Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council  
September 15, 2014  
Meeting Minutes

Present:  

Staff: Brian Wolcott, Wendy Harris, Graham Banks, Troy Baker, and Chris Sheets.

Guests: Jon Brough, Greg Nelson and Molly Reid.

Absent:  
Council Members: Kat Brigham, Teresa Kilmer, Stuart Durfee (excused), Ray Williams (excused) and Hulette Johnson (excused).

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

The August 18th, 2014 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Bi-State Walla Walla Stream flow Improvement Study: The steering committee will be individually interviewed regarding water management project types. The committee will then reconvene as a group to prioritize stream flow improvement actions for engineering analysis. At that point the remaining funds can be allocated to investigate piping, irrigation efficiency, recharge, pump exchanges, and reservoir projects.

On a separate note: The board is interested in having a presentation on the project being done on the Kentsch property. Brian will look into having a representative from CTUIR come to a meeting to talk about the work that is being done.

Nursery Bridge Fish Passage: Designs were finalized on September 5th for the Nursery Bridge Fish Passage Project. The roughened riffle fish passage project will be 500 feet long, extending downstream of the fish ladder and stilling basin, and will cover the channel tying in to the lower portions of the levees on both sides of the channel with large rock. The riffle is designed to be a slope of 2.2% and will be at least 5 feet thick. The DSL permit was received today and we are waiting for the Corps to sign off on their permit. It is anticipated that all remaining permits will be received this week and the deadline for contractor proposals is tomorrow. Brian has pulled together a team to review the contractors’ bids and score them based on several factors. He hopes to award the bid on Wednesday. An instream work extension has been granted in case it is needed.

The Eastside Levee Repair project is wrapping up and the Corps’ Stilling Basin Repair project is scheduled for completion at the end of September.
A more comprehensive Nursery Bridge Fish Passage project is scheduled to be designed and constructed next summer.

**STELLAR:** Graham gave a presentation on what he would like to propose to OWEB for his next funding cycle and asked for the board’s approval for the next funding cycle. Malcolm moved that Graham be allowed to submit his proposal as stated with Ed seconding and unanimous approval by the board.

**White Ditch Piping update:** Cultural survey has been started and Jon is getting prices for material. HBDIC should have final designs completed this week. The cultural resource comment letters to SHPO and CTUIR were sent. There is a 30 day comment period before the project construction can begin.

**Eastside Aquifer Storage and Recovery** - We are starting a feasibility analysis for varying types of recharge on the east side of the river. Wendy has met with the Dawn Boorse, our BPA Environmental Compliance Lead, and shown her the sites we are proposing. Steven is sending out RFP’s to engineers for the design work.

**Water Monitoring Technician Position:** Job notices have gone out and we are planning on hiring a new technician in October. At this time, the position in only scheduled to be part-time and temporary. However, this could change in the future based on need and funding.

**Announcements:**

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: September 15, 2014, 7:00-8:30 p.m., in the Rotary Room, Milton-Freewater Community Building, 5th Ave. and Ward St.