

Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee  
Citizens Advisory Group  
July 13, 2006  
Draft Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Members Present:	Michael Echanove, Chairman Dan Boone Kirk O'Reilly William Brock Jim Mital	Jerry Fairley Joe Spoonemore Earl Bennett Bill Elliot
Members Absent:	Ben McLuen -excused absence	
Guests & Ex-officio:	Tom Scallorn, PBAC Steve Robischon, PBAC Keith Stoffel, DOE George Grader, resident Moscow Larry Kirkland, PBAC	Helen Harrington, ex-officio Bob Haynes, IDWR Chuck Harris, WOW David Hall, PWCN

Procedures Review: The Chair reviewed general guidelines that will be used to conduct meetings.

Roll Call: All members were present or excused.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes were approved as amended.

**PBAC Report/Update:**

Steve reported that at the next meeting, Larry will discuss long-term water cost analysis. Steve reported that the Bond and Elks Club monitoring wells were no longer available for PBAC use. It was also reported that funds originally earmarked for the Cunningham Well Field have been released for other projects. Planning has begun for the next Water Summit. At a previous PBAC meeting, the 2005 goals were reviewed and approved with minor changes.

IDWR reported that the monitoring well field site was moved to the east due to weather conditions, but after drilling one shallow well, it was moved back to the original site. The Latah County Characterization Project is on track and report writing is in progress. John Bush is in the process of classifying drilling samples.

**Open Forum:**

1. Keith reported that several interest groups have requested a review by the Attorney General of the Washington 2003 Municipal Water Law. The Attorney General's response was to decline the review and the parties are considering further action. Keith also reported that there is no new information on the transfer of water rights for big box.
2. Earl reported on the tour of the Naylor Farms Project. The group assembled at the site and was told that there would be no talking or questions that would be answered. They were shown the property which included a settling pond and mill site. The no talking requirement was apparently associated with the tour being an extension of the Public Hearing. The Naylor Project was recommended for approval by the planning commission and was forwarded on to Commissioners with a number of conditions.

3. Jerry suggested a review of how to characterize the water budget for the Basin and how WOW might assist. It was noted that about 20 faculty members currently work within WOW to manage water resources and the work of graduate students. A model will be developed using a program called STELLA which is a management model with variable input and nodes. A motion was made to invite WOW to a future CAG meeting to discuss the STELLA modeling and how it could be applied to characterizing the Palouse Basin. Motion passed.

Motion was made to send a letter to PBAC in support of recent increases in entity assessments. Motion passed.

**Business:**

1. 9-month review of CAG by the Chair and what has been accomplished.
2. Kirk O'Reilly's Proposed PBAC Organization Diagram. Significant discussion of the structure and organization of PBAC as proposed in the chart and how the entities actually function. It was noted that CAG interacts at all levels and that the structure needs clarification. It was suggested that WIRA should be added. Motion was made to invite WIRA to address a future CAG meeting. Motion passed.

Motion was made to develop a make-up and duties for each group on the chart such as composition and qualifications along with a time frame. Discussion followed as to how to proceed with the chart. Motion passed.

A discussion followed regarding the difficulties that can occur with Technical Advisory Committees such as the Spokane Valley - Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer group. A motion was made to appoint a sub-committee to develop a straw-man using the Spokane Valley – Rathdrum Aquifer composition and roles as a model. Motion passed. Jerry, George and Kirk volunteered to serve on this sub-committee.

3. CAG recommendations to PBAC were discussed and the CAG asked for information regarding PBAC's response to the recommendation. It was noted that several PBAC members view the first CAG recommendation as the first step and are waiting to review the complete package.

**Handouts:**

Spokane Valley – Rathdrum Prairie Hydrologic Study. There was lengthy discussion of the project scope from the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer. It was noted that the CAG needs to continually encourage PBAC to develop a scope of work similar to the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer. Earl volunteered to produce a draft scope. It was suggested that several basic key questions need to be developed and added to the scope. The general consensus was the scope for the Palouse Basin is a critical step and that PBAC would favorably receive such a scope and any CAG efforts to secure federal funding.

Next Meeting was set for August 10, 2006.

Adjournment: Motion was made to adjourn. Motion passed.