



Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee

University of Idaho PO Box 443011

Moscow, ID 83844-3011

Phone: (208) 885-6429 Fax: (208) 885-6431

pbac@uidaho.edu www.uidaho.edu/pbac

September 21, 2006 Meeting Minutes

Pullman City Hall, East End (Large) Conference Room

Attendance

X	UI: Michael Holthaus (Vice Chair), Water Systems Manager		WSU: Joe Kline, Project Engineer
	UI: Brian Johnson, Assistant Vice President, Facilities	X	WSU: Rob Corcoran, Asst Dir, Arch, Engr & Const Services
X	Moscow: Tom Scallorn, Water Dept Superintendent	X	Pullman: Mark Workman, Director of Public Works
X	Moscow: Aaron Ament, City Council Member		Pullman: Art Garro, Maintenance & Operations Superintendent
X	Moscow: Les MacDonald, Director of Public Works	X	Pullman: Barney Waldrop, City Council Member
	Latah County: Tom Townsend, Citizen and County Representative		Whitman County: Mark Storey (Chair), County Engineer
	Latah County: Tom Stroschein, County Commissioner		Whitman County: Jerry Finch, County Commissioner
X	Colfax: Carl Thompson, City Administrator		Colfax: Andy Rogers, Public Works Supervisor

Ex officio Member

Guy Gregory, WDOE

Bob Haynes, IDWR

Visitors and Others

Alyssa Douglas, Golder Associates; John Bush; Dale Ralston; David Hall, PWCN; Rob Buchert, Palouse Conservation District; Larry Kirkland, PBAC; Steve Robischon, PBAC.

Call to Order

Mike Holthaus, PBAC Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

Carl Thompson, City of Colfax, introduced himself as a new PBAC member replacing Emily Adams.

1) Approval of the August 17, 2006 Meeting Minutes –

The August draft minutes were approved by consensus with no modifications.

2) Unfinished Business

CAG Membership (small municipal provider) – Les MacDonald

MacDonald initiated a discussion related to an email sent to the Committee by Joe Kline, suggesting that the CAG be allowed to suggest replacements for vacant representatives. Robischon reported that at the September 14 CAG meeting he was asked to convey to PBAC CAG's belief that the CAG currently has sufficient technical representation and a recommendation that PBAC not initiate efforts to find a replacement for the recently resigned technical representative (Jay Eliason) at this time.

After discussion, PBAC passed a motion to allow the CAG to suggest replacements for vacant representatives, with PBAC retaining final approval. The Committee also decided to leave the technical representative seat on CAG open at this time, but retain the option to fill the position should a qualified member of the community express interest. Robischon was directed to examine the CAG charter to determine whether changes will be required to reflect these decisions.

Interentity Agreement / Entity Assessments – Mark Workman

Workman reported that he had reviewed the latest version of the Interentity (note: the document title is Interagency, not Interentity) agreement and had discovered some potential inconsistencies: amendments to the agreement require a majority vote while changing assessment amounts require a 2/3 majority. He has provided a copy of the agreement to the Pullman attorney for general review and with the intent of removing reference to absolute assessment amounts. This item will be discussed again at next month's meeting.

Water Cost Details/Modifications – Larry Kirkland

Kirkland handed out a modified version of last month's sheet, with the unit cost changed from cost per 100 cubic feet to costs per 1000 gallons, and with additional columns ranking the options and rating each according to four categories of challenge (environmental, legal, financial and other). The group discussed the table, and Kirkland was directed to provide members with background details utilized to come up with the cost numbers.

Synoptic Water Level Measurement Cost Estimate

Robischon presented a cost estimate provided by Alyssa Douglas as agreed to at the August 17 PBAC meeting. Alyssa indicated that neither she nor Robin Nimmer have sufficient time available to accomplish the tasks detailed in the estimate. Guy Gregory noted that the GPS survey of the wells was not included in the estimate. Discussion followed regarding how the survey might be accomplished. Robischon agreed to contact Jim Osiensky to identify the wells that have already been accurately surveyed. Kirkland will contact MacDonald to determine how the City of Moscow might be able to support the effort. Corcoran will contact the WSU civil engineering department to inquire about the possibility of utilizing the WSU surveying classes.

3) New Business

Monitoring Projects – Steve Robischon

Robischon presented an email from Jim Osiensky indicating that Stacey Douglas has been pulled off the Grande Ronde Monitoring/Testing project. The email included a proposal to provide a replacement graduate student to take over the project. PBAC's level of support would be reduced from approximately \$24K to \$12K as the proposed graduate student is already being supported by a teaching assistantship and would not need a research assistantship stipend. Robischon presented an alternative approach that would create a PBAC in-house technical support budget by carving portions from the current research and administrative budgets. The Committee moved and passed a resolution to go forward with the Osiensky proposal, and directed that a data collection protocol be included in the project requirements. Gregory agreed to provide the WDOE monitoring protocol as a model.

Water Summit Participation

Robischon presented the Water Summit brochure, called the Committee's attention to the portion of the Summit involving the working groups, and noted that PBAC's support of one or more of the working groups was being encouraged. Rob Buchert described the planning process that had led to the working group idea, and further suggested that PBAC might consider supporting the effort. No action was taken by the Committee.

4) PBAC Projects Progress Reports

Robischon noted that Hannah Hernandez has completed several pump tests that will evaluate potential connections between the Wanapum Basalts, the Sediments of Bovill, and Paradise Creek at the UI Ground Water Research Site. In addition, Chad Opatz has successfully developed a protocol that enables the detection of a pulse of (injected) heated water as it moves down the UI#2 well.

Dale Ralston presented a summary of the IDWR Monitoring Well Field #2 project, describing the project history and reasons behind the project exceeding its original budget. The four wells have been completed at depths of approximately 72 feet (Latah Sediments – water level approximately 30 feet BLS), 280 feet (just below Wanapum Basalt – water level approx 140 feet), 350 feet (Vantage Sediments – water level approx 140 feet), and 730 feet (Grande Ronde Basalt – water level approx 360 feet). Ralston will provide a final cost estimate to PBAC within the next couple days, at which point PBAC will be able to evaluate the extent of its contribution that will be required to ensure successful completion of the project.

John Bush noted that his research of nearby well logs indicates that several of the local wells are completed above the Wanapum Basalts, and that of the 22 logs he reviewed, only 3 are completed in the basalts. The others all draw from the sediments.

5) Citizens Advisory Group

Robischon reported that the September 14 CAG meeting had included considerable discussion related to Washington municipal water law. He also reported that the CAG recommended that PBAC not actively solicit a new technical member for the group.

6) Budget Report – Steve Robischon

Robischon summarized the current status of the budget, reflecting the assessments previously agreed to by the committee. FY07 invoices have now been sent to all member entities. The projected total deficit of approximately **\$70K** will have to be absorbed by reserves, and at current spend rates reserves will be exhausted in two years.

7) Other Reports and Announcements

Robischon reported that the annual report is at the printer.

Kirkland described the details of the Cochran Farms change request (South Fork of the Palouse River - move point of diversion upstream and change purpose of use from irrigation to commercial). After discussing the details, Kirkland was directed to transmit to WDOE that PBAC had reviewed the change and that there is somewhat of a concern related to the applicant's pump capacity exceeding the instantaneous flow condition of the existing/proposed right. Gregory noted that WDOE can provide copies of applications for new rights and changes to existing rights, but they will not commit to providing copies of any transmittals they receive from conservancy boards.

Robischon announced the upcoming (October 3) water Summit and relayed the informal plan developed at the September 14 CAG meeting to attempt to have CAG at least one member sit in on each working group.

Robischon reported that he has been invited to participate as a panelist in an upcoming public discussion sponsored by The Moscow Civic Association titled "Water Solutions: Is Moscow Ready for a Reservoir?" Robischon was directed by the Committee that PBAC has formed no opinion on a reservoir and any representations he may make should be as an individual and not a PBAC member. It was also noted that his role might best be as a collector of information to be brought back to the full Committee.

Robischon announced a tentative schedule for a Moscow Water Seminar, but was informed by Moscow PBAC representatives that the seminar has been postponed.

Robischon displayed a tentative agenda for an October 13 adjudication workshop to be sponsored by the Idaho League of Cities. Dale Ralston will present (Hydrology 101) as will Karl Dreher (IDWR Director) and Clive Strong (Idaho Attorney General – Natural Resources Division), and Les MacDonald will be included on a panel discussing "How does adjudication affect you?" Robischon will present "Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee: Where are we now?"

Robischon announced that the Hydrologic Characterization Project will make a presentation of its results before the Latah County Commissioners September 27. The Committee expressed interest in having the project team present its findings at a future PBAC meeting.

Workman queried the Committee about the FY07-09 \$250K DOE earmark and whether PBAC needed to submit a project to help keep the funds allocated to the Palouse Basin. Gregory stated that a scope is not a necessary requirement but that if the Committee has a project scope prepared it would be wise to provide it. Discussion related to the Cunningham Well Field project concluded that there is no scope for it as of yet, and that it would be premature to expend funds creating one at this time. Workman requested that this item be included on next month's agenda.

8) Next Meeting Date

October 19, 2006, 2:00

UI Facilities Services Center, Jack's Creek Meeting Room

9) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 PM.

The above minutes were reviewed and approved at the October 19, 2006 PBAC meeting.

Steve Robischon, Executive Manager

	Budget		
Beginning Balance	\$152,975	\$152,975	Beginning Balance
Admin/Ops Assessment Revenue	\$38,000	\$0	FY07 Posted
Admin/Ops Expenses	\$74,339	\$8,839	
Admin/Ops Balance	(\$36,339)	(\$8,839)	
Research Assessment Revenue	\$80,000	\$0	
Research Commitments	\$112,695	\$6,465	
Research Balance	(\$32,695)	(\$6,465)	
Ending Balance	\$83,942	\$137,671	Current Balance

Assessments

	Budget				Posted	
	Administrative	Research	Total		Admin	Res
Whitman County	\$2,000		\$2,000	Whitman	\$0	
Latah County	\$2,000		\$2,000	Latah	\$0	
Pullman	\$8,000	\$20,000	\$28,000	Pullman	\$0	\$0
Moscow	\$8,000	\$20,000	\$28,000	Moscow	\$0	\$0
Colfax	\$2,000		\$2,000	Colfax	\$0	
Washington State	\$8,000	\$20,000	\$28,000	WSU	\$0	\$0
University of Idaho	\$8,000	\$20,000	\$28,000	UI	\$0	\$0
	\$38,000	\$80,000	\$118,000		\$0	\$0

Expenses/Commitments

Prior Year *	FY06 Proj	FY06 Posted	FY07 Projected **		FY07 Posted
	\$49,220.46	\$44,946.13	\$74,338.68	Administrative / Operations	\$8,838.53
\$18,518.51		\$17,335.84	\$1,182.67	Geophysical Study (Holom)	
				Mapping (Bush)	
\$16,817.31		\$16,932.86	\$115.55	Deep Aquifer Monitoring (McVay)	
			\$50,000.00	Cunningham Well Field	
\$17,745.12		\$16,489.25	\$1,255.87	Shallow Aquifer Monitoring (Badon)	
				Hydrostatigraphy Evaluation (Osiensky)	
	\$21,500.00	\$23,890.07	\$21,109.93	Passive Drainage Well (Opatz)	\$2,180.10
\$22,000.00	\$17,000.00	\$37,303.70	\$1,696.30	Database / GIS/ Model (Wu/Leek)	
	\$8,796.00	\$8,035.31	\$27,863.69	Deep Aquifer Monitoring Cont. (Douglas)	\$2,205.56
	\$7,755.00	\$7,695.94	\$18,404.06	Shallow Aquifer Monitoring Cont. (Hernandez)	\$2,079.80
	\$5,000.00	\$3,932.95	\$1,067.05	Shallow Aquifer Drought Level Monitoring (Nimmer)	
			\$40,000.00	Commitment to Complete IDWR Monitoring Wells	
\$84,107.25	\$109,271.46	\$178,276.85	\$112,695.12	Research Commitments/Expenses Subtotal	\$15,303.99

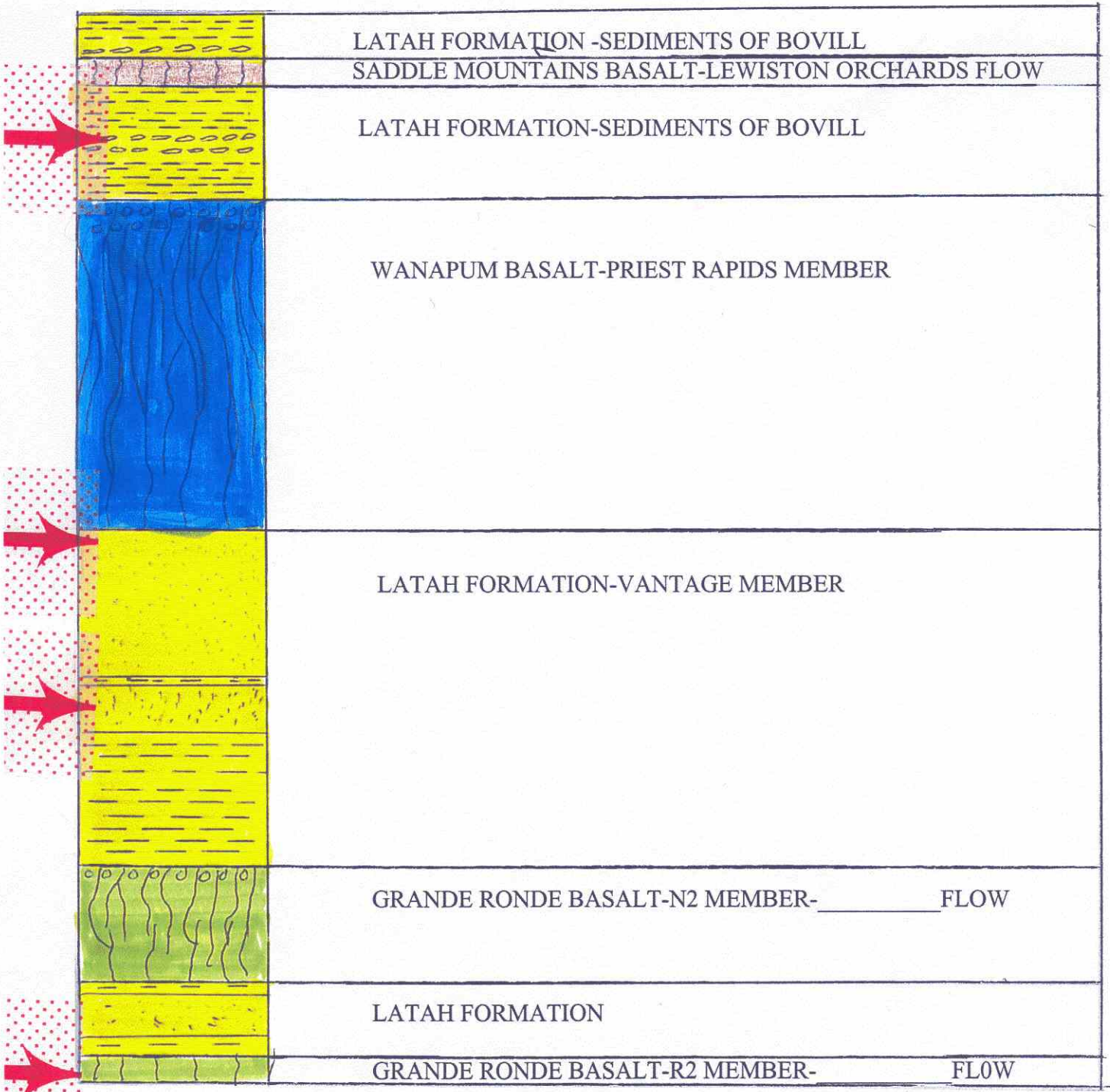
FY06 and Prior Commitments \$193,378.71 ** FY07 commitments include project agreements, admin expenses thru 6/30/07
 FY06 Posted Charges \$178,276.85
 FY06 Balance \$15,101.86

* Prior Year commitments include previously funded projects with expenses carrying over into FY06

COMPOSITE STRATIGRAPHIC COLUMN FOR MOSCOW MONITORING WELLS 2006

(diagram for illustration purposes only, scale is approx 1"=100ft)

COLUMBIA RIVER BASALT GROUP



FIRST rough DRAFT

John Burt Sept 06