

Wood River Watershed Advisory Group

Meeting Minutes

Big Wood Canal Company
409 North Apple Street, Shoshone, Idaho
September 23, 2014, 7:00 p.m.

Attendees

Steve Canty – DEQ, Twin Falls Regional Office, Intern
Bill Davis – CAFO
Lynn Harmon – Big Wood Canal Company
Daryle James - Recreation
Patti Lousen – Wood River Land Trust
Corene MacCoy - USGS
Rob Sharpnack – Soil and Water Conservation Commission
Bob Simpson – City of Carey
Sue Switzer – DEQ, Twin Falls Regional Office
Craig Thomas – DEQ, Twin Falls Regional Office
Mark Toone – Livestock Permittees

Welcome

The meeting of the Wood River Watershed Advisory Group (WAG) was called to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. by Chairman, Bob Simpson.

WAG Business

- The minutes for the Wood River WAG meeting held on October 22, 2013, were reviewed. Bill Davis moved to approve the minutes as written and Daryl James seconded. It was a unanimous vote of approval.
- The bylaws were made available and suggested that the WAG review them and make any updates or changes. It was suggested that some of the positions on the executive board be condensed into one position: livestock, confined animal feed operations, and irrigated agriculture; municipalities and land planning/local government; conservation/multiple use, environmental/ preservation, and recreation/tourism; small business/industry, logging-timer industry, and hydro-power. It was suggested to add a public at large position. These changes will be included in a draft revision of the bylaws which will be presented at the next meeting.
- Board member openings had been advertised and the appointment process was discussed. There were 3 people interested in the environmental/preservation position that sent in applications: Pattie Lousen, Chad Chorney, and Dana Gross and 1 for representative of municipalities,

Merrell Platt with the City of Hailey. Patti spoke with Carol Blackburn who is the representative for conservation/multiple use. Carol has a hard time getting to the meetings, and she would be happy to have Pattie fill the position as the primary representative. Daryle James could be the public at large representative.

Big Wood River Trend Monitoring

Doreen MacCoy gave a presentation on the trend water quality and bioassessment network established in the Wood River basin conducted by the USGS in cooperation with The Nature Conservancy, Trout Unlimited, and the Wood River Land Trust. Enclosed with these minutes is a handout presented to the attendees summarizing her presentation.

Update: Camas Creek Monitoring Plan and Review

Rich Bupp was unable to attend this meeting; he is working on the Camas. After the data is analyzed, we will have him come and present the results.

DEQ Updates

- 2012 Integrated Report has been approved by EPA. This is available on the DEQ website.
- 2014 Integrated Report is underway.
- BURP monitoring sites along with the results were provided and reviewed.
- The next BAG meeting will be October 1, 2014 in Twin Falls. The 319 projects will be presented.
- A copy of the *Ground Water: 2014 Nitrate Priority Area Delineation and Ranking Process Report* was available for the WAG to look at. If attendees would like a copy, it is on the DEQ website.
- Jerome Cheese Company TMDL Addendum is out for public comment. It is a shift of waste load allocation provided to the City of Jerome and giving them to Jerome Cheese Company. There was also a benefit for the watershed in that 6.2 lbs. per day of phosphorus was retired.
- DEQ worked with Soil and Water Conservation Commission doing bio-data collection on the Rock Creek following a land purchase by The Nature Conservancy. The data will give a benchmark for the land use change. Once that data has been compiled, we will bring it to the WAG.
- Blue-green Algae are present on Salmon Falls Creek reservoir. Sue provided a brochure developed by Idaho Department of Health and Welfare showing some examples of Blue-green Algae that have shown up around the state. DEQ has been sampling in response to complaints. If you see anything that looks like the examples, please let DEQ know.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:35 p.m.



WAG Chairman

2-24-2014
Date approved