



Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee

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July 15, 2010 Meeting Minutes

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

Attendance

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

Visitors and Others

Robin Nimmer, Terragraphics Env. Eng.; Guy Gregory, WDOE; Chris Pitre, Golder Assoc.; Brenda Borer, Golder Assoc.; Dale Ralston, Ralston Hydrologic Services; Bob Haynes, IDWR; Katie Moran, UI; Steve Robischon, PBAC

Call to Order

Mike Leonas, PBAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:06 PM.

1) Approval of the June 17, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Draft June minutes were approved by consensus.

2) Presentation/Discussion – None Scheduled

3) Unfinished Business –

Election of FY 2011 PBAC Officers: Vice-Chair

MacDonald reported he had discussed with Scallorn, and moved to nominate Scallorn for vice-chair. Workman seconded, and the motion passed by consensus.

Financial Administration of PBAC Funds

Kline reported on his discussions with Facilities and Research Office personnel and indicated it appears the transfer of administration of PBAC funds from Research to Facilities will require that the VP's (of Research and Finance & Administration) meet. Kline will speak with Steed after the meeting to attempt to facilitate a meeting. Kimmell reported he had been unable to contact John Tracy (former interim VP of Research and Director of the Idaho Water Resources Research Institute – PBAC's current home organization) to discuss the matter.

4) New Business –

PBAC Goal Review

Leonas opened the topic for discussion by offering several options for the group's consideration. The most pressing need involves addressing the current goal of having an action plan for aquifer system enhancement and alternate water supply development by 2010. The group discussed options and decided to postpone consideration of the current goals until late this year, when Ralston indicated information coming out of the Framework project may provide additional insights on what might be involved in the formulation of an action plan.

5) PBAC Projects Progress Report –

Basinwide Aquifer Testing Project

Moran reported data collection and analyses continue, and a replacement transducer has been installed in the Clay Street well. Moran and Jim Osiensky felt there was too much risk in installing a data logger in a production well without a guide tube, and they hope the transducer they are using will provide quality data.

Associated with the Basinwide Testing project, Robischon displayed an email from Osiensky proposing to initiate a second project that would overlap and extend the current one. The group discussed the project and directed Robischon to ask Osiensky to provide additional information related to deliverables and how the new project would tie in with the current project.

Tritium Testing Project

Robischon displayed an email from Carey reporting Carey and Osiensky had collected 17 more O-18 samples and sent 4 more samples (Appaloosa, Brandt, Champion, UI Professor Miller's well) in for tritium analysis.

Framework Project

Nimmer reported the project is proceeding smoothly. The draft synthesis report is on schedule for delivery at the end of July, and the team has been able to measure water levels in several of the wells previously measured for the Barker study of the 1970's. The draft synthesis report will be distributed to the steering committee for their review and comment.

6) Citizens Advisory Group Report – No Activity Reported

7) Budget Report

Robischon displayed a budget summary.

8) Other Reports and Announcements –

Moscow Surface Water Reservoir Feasibility Study Project

MacDonald reported no change in the status of the project. The project team is still assessing the potential reservoir sites identified earlier in the project.

Pullman/WSU Wastewater Reclamation Project

Workman reported JUB has the background data to be used to update the design development document, and the habitat improvement project is approaching completion of plans and specifications.

Moscow Palouse River Drive Ballfields Project

MacDonald and Steed provided background information on the project. The question before the City is whether to include the effluent irrigation portion of the project in the amount of the bond (to be voted on this coming November). With the effluent system, the total cost estimate is \$7.7 million, without including the effluent system the estimated total is \$6.1 million. It may be possible to pay for the effluent system through the sewer fund and bond for the reduced amount. City staff continues to evaluate the options and the City Council will address the topic at next week's meeting.

Other

In response to a question about a recent WDOE press release, Gregory explained a proposed modification to a WDOE rule (the Hillis Rule) that allows certain types of projects to be assigned a higher priority for processing.

Gregory reported on efforts to secure FY11 WDOE funding to drill monitoring wells in the Palouse basin. As placeholders, he resubmitted two proposals (previously submitted by PBAC through the WRIA 34 Planning Unit) in case additional funding becomes available in FY 2011.

Chris Pitre announced an upcoming conference of the PNW Section of the AWWA (to be held in Boise in May 2011), and asked the group to consider providing a speaker. Pitre will provide additional information to Robischon who will forward it on to all for their consideration.

9) Next Meeting –

The next meeting is scheduled for August 19, 2010 in Pullman.

10) Adjournment -

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 PM.

Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee
July 15, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Submitted for review and approved at the August 19, 2010 PBAC meeting.

Steve Robischon, PBAC Executive Manager

2006 PBAC Mission and Goals

Mission:

To ensure a long-term, quality water supply for the Palouse Basin region.

Goals:

- Develop and Implement a balanced basin wide Water Supply and Use Program by 2020.
 - Create an action plan for aquifer system enhancement and alternate water supply development by 2010.
 - Direct research and implement pilot projects necessary to understand the basin hydrogeology in a manner sufficient to support the Water Supply and Use Program and the affiliated supply projects.
- Update the Palouse Basin Groundwater Management Plan to reflect the Water Supply and Use Program.
- Encourage and facilitate entities in meeting their specific pumping, conservation, efficient use, water recycling and other goals.
- Educate entities and the public on the state of the basin water supply and options for carrying out PBAC's mission and goals.
- Maintain harmonious and effective working relationships across the state line to fairly meet the needs of all entities.
- Revisit the goals and mission statement annually to ensure that they are current and reflect the goals of the group.