

Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee (PBAC) – Citizens Advisory Group (CAG)
Meeting of March 12, 2009

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	phone		
Mike McVay	IDWR, ex-officio			X

Guests:

Mark Storey
Steve Robischon
Michael Yount
Ken Marci

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Echanove at 6:25 pm

Approval of minutes: The minutes of February 12, 2009 were approved as presented with minor edits.

Updates:

- PBAC met on February 19. The main item of discussion was the recent CAG recommendation to fund some education regarding conservation. Julie summarized the discussions. There was no motion or resolution of this issue. There were other requests for money, such as a request for addition computer modeling. Steve also reported that there was an update on the attempt to change Idaho Code to allow for sale of water across the state line. There will be a request for proposals for design of the waste water re-use project using some DOE money.
- IDWR not present. Michael has talked to Ken McNeilly in Boise, who indicated that Mike McVay is our representative.

- WSDOE: Keith Stoffel reporting. No news to report.

Open Forum:

- Dan indicated that there are a lot of water problems throughout the world, including Idaho. We are not alone in our water issues, and eventually it will start harming the world economy.
- Julie sent out an email regarding the Pullman delay in providing water irrigation to the cemetery. There needs to be a discussion about putting in efficient systems, or changing landscaping schemes (such as xeriscaping). We should consider inviting some of the cemetery operators to discuss this issue.

New Business:

- Palouse Wells – City of Palouse worked with Jim Osiensky and Guy Gregory to purchase data loggers (partially funded by WSDOE) for its two wells, one on the hill, and the other down by the river. Two weeks ago, Michael indicated that he got an email from Guy that the data was downloaded, and that there was a significant change in the well water temperature. This should not happen when the water is drawn from approximately 400 feet. This suggests that something is not right when compared to our model. It is a relatively new well (1990's), and should not have a broken casing. They pulled the info from the other well and found the same temperature trend. Guy Gregory analyzed and provided a presentation to the City Council.

Michael explained the presentation that Guy delivered to the City Council. There was a definite relationship between the pumping and the river. This may be due to a breach in the lining or casing, or the water bearing zone is directly connected to the river. There are a number of things that may explain the phenomena. One may be that there is active recharge going on, another is just that the water in the upper zone (near surface) is affecting the temperature of the water drawn from the well. There may be many other possible explanations. Michael will keep us posted as they develop more information.

Old Business:

- None at this time.

Next Meeting: April 9th, 6:15pm, at the Jacks Creek Room, U of I. Facilities. We will have guests coming to the meeting.

Adjourned at 8:10 pm.