

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE WOOD RIVER WATERSHED ADVISORY GROUP

SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST SERVICE CONFERENCE ROOM

102 1ST EAST (CORNER OF STATE HIGHWAY 20 & 1ST STREET)

FAIRFIELD, ID

August 24, 2004 (TUESDAY) 7:30 P.M

Chairman Daryle James called the meeting to order with the following in attendance:

Joe Schwarzbach – IASCD

Carol Blackburn - Conservation

Chuck Pentzer – ISCC

Kathy Hurd - ISCC

Clint Krahn – Logging

Mark Toone - Logging

Lynn Harmon – BWCC

Vern Ravenscroft - Hydro

Jennifer Claire – DEQ

Bryan Ravenscroft - Logging

Minutes: Minutes for the June 27, 2004 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded. Motion carried; vote was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS:

At the last meeting a motion was made for someone (Vernon) to be assigned to write a letter of recommendation in support of the groundwater recharge and forward that to the appropriate organizations. (A rough draft of the resolution was presented at the meeting in Fairfield and was forwarded by e-mail to the Board Members.) A rough draft was reproduced and a hard copy was forwarded Daryle for his review. He revised it and is presenting it to the Committee tonight for review and discussion. This proposal is something that the Committee has worked on and presented previously and we've never had the opportunity to take action until tonight. The Committee has discussed these minor changes and is coordinated in regard to them. Compared to the original proposal that was circulated thanks to DEQ, we've added a third paragraph enlisting the excess flows that need to be identified. Originally, we did not include the municipal rights. Certainly the town of Twin Falls with the use they make of Blue Lakes water and some of the other town north of the river we do have deep wells and get municipal waters from them, I think we probably want to be involved. Other than that, we made no changes until you get down to the entities to which the proposal would be provided to determine whether or not they would be interested and we have broadened that. Originally we talked in terms of Blaine, Gooding, Lincoln, Jerome, and Camas counties. Because of the municipal participation on the part of Twin Falls, and because of the formation of the legislative committee and other organizations working on this, we felt it would be proper to broaden it out to give it to all the legislators representing not only the counties that were named originally, but also Cassia, Minidoka and Twin Falls. Beyond that we added three additional entities. The Mid-Snake Water Commission is a group that has been put together by the counties and Bob Muffley from Gooding is Chairman of that group. They involve the same counties as we have listed up above. This is an entity that is active and might be in a position to assume considerable leadership. Because of the municipal water interests, we've added the cities of Shoshone, Gooding, Wendell and Twin Falls. Although all along we recognized that Fish and Game would have an interest, we overlooked them, so we added them. Those are the minor changes that have been made in this version compared to what you have previously received. A request was made for discussion from the floor. COMMENT: I think that it is a proactive move. We're not just sitting on dead center; we are actually saying what we feel. COMMENT: One of the things I'd like to put on the table here is the Wood River WAG offering their offices? We don't currently have a secretary but hopefully that will be remedied soon. COMMENT: Could you change the wording to just "offer assistance in the organization"? The Committee agreed that particular wording change would be a good change. COMMENT: We've listed the cities of Wendell, Gooding, Jerome, Shoshone, and Twin Falls. Is there any reason to list or include the other cities further up the watershed? They are not involved in this particular aquifer, really. Unless you want to include them in a cooperative effort to give them some idea what they might be able to do to work with the rest of the State because this is a State-wide issue. We should add Ketchum, Hailey, Bellevue, Sun Valley, Carey, Fairfield, Richfield, Dietrich, Rupert and Burley. Vernon made motion to adopt the proposed recommendation, an outline of action, with the changes adopted in this meeting and that we go forward to see to it that material is distributed to the indicated entities. The motion was seconded. Motion carried; vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kathy Hurd has completed the data entry for the coverages in the Big Wood and has most of the Little Wood coverages done. We're now working over to prioritize into the Big Wood coverages of Gooding County so we're downloading those type GIS files and we're going to continue on within the Big Wood drainage and concentrate on that effort because we are behind on the eight-ball on getting that implementation plan done. We've found a little bit more money through the SCC in Boise and they've signed a memorandum of agreement with the northside soil conservation district of another \$2,000 to help out and assist with that portion of it. This timesheet submitted is showing that she worked up to that component, up to that \$1,000 block, and will now be working off the commissioned dollars at this point. A bill was submitted from Kathy Hurd in the amount of \$460 for the balance of the data entry work to date. The total amount of the block was \$1,000, of which \$540 has been paid. Motion was made to pay the bill as submitted. The motion was seconded. Motion carried; vote was unanimous.

Chuck will have a presentation ready for the Committee at the September 28 meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Vernon reported that as of July 31, 2004, the balance in the checking account was \$15,643.39.

SECRETARY:

The Committee asked Kathy Hurd to think about assuming the position. She will think about it and get back to Daryle. If Kathy decides she doesn't want the position, Daryle would like to run an ad in the newspaper to try and get it filled. The pay for the Secretary is \$12.00/hour with a .36 cents/mile reimbursement for mileage. We have documentation from Kathy Weaver at the ISCC informing us that as a WAG we can apply for Administrative Assistant funds. Because we have money in our checking account at present and are not in need of additional funds, we will hold this form and reconsider mailing it prior to the October 15 deadline.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 28, 2004 and the October meeting will be October 26, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.

Where upon the meeting was adjourned.

Daryle James, Chairman