



## UPPER VERDE RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION COALITION BOARD MEETING

A MEETING OF THE UPPER VERDE WATERSHED PROTECTION COALITION WAS HELD ON MAY 23, 2012 in the PRESCOTT CITY HALL, 201 South Cortez Street, Prescott, Arizona.

**Chairman Nye called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.**

**ITEM NO 1. Introductions, Awards, or Presentations**

**Members Present:**

Chairman Lora Lee Nye, Councilwoman Prescott Valley  
Ernie Jones, Sr., President of Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe  
Supervisor Carol Springer, Yavapai County

**Staff Present:**

Ed Mucillo, Program Manager  
Rick Shroads, Civil Tech  
Dana Biscan, Program Manager  
Peter Burgois, Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe  
Leslie Graser, City of Prescott  
John Munderlow, Town of Prescott Valley  
John Rasmussen, Yavapai County  
Carl Tenney, Vice Mayor Chino Valley  
Kim Webb, City of Prescott

Peter Bugois

**ITEM NO 2. Communications**

Mr. Mucillo said the Home and Garden Show at Tim's Toyota Center went well, with approximately 50 people per hour visiting the booth. Chairman Nye noted that it was much busier than last year.

**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 – September 28, 2011 and March 28, 2012**

**SUPERVISOR SPRINGER MOVED TO APPROVE THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2011 AND MARCH 28, 2012; SECONDED BY MR. JONES; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**ITEM NO 5. Discussion - TAC Meeting Summary for April 4, 2012 and May 2, 2012**

Mr. Mucillo noted that all of the information from the TAC meeting was in the agenda packet.

**ITEM NO 6. Discussion – Old Home Manor Project Update**

Mr. Shroads said they were still working on securing easements. The Town of Prescott Valley approved the agreement between Prescott Valley and Chino Valley. He noted they were in the legal review for Prescott and the County. He said Chino Valley was donating the use of the property for three to five years, depending on how long it took for the pilot project to go forward and said that it was very much appreciated.

Chairman Nye said that she would like to send an official thank you to the town government. Mr. Tenney asked what they could do to facilitate the project. Mr. Mucillo said they would take care of getting the thank you out.

**ITEM NO 7. Discussion – Watershed Restoration and Recharge Policy Initiative Update**

Mr. Mucillo noted that there was a partnering meeting the previous week and said they tried to engage with major land owners and resource managers. The list of attendees included Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), CVCF Ranch, the Prescott National Forest, Arizona State Land Department and Game and Fish. He noted that Arizona Department of Water Resources, Salt River Project (SRP) and the Ecological Restoration Institute (ERI) were invited and not able to attend.

Mr. Munderloh said ERI had many years of experience with watershed restoration efforts in the Coconino County area and was affiliated with Northern Arizona University (NAU). He said Dr. Covington had been involved with the topic for many decades and his depth of knowledge would be useful.

Mr. Mucillo said it was a good exchange and a lot of excitement at the meeting. He told the attendees what the coalition had done to date. He then had each attendee describe who they were, what their goals were and what potential projects they had going on. He said they would have another meeting in the next month or two to discuss funding, grants, and scheduling.



Supervisor Springer wanted to know what the group's reaction was to the fairly unlimited project area. Mr. Mucillo said that it was such a large area and they wanted to look at their maps. He said the broad scope of it was a little overwhelming.

Supervisor Springer asked if he presented it in the form that the Coalition had discussed, i.e. they could pick out the amount of land they wanted to work with and there were win/win situations, like using the trees as bio fuel for the cement plant. Mr. Mucillo said CVCF Ranch had a specific plot and those discussions moved further down the road. He noted that they could not do anything on state land. He did say that whatever they did, they would need a controlled piece of land that was not managed.

Supervisor Springer said that it was her understanding that the use state land was opened up for uses of other entities. Mr Mucillo said that as long as the value of the land was not being altered, they may be able to use it. Mr. Munderloh said that if they were doing a watershed restoration project on state land, they would face dumpage fees and the costs would be higher than if they did that type of work on forest service land, where they were actively looking at reducing fuels. He noted that if they left it unchanged, there would not be a large cost involved, just a permitting process.

Supervisor Springer asked if any of the entities had any funding sources. Mr. Munderloh said they did not approach that at the first meeting. He noted that they would identify projects at the next meeting and then could talk about funding. Mr. Mucillo said that he thought NRCS had

Mr. Mucillo said the NRCS may have had an assistance program. Mr. Munderloh noted that the land owner had to qualify to get aid from NRCS.

Mr. Mucillo said they had talked about reinventing ADWR and potentially engaging USGS and other entities, but not so broad that it would get out of control. He said they limited it to major land owners or major resource managers. Supervisor Springer said that she found it disturbing that SRP was still not choosing to engage with them. She noted that SRP continued to work with the Verde River Partnership and had refused to participate with them. She said she was unhappy about that because they were a major player in that scenario. She asked if anyone had an idea with regard to asking them again and stressing the importance of their participation.

Mr. Mucillo said that they gave the invitation to Dave Roberts and Charlie Ester. He said he would be more than willing to send it to anyone else.

Supervisor Springer said that staff people usually related to other staff people and they would run into a wall. She suggested going to the President of SRP to say that they had not received a lot of cooperation or interest in the project, and ask for involvement. She



noted that they might be able to go through Karen Fann, Steve Pierce and the Governor's office.

Chairman Nye said that they could use her name if it would help. Supervisor Springer noted that the description of their membership should be compelling and she did not know how they could disregard a request from all of the governmental agencies in the area. Mr. Tenney said Andy Tobin may also be a player.

Chairman Nye said that she did not think her name carried much weight, but the strength was in the regional entity.

**ITEM NO 8. Discussion & Possible Action – Rainwater Harvesting Technical Workgroup Participation**

Mr. Mucillo said the next board meeting would be in July. He said that if a request came that the Coalition offer a representative to participate in a committee the TAC thought Rick Shroads would be a good representative. He noted that the request could come between then and July and they would like to be able to respond without having an emergency board meeting.

Mr. Shroads confirmed that he would do it.

Supervisor Springer said she had talked with Representative Fann from the onset of the proposed legislation for the past two years about keeping Mr. Shroads involved with the project. She said it was a good choice. Mr. Mucillo said that it would be about 16 hours per month if he were participation in the work group. He noted that if he took a leadership role, it could be a larger effort, at which time they would come back to the board.

Supervisor noted that the original called for a report for December and extended it until the following year. Mr. Munderloh said there was a progress report due December 2012 with a final due Fall 2013.

Supervisor Springer said the committee should extend it another year, immediately. She said that she did not want rain water harvesting to get off the radar. The longer the committee was going the more programs they could bring to the public and find a way to get credit for rain water through harvesting, which should be the ultimate goal. She said they would never get large commercial projects until they got a credit.

Mr. Tenney asked if they knew what the makeup of the work group would be. Mr. Mucillo said no. He said there was a little direction on the bill of what the



committee was. He said the work group would be appointed by the committee. Supervisor Springer said that it involved anyone with any interest in water. She said that it would be all of the stakeholders. Mr. Mucillo said there were 26 people on the committee.

Supervisor Springer said they thought it was really bad in 1980 when there were 17 members on the Ground Water committee.

Mr. Mucillo said that he wanted to make sure that if there was a request, they would respond to it.

**ITEM NO 9. Discussion – Next Meeting Time / Location / Agenda Items**

Mr. Mucillo said the next meeting would be July 25, 2012, at 2:00 in the Council Chambers. He said they would discuss Old Home Manor, the Watershed Restoration and Recharge Policy Initiative which would be an update, budget updates and water conservation updates. Supervisor Springer said she would not be in attendance on that date.

**ITEM NO 10. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be discussed, the meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

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Councilwoman Lora Lee Nye, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Kim Webb, Assistant Clerk