

Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee (PBAC) – Citizens Advisory Group (CAG)
Meeting of October 9, 2008

Introductions:

Attendance:

Name	Representing	Present	Excused	Absent
Michael Echanove, Chair	Municipal Provider - WA	X		
Vacant	Municipal Provider – ID			
Dr. George Grader	Petitioning Group		X	
Julie Titone	Petitioning Group	X		
Dr. Jim Mital	Water Conservation Group	X		
Joe Spoonmore	Rural Interests – WA			X
Susan Wilson	Rural Interests – ID	X		
Dan Boone	Developer/Business – WA	X		
Mark Loaiza	Developer/Business - ID	X		
Dr Jerry Fairley	Technical Representative		X	
Ree Brannon	Other		X	
	Other			
Keith Stoffel	WSDOE, ex-officio			X
Ken Neilly	IDWR, ex-officio			X

Guests:

Steve Robischon, PBAC
 Mark Storey

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Echanove at 6:15 pm

Approval of minutes: The minutes of September 11, 2008 were approved as clarified. Keith Stoffel requested minor changes regarding the Cornelius case details.

Discussion regarding the Water Summit:

- Water rights adjudication: Idaho and Washington
- Kamiak Butte study (Why were results negative). Right now the project is complete. The conclusion was that the WRIA should not waste any more time and money on the location.
- Possibility of pumping up Snake River water. No new movement on this issue. A project was proposed in the 1970's, and was shut down by local farmers groups. Maybe there would more acceptance now.
- Surface reservoirs. What about Palouse Divide.
- Rock Lake dam feasibility study. Proposed by the Conservation District and select property owners.

- Water re-use facility
- Framework Project – mentioned by Keith, Michael, and at least one other.
- Overall – people indicated it was a great conference with good attendance. There were probably around 300 attendees.
- Julie would like to propose having the event at the Compton Union building to show off its LEEDS status.
- Water audit were interesting, especially how they advocate money savings.
- Ideas on capturing rain water. This was thought to be the beginning of a re-surgence of this practice.
- Pervious pavements.

New Business:

- A letter was sent to Dr. Elson Floyd regarding support for the Pullman water re-use project. Dr. Floyd wrote back indicating that he has also made it a priority for the University.
- Michael and Julie talked to Kevin Gardes with the City of Pullman regarding the plan for the re-use project. Julie summarized the meeting and documented it, sent it on to WSU for approval. Julie started a dialogue with Larry Ganders (WSU rep) to express our interest in developing a “game plan” to promote the project during the next legislature.
- Julie reports that Larry Ganders is happy to receive the support from CAG and PBAC for the project. Larry requested that all correspondence be sent to people other than WSU, but in concert with the facts presented by WSU. The CAG needs to operate separately from WSU, but consistent with WSU. Larry indicated that Eastern Washington legislators are in support, but Western Washington legislators will need to be convinced to support the project. Also, Dr. Floyd would likely be willing to meet with PBAC regarding the importance of the water re-use project to the community. Larry also suggested that some of the thinking is that the State of Washington needs to take an active position of responsibility regarding the water supply.
- Mark Loaiza suggests we attach some information regarding money and water savings from the U of I over the years. This would help the legislators show a return on the investment.
- The legislature will have groups of experts looking at capitol projects rather than individual legislators. This may help the project gain support to be able to make it to the governors’ budget.
- It would help if community leaders from both Pullman and Moscow lend support for the project. Also, need support from private industry and PBAC.
- We need to develop a list of potential recipients of letters of support for the project.
- Michael suggested we seek letters of support from the various agencies in the area, such as the City of Moscow, Pullman, etc. The CAG supported Julie sending out a letter asking area agencies and organizations for letters of support for the project. Julie handed out a “questions and answers” fact sheet for distribution. The group reviewed and made several editorial suggestions.
- Julie motioned that CAG recommend the group supports a joint meeting with PBAC, CAG, and Dr. Floyd before December, so that it may be reflected in the Governors budget.

- CAG wants Steve R to present the “Q and A” sheet to PBAC and urge PBAC to consider letters of support for the project, and to conduct a joint meeting.

Letter received from Cheryl Morgan regarding the CAG’s activities. She suggests the CAG get involved in the WRIA process, and wants CAG to “not” support the re-use facility.

- Michael suggests that if anyone from CAG wants to attend the WRIA meetings, they are encouraged to.
- It may be a good idea to look at the minutes, if no one is able to attend.

Julie recommends waiting another month to send update letters to local media such as newspapers, etc. CAG agreed.

Next Meeting: November 13 (second Thursday), 6:15pm, at the Jacks Creek Room, U of I Facilities.

Adjourned at 8:10 pm.