

**Meeting Summary
WRIA 54 - Lower Spokane River Watershed
July 24, 2013**

Location: Spokane County Water Resource Center

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

Mike Hermanson, Spokane County
Rob Lindsay, Spokane County
Rusty Post, Department of Ecology
Doug Greenlund, City of Spokane
Bill Rickard, City of Spokane Water Department
Dick Price, Stevens PUD
James Melick, Citizen
Amanda Parrish, Lands Council
Charlie Peterson, Spokane Conservation District
Charlie Kessler, Stevens County Conservation District
Jeanne Barnes, Spokane Association of Realtors/Lake Spokane Park Homeowners Association
Lydell Gorski, City of Spokane Urban Forestry Program

CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS

Rusty Post opened the meeting at 10:00 am. Participants introduced themselves. The group approved the June 26th 2013 meeting summary.

PUBLIC COMMENT/WIT MEMBER UPDATES

Charlie Kessler reported to the group that he will be meeting with Sue Kahle from the USGS to discuss a potential project to investigate the groundwater/surface water interaction along the shores of Lake Spokane to estimate nutrient loading to the lake from onsite septic systems. He indicated that a proposal would likely be submitted to the Centennial Clean Water Fund grant program this fall. Charlie also said that a presentation of the project idea would be made to the Spokane River Stewardship Partners.

PRESENTATION: FINCH ARBORETUM/GARDEN SPRINGS PROJECTS

Lydell Gorski from the City of Spokane Urban Forestry Project gave a presentation about the Finch Arboretum/Garden Springs riparian restoration project. The project is funded by a 319 Water Quality Grant. The project includes use of Low Impact Development for a parking lot expansion at the arboretum, signage in the arboretum related to stormwater, and removal of invasive species in riparian areas.

PRESENTATION: WEST PLAINS GROUNDWATER ELEVATION MONITORING AND MAPPING PROJECT

Mike Hermanson gave a presentation on the West Plains Groundwater Elevation Monitoring and Mapping Project. The project was funded by a Watershed Planning Implementation Project Grant. The purpose of the project was to collect, document and organize groundwater elevation data for use

in future hydrogeologic analysis and long term water level monitoring and use groundwater elevation data to develop groundwater elevation contours and evaluate changes in groundwater elevation over various time scales. The project included two synoptic water level measurements, monthly water level measurements, and continuous water level measurements. Mike presented the groundwater contours that were developed and interpretation of water level data from selected wells. The full project report is available on the WRIA 54 website.

FY13-15 FUNDING UPDATE

Rusty Post provided an update on Watershed Planning funding for the 2013-15 biennium. The WRIA 54 Phase IV grant was funded (\$80,000 over the biennium), the West Plains Hydrogeologic Framework Project was funded (\$152,000 over the biennium). Some Watershed Planning funding remains unallocated and additional projects submitted by WRIA 54 could be funded. A decision on how to allocate those remaining funds has not been made and it is uncertain when the decision will be made. Spokane County will work on developing a scope of work for the Phase IV grant based on the direction given by the group at previous meetings.

ADJOURN

Rusty Post adjourned the meeting shortly after 12:00 pm.