Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council
July 21, 2014
Meeting Minutes

Present:

Staff: Steven Patten, Wendy Harris, Graham Banks, Troy Baker, Chris Sheets, and Tara Patten.

Guests: Rey Weldert and Jon Brough.

Absent:
Council Members: Kat Brigham, Teresa Kilmer, Stuart Durfee (excused), Ed Chesnut (excused), Clark Lampson and Hulette Johnson.

Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00 by John Zerba.

The June 16, 2014 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Bi-State Walla Walla Stream flow Improvement Study- $220,000 has been allocated for assessment, water modeling updates, project management, Columbia River Exchange initial design and legal analysis of bypass flow protection options and they are just awaiting signature from Washington state to get started. This study will estimate the cost to build, estimate the cost of O & M and estimate the amount of water that will be needed. The steering committee is prioritizing the stream flow improvement actions for engineering analysis.

Nursery Bridge Fish Passage- The draft designs have been received for a roughened riffle fish passage project that will be 440’ creating a 2.3% grade. Brian is in the process of applying for the various permits that will be needed for this project. We will be adding to this project next summer. There are two other projects going on at this site this summer. There is levee repair work being done for the Water Control District and the Corps stilling basin repair work so our project should hopefully start the first part of September.

Stream gauging update: Troy and Steve have successfully moved the Peppers Bridge gage to the other side of the river and is now back up and running. With the help of Tara, the three of them have been recalibrating the low flow measurements at Grove, McDonald, Lower Mill Creek, M4 below Nursery Bridge, and at Pierce’s RV park below Touchet.

Shallow Aquifer Recharge update: The integrated surface water groundwater model is being expanded. A RFQ has gone out to different Hydrogeologic firms for technical support, as 4 years of additional data will be added.
Summer Science Camp- Graham gave a slideshow of this summer’s Hydromania Science Camp.

WWBWC Financial status/Projects update- Wendy gave a Power Point presentation that showed the grant funds received from the start of the WWBWC to present, who the funders are, and the different projects.

Announcements:
WWBWC will be at Muddy Frogwater on Saturday.

Malcolm asked for an update on the Hulette Johnson site purchase and Wendy explained that we are still in a holding pattern until Hulette does some things on his side.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Next Meeting: August 18, 2014, 7:00-8:30 p.m., in the Rotary Room, Milton-Freewater Community Building, 5th Ave. and Ward St,