

Meeting Summary
WRIA 54 - Lower Spokane River Watershed
October 27, 2010

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

Watershed Implementation Team members and guests in attendance / recorded on the sign-in sheet were:

Mike Hermanson, Spokane County
Rob Lindsay, Spokane County
Dick Price, Stevens County P.U.D
Bill Rickard, City of Spokane Water Department
Rusty Post, Department of Ecology
Charlie Kessler, Stevens County Conservation District
Lloyd Brewer, City of Spokane
Kelly Williquette, Airway Heights
Linda Kiefer, Avista
Rick Noll, Spokane County Conservation District
Charlie Peterson, Spokane County Conservation District
Bob Derkey, Retired Geologist
Linda McCollum, Eastern Washington University
Jeanne Barnes, Spokane Association of Realtors, Lake Spokane Park Homeowners Assoc.
Craig Volosing, Palisades Neighborhood
Cynthia Carlstad, Tetra Tech

CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS

Cynthia Carlstad opened the meeting at 10:07 am. Participants introduced themselves.

REVIEW OF SEPTEMBER MEETING SUMMARY

No edits were made to draft September meeting summary.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Charlie Kessler announced that Stevens County Conservation District is applying for grant funding from the Department of Ecology's combined water quality grant program for a "clean, not green" themed project in the Suncrest area. Charlie noted that the Suncrest area may be in Stevens County, but feels more like suburban Spokane in terms of land uses.

The proposed project would take a four pronged approach to phosphorus source control:

- Lawn care – promoting use of non-phosphorus fertilizers and composting
- Livestock – With the abundance of horses and other livestock, a coordinated manure composting approach may be effective. The Conservation District would work with 4H and other organizations to arrange semiannual (April and October) manure collection events. The manure would be hauled to a central composter, such as the one operated by Barr Tech. Charlie also commented that there is a deer composting operation in Stevens County that can handle up to 40 carcasses at a time, and compost them in 90 days. This is another resource that may be utilized.
- Septic system – Many older septic systems exist, and may not be functioning properly. The grant would provide education and technical assistance.
- Pet waste – The grant would focus on outreach to residents via schools and organizations such as the Lake Spokane Protection Association.

The award list under this grant program is usually announced in May, with funding to begin around the September timeframe. This grant requires a 25% local match.

Rob Lindsay announced that Spokane County has just launched a water conservation program in the Little Spokane watershed that includes rebates for indoor appliances. The County is coordinating with other local governments and special districts on the program, which is currently funded through June 2011.

Charlie Kessler reported on the Chamokane watershed tour. Nineteen people participated in the tour which included stops at the hatcheries, and several locations to view farming and timber best management practices.

DETAILED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Cynthia gave an update on finalization of the Detailed Implementation Plan. The edits made at the September meeting were distributed for review and no additional changes requested. The draft Final DIP was distributed electronically on October 13. The first approval of the DIP will be sought at the November 17 WIT meeting. Second approval will be done at a special meeting, probably in December.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR PHASE IV

Mike reported that he has received signed copies from everyone except Fairchild Air Force Base.

PLANNING FOR REMAINDER OF FY11 (THROUGH JUNE 30, 2011)

Phase IV Base Grant Implementation Projects

The WIT discussed proposed projects that could be funded through the remaining Phase IV base grant funding. Projects were listed on a flip chart; the following table provides a summary of projects.

Implementation Project	Proposed Budget
1. Chamokane Watershed Council – formalize council	\$2,000
2. Bradford Storage – feasibility study and conceptual design; may also be eligible for capital funding	\$20,000
3. Deep/Coulee Creeks Riparian Restoration – Lands Council project focused on riparian planting and identification of suitable sites for beaver re-introduction.	\$10,000
4. West Plains Geologic Database – detailed lithologic, water level, and interpreted stratigraphic description for dense well network covering two townships. Development and use of 3D data base and analysis tool (RockWorks).	\$45,000
5. Spokane River Forum Conference – annual conference focused on Spokane River topics and	\$3,000

issues.	
6. Basalt Contacts Mapping and GIS – Study area is all of West Plains in WRIA 54. Surficial mapping complete; this work would focus on mapping contacts, primarily Priest Rapids/Grand Ronde, which is typically a water-bearing zone.	\$15,000
7. West Plains Geologic Mapping – GIS production of previously-collected data, suitable for WDNR publication.	\$5,000
8. WIT Meetings and Administration	\$2,000/meeting if consultant facilitator \$5,000 Administration
9. Geochemical Sampling in West Plains Wells – characterize water chemistry from individual aquifers, which will increase ability to identify aquifers, inform recharge estimates and knowledge about aquifer groundwater mixing between aquifers.	\$20,000
10. Instrument West Plains Wells (for water level monitoring)	\$5,000

Project descriptions were available as handouts for most of the projects listed above, and those project proponents present provided a brief verbal description of their project.

The WIT engaged in discussion about the proposed projects, and requested that the project proponents for the West Plains geology/hydrogeology projects develop a more coordinated and integrated project. Spokane County volunteered to convene a meeting on November 10 with those involved in the West Plains geology/hydrogeology projects to develop a more coordinated, integrated and prioritized project approach.

WIT Meeting Schedule and Responsibilities

The WIT developed a schedule and approach for WIT meetings through June 2011. The following schedule was developed:

- November (first approval of DIP, rank FY2011-2013 projects for Ecology special projects applications)
- December (special meeting to complete second DIP approval)
- February (touch base on project status, other current items)
- April (Rusty commented that there is a lot of decisions being made in April and May about funding priorities)
- May (Rusty commented that there is a lot of decisions being made in April and May about funding priorities)

The group would then plan to meet in July, which would be the first month of fiscal year 2012, and would be the natural timing to hear presentation on implementation projects completed during FY11.

Rusty Post volunteered to take lead on facilitating future meetings, with backup from Spokane County Conservation District. Linda Kiefer volunteered to serve as note-taker when she is present at meetings, and provide these to Rusty.

ADMINISTRATION & GENERAL SCHEDULE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WRIA 54 will meet again on November 17 at this location, from 9:00 am to noon.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No additional public comment.

ADJOURN

Cynthia adjourned the meeting at 12:30 pm.