Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council Meeting
July 17, 2017
Meeting Minutes

Present:


Staff: Brian Wolcott, Steve Patten, Wendy Harris, Troy Baker, and Chris Sheets.

Guests: Jon Brough, Chris Marks, Eric Hoverson and Yvonne Roberts.

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

(:12) Review of minutes from July meeting – John asked if there were any additions or corrections to the previous meeting’s minutes. None were given and the minutes were approved as submitted.

(:20)-Annual Audit Summary – Prior to the regular meeting, there was a closed meeting where Yvonne Roberts gave the Council’s audit review.

(:54) Bi-State Stream Flow Enhancement Study Update – Brian gave a presentation on the Pine Ck. Storage Study results as to the water availability and costs involved. CH2M Hill should be wrapping up their study by the end of this month. Steven explained the spreadsheet he designed where you can toggle the different projects on and off to see what the best combination of projects would be in regards to goals being met. It also tallies up costs and water to be diverted. Brian hopes that we will be able to make this tool available on our website so that everyone can access it.

(46:00) WWBWC Streamflow improvement projects review - Brian gave a brief review of the streamflow improvement projects that have been completed and the water that is now protected as a result of these projects.

(48:53) Managed Aquifer Recharge report on last season: Managed aquifer recharge report on the past season given by Steve.

Water put in the ground by site:
Anspach-660 acre feet
Hulette Johnson- 3500 acre feet
Chuckhole-15 acre feet
Barrett 383 acre feet
Trumbull - 170 acre feet
Triangle Station- 13 acre feet
Mud Creek- 220 acre feet
Fruitvale- 50 acre feet
NW Umapine- 180 acre feet

Added together with the approximate 1100 acre feet due to ditch seepage and that is about 6300 acre feet in this very short season. The season was greatly impacted by very extreme weather.

(54:08) OWEB Outreach and Education Funding Potential Rule Changes- OWEB has been modifying their rules in regards to education and outreach that stand to no longer fund the STELLAR program as we know it, to
educate school children on the science of the watershed. Comments have come in from all over from the state of Oregon along with the comments from Brian, Graham and Sam Tucker on how they are interpreting these changes. Out of all these comments they have made some changes to their draft rules that they will be deciding on next week. Graham has many funding sources that he applies to but OWEB is his main funding source for the STELLAR program.

(1:02:57) WWBWC Self Evaluation for OWEB Council Capacity Reporting- When reviewing the survey taken by board members, Brian noticed that at least one member answered they were unsure of our Action Plan. The WWBWC Action plan was originally drafted in 1999 and has had several updates in the years since the council has grown and changed. There was also someone unsure of our Mission Statement. Our Mission Statement is in our Action Plan and both can be read and reviewed on the home page of our website www.wwbwc.org. We encourage members to take some time to browse our website and become more familiar with our plan and our projects. We are always available to answer questions with a quick phone call or e-mail or stop by the office.

Announcements- OWEB Board Mtg. July 24-26 in Boardman

The next Bi-State Steering committee meeting will be 8/3/17 from 9-3 at WWCC

Meeting Adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Next Meeting: August 21, 2017, 7:00-8:30 p.m., in the Rotary Room, Milton-Freewater Community Building, 5th Ave. and Ward St.

The times in the brackets next to each topic refer to the location of that topic in the meeting recording. There are copies of the recordings located in the “Board Room” on the WWBWC website.