 55/57 (and possibly WRIA 54) are considering establishing a joint WRIA group that will allow for more efficiency (fewer meetings) while still allowing time for discussion of WRIA-specific issues.

Upcoming Meetings:

Spokane River Forum, March 22 and 23, 2010. Agenda will include water quality, quantity, recreation and public access.

Eloika Lake Association, March 24, 2010 at Riverside Fire Station, 7 pm.

Next Planning Unit Meeting:

April 7, 2010

9:00am – 12:00pm

Spokane County Conservation District