



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING & AGENDA

**UPPER VERDE RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION COALITION
BOARD MEETING**

**Wednesday, September 25, 2013 - 2:00 p.m.
City of Prescott City Hall, Council Chambers
201 South Cortez Street - Prescott, Arizona**

- ITEM NO 1. Introductions, Awards, or Presentations**
- ITEM NO 2. Communications**
- ITEM NO 3. Call to Public**
Consideration and discussion of general unscheduled comments from the public: Those wishing to address the Coalition need not request permission in advance. Any such remarks shall be addressed to the Coalition as a whole and not to any member thereof. Such remarks shall be limited to three (3) minutes unless additional time is granted by the Chair.
At the conclusion of the unscheduled comments, individual members of the Coalition may respond to the item addressed at the discretion of the Chair, or they may ask Staff to review the matter or ask that the matter be placed on a future agenda.
- ITEM NO 4. Discussion & Possible Action – Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – June 26, 2013**
- ITEM NO 5. Discussion – Watershed Restoration Task Force Update**
- ITEM NO 6. Discussion & Possible Action – WaterSmart Outreach**
- ITEM NO 7. Discussion – Project WET Support**
- ITEM NO 8. Discussion – Grant Update**
- ITEM NO 9. Discussion – Yarnell Assistance**
- ITEM NO 10. Discussion – Next Meeting Time / Location / Agenda Items**
- ITEM NO 11. Adjourn Meeting**



**AGENDA ITEM NO. 1
INTRODUCTIONS, AWARDS, OR PRESENTATIONS**

Welcome new Board Member, Pat McKee from Chino Valley

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2
COMMUNICATIONS**

Opportunity for Board members to communicate member updates

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 4
DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION - APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 26, 2013**

Approval of minutes for the previous Regular Board Meeting held on June 26, 2013.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 5
DISCUSSION – WATERSHED RESTORATION TASK FORCE UPDATE**

Provide an update as to progress on the Watershed Restoration Initiative and associated BOR Grant.



**AGENDA ITEM NO. 6
DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – WATERSMART OUTREACH**

Provide an update as to progress on developing WaterSmart Outreach programs, including a potential partnership with the Rural Water Association of Arizona (RWAA) to help facilitate the outreach efforts.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 7
DISCUSSION – PROJECT WET SUPPORT**

As part of the Coalition and SRP's continued partnership with Project WET, we have provided \$3,250 to Project WET for water related education materials (including two groundwater models).

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 8
DISCUSSION – GRANT UPDATE**

Provide a brief update on grant opportunities.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 9
DISCUSSION – YARNELL ASSISTANCE**

Provide an update as to grant application assistance provided to Yarnell by the Coalition.



AGENDA ITEM NO. 10
DISCUSSION – NEXT MEETING TIME / LOCATION / AGENDA ITEMS

Board Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting is on **December 18, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.** at the City of Prescott City Hall, Council Chambers, 201 South Cortez Street, Prescott, Arizona.

TAC Meeting

The next TAC meeting will be Wednesday, October 2, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Town of Prescott Valley, Community Room #331, 7501 E. Civic Circle, Prescott Valley, Arizona.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11
ADJOURN MEETING

Meeting to be adjourned



A MEETING OF THE UPPER VERDE WATERSHED PROTECTION COALITION WAS HELD ON JUNE 26, 2013, in PRESCOTT CITY HALL, 201 SOUTH CORTEZ STREET, Prescott, Arizona.

ITEM NO 1. Introductions, Awards, or Presentations

Chairwoman Nye called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

Members Present:

Chairwoman Lora Lee Nye, Town of Prescott Valley
Member Craig Brown, Yavapai County
Member Steve Blair, City of Prescott

Members Absent:

Member Ernie Jones, Prescott-Yavapai Tribe

Staff present:

John Munderloh, Town of Prescott Valley
John Rasmussen, Yavapai County
Ed Muccillo, Program Manager
Dana Biscan, Project Manager
Leslie Graser, City of Prescott
Melody Reifsnnyder, Sage Consulting

ITEM NO 2. Communications

The Board thanked Carl Tenney for his service. Chairwoman Nye noted that he had faithfully served the Board and the community and was a great resource for knowledge and history related to water. She added that she personally appreciated his contribution.

Mr. Munderloh noted that he was hired by Carl when he started at Chino Valley. He noted he has a long history with Carl and that Carl has always recognized the importance of water and that he has been a long-term resident in the area.

Chairwoman Nye noted that the Mayor of Prescott Valley is in attendance at today's meeting.

ITEM NO 3. Call to Public

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ITEM NO 4. Discussion & Possible Action – Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – October 24, 2012

BOARD MINUTES OF OCTOBER 24, 2012 WERE APPROVED BY CONSENSUS. Mr. Muccillo noted there were no minutes from the April meeting because a quorum was not in attendance. Member Brown elected not to vote on approval of the October minutes because he was not present for the meeting.

ITEM NO 5. Discussion & Possible Action – New Board Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Members Brown and Blair nominated and seconded that Chairwoman Nye continue to serve in this role. Chairwoman Nye was voted to continue being the Chairwoman for the Coalition. Following this discussion, Member Brown nominated Member Blair to serve as Vice Chairman. Chairwoman Nye seconded the motion, and it was approved.

ITEM NO 6. Discussion – TAC Meeting Summary for December 5, 2012, January 2, 2013, February 6, 2013, April 17, 2013, May 8, 2013, and June 5, 2013

Mr. Muccillo noted the items were in the packet and covered in the agenda.

ITEM NO 7. Discussion – Presentation on Comprehensive Agreement #1 between Prescott, Prescott Valley and Salt River Project

Ms. Graser noted that this subject had been approved by Council and that much of this information was provided at the last WAC meeting. She provided a presentation on the agreement, signed February 11, 2010 by the three parties, with the intent to resolve differences regarding water rights amongst the parties. The agreement ended litigation over pumping from the Big Chino to the Prescott AMA and provided a framework for additional agreements. The agreement clarified the amount of groundwater for transportation (8,068 AF/yr plus additional volume for Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe). This agreement was spurred due to concerns about the impact of pumping on the Upper Verde Springs and impact to senior water rights. Highlights of the agreement include:

- Enhanced data collection, monitoring and modeling in the Big Chino
- Long-term commitment to fund/maintain plan
- Estimated cost \$5.6M over 8-10 years
- SRP is providing 1/3 of the total cost, remainder apportioned to the communities per 2004 IGA
- Monitoring and Modeling Committees appointed
- Prescott serves as fiduciary
- Committee guidelines have been approved



The goals of the data collection and monitoring plan are:

- Improve the understanding of the hydrologic relationship between groundwater and surface water in the Upper Verde River area
- Act as an early warning system for the Upper Verde Springs
- Collect data that may be used to distinguish Communities' groundwater pumping from the impacts of groundwater pumping by others, and natural system variability
- Develop ability to relate regional groundwater and surface water observations to future groundwater model calibration & verification
- Determine if additional data are needed
- Provide data for development of a numerical groundwater flow model

Ms. Graser reviewed how these goals would be addressed in the first and subsequent years.

Vice Chairman Blair noted he would like to be involved when the stream gages and weather stations are installed. As a public representative, he feels he needs to understand how these work.

Member Brown noted he would like to be involved too. He asked when implementation would occur. Ms. Graser noted administrative requirements were being met on the front end, and that the agreement is tied to the fiscal calendar; therefore, year one will begin Monday. She noted that coordination between agencies is critical and that all agencies are providing their best staff. She also added that USGS prefers coupling water levels with gravity to get the hydraulic properties. Future pump tests would likely depend on gravity results; is it justifiable for the required time and money. The first annual report will be completed in September 2014. She added that they are using the model to help determine where the group should go and that the model will continue to provide this information.

Vice Chairman Blair noted that we need to determine what is happening below ground after a flood event.

Chairwoman Nye added that we can't go back in time, but we can have data for future opportunities. The scientific aspect is what brings excitement to this agreement.



ITEM NO 8. Discussion – UVRWPC Background

Mr. Muccillo noted the presentation of the UVRWPC background was prepared to familiarize Member Brown and others who are new to the Coalition. He distributed a handout summarizing the key Coalition efforts and activities to date, which included:

- Water Conservation Programs Implementation
- Recharge Mapping
- Project WET Educational Grants
- Safe Yield Workgroup
- Recharge Pilot Project
- Mountain Front Recharge Literature Review
- Watershed Restoration Initiative

Ms. Graser noted that Shaun Rydell was very helpful developing the WaterSmart program, and that the Coalition was able to leverage these efforts.

Vice Chairman Blair noted that WaterSmart was so successful that their wastewater treatment plant was receiving significantly less flows and that it was actually impacting its performance.

Chairwoman Nye noted that NAU students had contacted her about their class project. John Munderloh met with them and found that their initial interest in water conservation had come from the Project WET program. The focus of their project was rainwater catchment. Chairwoman Nye added that she would like to publicly thank John for his involvement.

Mr. Munderloh added that he has found people are typically very interested in rainwater harvesting and using the water collected for landscaping water. Reducing outdoor landscaping water use is a primary focus.

Vice Chairman Blair noted he would rather see large property owners with heavy irrigation use drill wells on their own properties than use treated water pumped from Chino. Monitoring and other costs would hopefully deter these users from using too much water.

Mr. Munderloh elaborated on the Coalition's involvement with Project WET and noted SRP typically provides a 50% match. He noted that he just received the check from SRP for 2013 and that he would like to thank them for their continued support. He added that the Project WET educates children and adults.

Chairwoman Nye added that she has volunteered at water education events in the past and that often the children go home and tell their parents what they have learned.



Ms. Graser added that the Coalition has done adult education programs as well, including participation at the Home and Garden show and that the Coalition advertises in Yavapai Home and Garden and provides articles about reducing water use.

Member Brown noted that while we have been improving our water conservation efforts, we could still be doing better.

ITEM NO 9. Discussion and Possible Action – FY 2014 Budget & Dues

Mr. Muccillo presented the proposed FY 2014 budget and dues, included in the meeting packet. He noted that the TAC is asking the Board to formally approve the dues and that this is the best projection for 2014 expenditures. The new fiscal year starts Monday and the dues structure includes a continued 20% dues reduction for Prescott, Prescott Valley, and the Tribe, as well as a 50% reduction for the County. He noted that, in light of the reduced dues, there would be insufficient funding for the recharge pilot project, but that the group is applying for grants to bridge the gap.

Member Brown asked about the \$75,000 budget line item for management, noting that \$57,000 had been spent to date this year. Mr. Muccillo noted that the budget was conservative and that less was spent this year.

Member Brown asked about the \$100,000 shown for the recharge project. Mr. Muccillo answered that the anticipated project cost includes an initial outlay of \$130,000 to \$150,000, plus up to \$25,000 annually for monitoring. The project is not currently funded, but we are holding the \$100,000 in reserve.

The Board voted and approved the proposed budget and dues.

ITEM NO 10. Discussion and Possible Action – B&N Contract

Mr. Munderloh presented the B&N Contract information. He noted that the original contract had expired in November and that it had been extended to the end of the fiscal year. He added that B&N had done a good job to date, had been on time and met budgets and that the TAC would prefer to continue to using the same consultant rather than trying to familiarize a new one with the Coalition. He added the proposed contract is very similar to the old one, except that B&N's role was changed from program manager to project manager in keeping with the Coalition's desire to do projects and not just operate a program. Each Board member will need to have their Council or Board sign the contract. Mr. Munderloh noted that the contract duration was the same as the initial contract – a three year term with a two year option to extend.

Vice Chairman Blair noted that there was an option to opt out of the contract at any time, so it would be ok to have a longer contract because there is no risk. He suggested



a two year contract with two options to extend for two years. He added that it sounded like the Board members just needed to agree on a proposed term.

Member Brown commented that the he could not vote on the contract without reading it and that all of the Board members need to present it to their councils prior to a vote. He then asked if the Coalition could continue to operate as-is for a few months until the contract could be put in place. Member Brown and Vice Chairman Blair noted they would present the contract at their next meetings. Member Brown noted he didn't know how long his Council would want to make the contract duration. Vice Chairman Blair suggested they propose a three year contract with an option to extend for two years, knowing that there is an opt out clause so duration is a moot point. Member Brown agreed and summarized that the Board would defer the vote until the next council meeting and that would provide plenty of time to review, present to their individual councils, and gain consensus.

ITEM NO 11. Discussion – Watershed Restoration Task Force

Ms. Biscan provided an update regarding the Watershed Restoration Task Force activities. She noted that, at the last Task Force meeting, Vivian Gonzales, the BOR representative, had indicated she provided positive feedback regarding the group to the BOR regarding the second year funding. The group recently submitted its 270 day report to the BOR and has met all of the grant milestones to date, including GIS development, establishing its mission, vision, and goals, identifying problems and opportunities in the watershed, and generating project evaluation criteria. She added that the group had recently changed its name to the Watershed Management Task Force, realizing that it is impractical to restore the watershed to an arbitrary previous state. She added that the first year of the grant would be complete in September and that the plan itself is due to BOR in September 2014.

Member Brown asked if the initiative area covered the fire zone. Mr. Munderloh noted that it did and that an important goal of the group is to meet the broad goals of each agency. He noted that these goals are often different but overlapping; for example, Prescott Valley's focus is to see enhanced recharge while the Forest Service is focused on brush management and controlling wildfire intensity. Both can be achieved through many of the same measures. Mr. Munderloh suggested a joint work study with the Board and the Task Force, perhaps in September. The Board supported the suggestion.

ITEM NO 12. Discussion – WaterSmart Outreach

Mr. Muccillo explained that the Coalition was looking to expand the WaterSmart outreach and is trying to determine the best way to do this. The Coalition does not want to presume the needs or desires of other groups and wants to talk to them to determine what form of outreach would be the most beneficial, whether it's conservation literature, system advice, rate structure information, or something else.



The Coalition has identified this year's Rural Water Conference as an ideal opportunity to reach out to others. The conference is being held in Prescott August 27-28 and the TAC is proposing to host a booth. B&N is willing to split the booth cost and help man the booth.

Chairwoman Nye said we have talked in the past about reaching out to other groups. We need to be forceful and get it done. The Board supports Coalition's desire to host a booth at the conference.

ITEM NO 13. Discussion & Possible Action – Possible Expansion of Coalition Membership

Mr. Muccillo said the TAC had discussed potentially expanding the Coalition membership and wanted to discuss the topic with the Board. The TAC is considering whether this is the right time to expand and how it should be done.

Chairwoman Nye said we have been discussing this casually and it is time to move forward. Vice Chairman Brown asked if we are opening the door for membership or if we have ideas of who we'd either like to have join or who has expressed interest. Member Brown noted that other groups are concerned about what happens in the upper Verde. He asked whether Chino was paying dues; Mr. Muccillo confirmed they are not. Member Brown noted that the Board members present pay the most dues and should make the decision whether to expand. He mentioned expansion to possibly include PACO, Water Districts, and CWAG. Mr. Munderloh noted that the TAC would start to review as staff with their attorney. They need to know what's appropriate with the IGA, establish membership criteria, and present to the Board. Vice Chairman Blair noted that any group could weigh in at the meetings as we always have a call to the public and public comment period. Member Brown asked if Chino Valley should be included in the public since they do not pay dues. Mr. Munderloh noted that Chino Valley, Dewey Humboldt, and SRP are all included in the IGA, which is why they have a seat on the Board. Chairwoman Nye tasked the TAC with researching who could participate and determining appropriate dues structure prior to the next Board meeting September 25th.

ITEM NO 14. Discussion – Next Meeting Time / Location / Agenda Items

Mr. Muccillo said the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting was on **September 25, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.** at the City of Prescott City Hall, Council Chambers, 201 South Cortez Street, Prescott, Arizona. The next TAC meeting would be Wednesday, July 10, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. The meeting would be held at the Town of Prescott Valley, Community Room #331, 7501 E. Civic Circle, Prescott Valley, Arizona.

ITEM NO 15. Adjourn Meeting



There being no further business to be discussed, the Upper Verde River Watershed Protection Coalition Board Meeting of June 26, 2013, adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

LORA LEE NYE, Chairwoman

ATTEST:

KIM WEBB, Deputy City Clerk