



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

July 17, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Moscow UI Facilities Services Center, Jack's Creek Meeting Room

Attendance

X	UI: Michael Holthaus, Water Systems Manager		WSU: Mike Leonas, Project Manager, Capital Planning & Dev.
X	UI: Joe Kline, Director, Utilities and Engineering	X	WSU: Rob Corcoran, Asst Dir, Arch, Engr & Const Services
X	Moscow: Tom Scallorn, Water Dept Superintendent	X	Pullman: Mark Workman (Chair), Director of Public Works
X	Moscow: Walter Steed, 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: Paul Kimmell (Vice- Chair), County Representative	X	Whitman County: Mark Storey, Director of Public Works
	Latah County: Tom Stroschein, County Commissioner		Whitman County: Jerry Finch, County Commissioner
X	Colfax: Carl Thompson, City Administrator		Colfax: Andy Rogers, Public Works Supervisor

Visitors and Others

Kathleen Warnick; Mimi Wainwright, Ecology; Steve Robischon, PBAC

Call to Order

Mark Workman, PBAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm.

1) Approval of the June 19, 2008 Meeting Minutes

The June minutes were approved by consensus.

2) Presentation - none

3) Unfinished Business - none

4) New Business – Citizens Advisory Group Recommendation

The Citizens Advisory Group is recommending that PBAC write a letter to WSU President Floyd voicing support for the wastewater reclamation project. Robischon

distributed copies of two draft letters, one from PBAC and another from CAG. The group discussed the preferred approach to such a letter, and decided to combine the two into a joint PBAC/CAG letter. Editorial modifications were suggested and will be incorporated into a final letter to be signed by Workman and CAG chair Michael Echanove.

5) PBAC Projects Progress Report

Robischon summarized project status. The project work on the Grande Ronde monitoring/testing project is complete, and Aaren Fiedler plans to defend his thesis this coming fall. A graduate student has not yet been identified to conduct the continuation of the project (ASR Impacts). The Wanapum monitoring/testing project is proceeding, with hopes of conducting another test in early fall when Moscow Well #2 comes back on line.

6) Citizens Advisory Group Report

In addition to the WSU letter mentioned above, Storey noted that the CAG may have identified a citizen to fill the currently vacant Idaho County/Rural interest position.

7) Budget Report

Robischon displayed the FY09 budget that projects (based upon current commitments) a reserve of approximately \$250,000 at fiscal year end. Discussion ensued as to whether to enter into new commitments near term or build up additional reserves in anticipation of larger future projects. Additional discussion involved the types of projects (e.g. characterization of current resource or feasibility of supplemental supply) that might be pursued. The discussion will be continued at future meetings.

8) Other Reports and Announcements –

WRIA 34 – Robischon displayed a ranking chart and table of projects included in the watershed plan. Suzanne Hamada has announced she will step down as planning unit coordinator.

USGS Ground Water Availability Study – Robischon displayed information related to a USGS study that will evaluate the need for additional monitoring in the area. Dave Morgan, Project Chief for the study, has asked to present project details to the group sometime this fall.

Water Summit Planning Report – Robischon displayed the latest draft agenda for the Summit, featuring a morning session with updates from political, administrative and technical perspectives, an afternoon session focused upon conservation, and an evening panel session discussing regional management.

Palouse Basin System Dynamics Modeling Project Report – Robischon displayed a web site that has been set up by the project managers that includes summary information of work to date. During the past week a meeting was held with technical experts to

discuss the validity of key assumptions in the model. The next meeting of the larger group is scheduled for August 22.

SF Palouse River TMDL – MacDonald reported that the South Fork Palouse River Water Quality Advisory Group (SFPRWQAG) group met and reviewed fecal coliform information from portions of the basin.

Hawkins Stateline Project Status – MacDonald reported that there are drill rigs on the site, and Storey indicated that drilling has commenced. Indications are that the Moscow application for transfer is at the IDWR regional office, possibly awaiting completion of the joint powers agreement between Moscow and Whitman County. Steed indicated that Moscow sent a draft agreement to the County that is currently under review.

Williams Place LLC – Robischon displayed comments from DOE on the SEPA documentation submitted by the developer. The comments indicate that the project will be limited to a single exemption from permitting requirements (one 5,000 gpd exemption), and not individual exemptions for each well/lot.

Other – Robischon displayed graphs of 7 day average pumping and wastewater influent for the month of May indicating that in early May, pumping and influent quantities were nearly the same, but by the end of the month pumping exceeded influent by over 2 million gallons per day. Much of the difference can be attributed to evaporation and transpiration related to irrigation.

Next Meeting – The group decided to cancel the August meeting, and the next meeting is scheduled for September 18 in Moscow

9) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 PM.

Submitted for review and approved at the September 18, 2008 PBAC meeting,

Steve Robischon, Executive Manager

Elson S. Floyd
Office of the President
Washington State University
P.O. Box 641048
Pullman, WA 99164-1048

Dear President Floyd,

As members of multi-jurisdictional, cooperative group with the mission of ensuring a sustainable supply of water on the Palouse, we support WSU's effort to secure state funding for a reclaimed water facility.

Because three previous efforts have failed, we believe a coordinated campaign is needed to persuade Washington legislators to approve funding during their 2009 session. If such a strategy has been planned, we would like to be made aware of it so that we can target our own efforts in support of the project.

We encourage you to hold a strategy session involving the Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee, our committee's Citizens Advisory Group, and other interested parties and stakeholders. We also recommend actively soliciting public support. With so many demands upon the state budget, it is vital that every voice be heard.

We look forward to hearing from you regarding a matter of great importance to the future of the university and our communities.

Sincerely,

Mark Workman, chair,
and members of the Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee

cc: Glenn Johnson, Mayor of Pullman
Michael Echanove, chair, PBAC Citizens Advisory Group

Elson S. Floyd
Office of the President
Washington State University
P.O. Box 641048
Pullman, WA 99164-1048

Dear President Floyd,

As members of a local citizens group with a mission to protect underground water resources on the Palouse, we support WSU's effort to secure state funding for a reclaimed water facility.

Because three previous efforts have failed, we believe a coordinated campaign is needed to persuade Washington legislators to approve funding during their 2009 session. If such a strategy has been planned, we would like to be made aware of it so that we can target our own efforts in support of the project.

We encourage you to hold a strategy session involving the Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee, our advisory group, and other interested parties and stakeholders. We also recommend actively soliciting public support. With so many demands upon the state budget, it is vital that every voice be heard.

We look forward to hearing from you regarding a matter of great importance to the future of the university and our communities.

Sincerely,

Michael Echanove, chair,
and members of the Citizens Advisory Group to the Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee

cc: Mark Workman, chair, Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee
Glenn Johnson, Mayor of Pullman



Palouse Basin
4th Annual **Water Summit**
Seeking Sound Science and Practical Solutions
Tuesday, October 7th
Best Western University Inn
1516 Pullman Rd
Moscow, ID

FREE REGISTRATION
Go Online...
www.palousewatersummit.org
Or Call...
509-332-4101