



## Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee

University of Idaho PO Box 443301

Moscow, ID 83844-3301

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

[pbac@uidaho.edu](mailto:pbac@uidaho.edu) [www.uidaho.edu/pbac](http://www.uidaho.edu/pbac)

April 15, 2010 Meeting Minutes

### Pullman City Hall, East End (Large) Conference Room

#### Attendance

	UI: Michael Holthaus, Water Systems Manager	X	WSU: Mike Leonas (Vice-Chair), Project Manager, Capital Planning & Dev.
	UI: Joe Kline, Director, Utilities and Engineering		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: Walter Steed, City Council Member		Pullman: Art Garro, Maintenance & Operations Superintendent
	Moscow: Les MacDonald, Director of Public Works	X	Pullman: Barney Waldrop, City Council Member
	Latah County: Paul Kimmell (Chair), County Representative		Whitman County: Mark Storey, Director of Public Works
	Latah County: Tom Stroschein, County Commissioner	X	Whitman County: Michael Largent, County Commissioner
	Colfax: Carl Thompson, City Administrator		Colfax: Andy Rogers, Public Works Supervisor

#### Visitors and Others

Dale Ralston, Ralston Hydrologic Services; Bob Haynes, IDWR; Mandie MacDonald, Landau Associates; Doyle McClure, Self; Guy Gregory, WDOE; Julie Titone, CAG; Steve Robischon, PBAC

#### Call to Order

Mike Leonas, PBAC Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:07 PM.

#### 1) Approval of the February 18, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Draft February minutes were approved by consensus.

#### 2) Presentation/Discussion –

##### Wanapum Monitoring Wells – Steve Robischon

Robischon presented information from the PBAC monitoring data for the Wanapum monitoring wells illustrating a correlation between a heavy precipitation event in August 2008 and water level rises in 4 different monitoring wells. The group discussed the information and some possible implications for the Moscow Well 10 project. Steed and

Scallorn will provide the information to Les MacDonald (Moscow Public Works Director) for his consideration.

### **3) Unfinished Business**

#### **Framework Project – PBAC Funded Tasks**

Gregory reported the Washington Legislature had restored the watershed planning funding removed as part of the governor's interim budget. The final budget bill awaits the governor's signature. Pending approval of the budget, the framework project will receive additional funding of \$10K in FY2010 and \$40K in FY11. The PBAC steering committee (with input from Ralston and Terragraphics) will determine project scope changes to utilize the restored funding. A motion was passed empowering the steering committee to make final scope decisions without a vote of the full committee.

### **4) New Business –**

#### **Press Release Soliciting New CAG Members**

Robischon distributed a CAG-developed press release soliciting additional CAG membership, and outlined a proposed (by Chairman Kimmell via email) modification to the text. The group discussed the draft release further, and passed a motion to issue a final press release reflecting modifications made at the meeting. Modifications included inclusion of PBAC's mission statement within the release, addition of the possibility of student representation in the group, and removal of language specifically targeting small municipal provider representation

### **5) PBAC Projects Progress Report –**

#### **Framework Project**

Ralston reported draft Task 2 deliverables were submitted the week of April 8, and the project is proceeding well. Robischon added the draft deliverable have been distributed to steering committee members for review and comment.

#### **Tritium Testing Project**

Robischon displayed a status email from Lauren Carey listing the 9 wells that have been sampled. Samples have been sent to a laboratory in Florida for analysis.

#### **Basinwide Aquifer Testing Project**

Robischon displayed hydrographs generated by Katie Moran from loggers monitoring the test. Moran has been concentrating on determining the preferred method for removing barometric influences from the data.

#### **WoW System Dynamics Modeling Project**

Robischon displayed an email from Allyson Beall detailing progress on a list of remaining items for the project. Funding for the project ends in April, and Beall will tentatively attend the May PBAC meeting to demonstrate the final model and discuss how it might be deployed on the internet for public access.

### **6) Citizens Advisory Group Report**

Titone reported UI water systems manager Mike Holthaus presented at the April CAG meeting. The group is continuing to work on its bylaws, and next month they intend to focus upon building a vision to guide their future efforts.

## **7) Budget Report**

Robischon reported there had been an issue with the budget reports generated this month, so no budget update was available.

## **8) Other Reports and Announcements –**

### **Moscow Surface Water Reservoir Feasibility Study Project**

Scallorn reported the project team will meet the week of April 19 to discuss progress on the project.

### **Pullman/WSU Wastewater Reclamation Project**

Workman and Leonas reported a project kickoff meeting was held and the project has moved into a data acquisition phase.

### **WSU GeoAnalytical Lab Poster**

Robischon reported Rick Conrey and a WSU colleague reanalyzed samples from wells drilled in the 1970's and have reinterpreted some of the geology in the area, including the possibility of a N-S trending fault in the vicinity of the WSU campus. Conrey and John Bush have tentatively agreed to attend the May PBAC meeting to further discuss the work.

### **Columbia Basin GWMA Sprague-Ritzville Water Resource Committee Meeting**

Robischon reported attendance at a meeting summarizing the GWMA's work to date and requesting well information from the well owners in the Sprague-Ritzville area. The eastern end of the GWMA borders western Whitman County, and some of the information generated by the project may be of use in future PBAC work.

## **9) Next Meeting –**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2010 in Moscow.

## **10) Adjournment -**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:19 PM.

**Submitted for review and approved at the May 20, 2010 PBAC meeting**

**Steve Robischon, Executive Manager**

Press release.

## Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee seeks advisory group members

The Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee is seeking residents of Latah or Whitman counties to fill two vacancies on its Citizens Advisory Group.

Its 12-member group's primary objective is to develop recommendations for the committee as it seeks to conserve the declining ground water supply and to consider future alternative sources of water. Members include rural residents, city dwellers, conservationists, business representatives and scientists, among others. The committee is particularly interested in finding a new group member who would represent the interests of municipal or community water systems in Idaho.

For more information, contact Steve Robischon, executive manager, at [steve@uidaho.edu](mailto:steve@uidaho.edu), 208-885-6429; or visit the committee Web site at [www.webs.uidaho.edu/pbac/](http://www.webs.uidaho.edu/pbac/).

The Citizens Advisory Group meets on the second Thursday evening of each month in Moscow.