

# Lake Walcott Watershed Advisory Group

*Meeting Minutes  
Burley City Chambers 1401 Overland Ave.  
Burley, Idaho  
Thursday July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010  
Time: 7:00 pm*

## **ATTENDEES:**

1. Shawn Woodhead - DEQ-TFRO
2. Katie Shewmaker - DEQ-TFRO
3. Tom Geary - Concerned Citizen
4. Susan Looper - NRCS
5. Carolyn Firth - ISWCC
6. Zeke Zimmerman - Oregon Trail Project
7. Pat McCammon - 6S Ranch
8. Stan Lloyd - Cassia Creek

### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

*Tom Geary- Acting Chairman*

The meeting was called to order by Tom Geary, who was asked to fill in by Chairman, Earl Christensen, who could not attend this meeting. Everyone in attendance was welcomed and each of the attendees introduced themselves and whom they represented at the meeting. Sean Woodhead handed out a schedule of the 319 calendar and process.

### **II. Wag Business**

*Tom Geary- Acting Chairman*

- A. Motion to approve minutes as corrected. Stan Lloyd reported that the Raft River Ground Water District paid an annual billing for each well of \$50 and \$90 for each CFS, not Cassia Creek Water District. A motion was entertained to approve the minutes as corrected and motion passed unanimously.
- B. Each 319 Project was voted on separately, and all four were approved.
- C. The next meeting will be in the fall and an email will be sent out.

### **III. DEQ- Twin Falls Regional Update**

*Katie Shewmaker- DEQ-TFRO*

- A. The Goose Creek Five Year Review has been approved and is now available on the DEQ website. If anyone would like a copy and does not have access to a computer, please let Katie know and she will get you a copy.

- B. Our office will be working on the Raft River Five Year Review and will be out monitoring this summer into the fall at least once a month. There will not be as much monitoring due to budget cuts.
- C. In September of 2009, the EPA was given a 60-day notice of intent to sue by the Idaho Conservation League over EPA's failure, in oversight of Idaho's water quality rules, to require Idaho to adopt an antidegradation implementation plan and procedures. A working group has met four times over the past several months in hopes of working out a plan, though at the time of this meeting there has not been a definite determination what the next step will be. If anyone has questions, they should contact Don Essig in the DEQ State office or for a preliminary draft rule; contact Paula Wilson, also in the DEQ state office.
- D. The 2010 Integrated Report should be ready for public comment the end of July, first part of August. It will be available through the internet or our office.
- E. In conjunction with the Department of Ag and Fish and Game to help control mussels in our local watersheds, DEQ has been putting out Quagga and Zebra Mussel traps at monitoring sites along the river. We check on them monthly while doing our monitoring. So far, no sign of the Mussels have been found in the local watersheds.
- F. The Marsh Creek Temperature TMDL and the Lake Walcott Five Year Review are both in the technical editing phase and the WAG will be notified by email when they are ready for public comment.
- G. There will not be a BURP program again this year. The DEQ state office is conducting random site monitoring through out the state, so there will be some BURP data available for 2010.

#### **IV. 319 Project Proposals**

*Carolyn Firth, ISWCC*

Carolyn presented two PowerPoint presentations, the Raft River Subbasin Streambank Protection Project and the Minidoka Nitrate Priority Area Project, for 319 projects this year. She would also like to resubmit the Marsh Creek Restoration Project from last year, if the WAG agrees.

The Raft River Subbasin Streambank Project is sponsored by the Cassia County Soil and Water Conservation District. This program would stabilize streambanks; restore riparian wetlands; decrease sediment, temperature, and bacteria; improve groundwater recharge and irrigation water management; and replace and/or build headgate structures. With this project, we are trying to follow the Raft River TMDL Implementation Plan. The estimated cost is \$172,404\*, with a match of \$114,936\* for a total of \$287,340\*. There will be at least ten landowners participating. Technical assistance will be provided by ISWCC, NRCS and Almo Water

Company. The estimated reductions for the project are: sediment 35-55% and bacteria 40-55%.

The Minidoka Nitrate Priority Area Project is sponsored by the Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District. The purpose of this project is to decrease the use of phosphorous and nitrogen by utilizing precision agriculture. Minidoka is 12<sup>th</sup> in the state for a nitrate priority area. There is approximately 20,000 critical acres. The project would entail the use of electrical conductivity maps as an alternative to grid sampling. This includes applying fertilizers using variable rates based on soil samples. The estimated cost is \$172,700\*\* for the 319 Grant, \$115,133\*\* for match, for a total of \$287,340\*\*. They would like to see at least 10,000 acres for this project. Technical Assistance would be provided by ISWCC and NRCS. The anticipated load reduction for this project is 25% for both nitrogen and phosphorous.

**V. 319 Project Proposal**

*Zeke Zimmerman,  
Oregon Trail Recreation District*

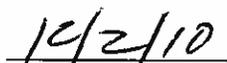
Zeke is a retired Forest Service Employee that now is a member of the Oregon Trail Recreation District. They have concluded that since 1976, about 76,447.8 tons of topsoil from the streambank has eroded into the Snake River from the project location. That is approximately 2316 tons per year. There are areas at which the streambank has eroded 76 feet since 1976 and averages roughly 40 feet wide, up to eleven feet high, and 3600 feet long. Benefits that will be derived from this project include a reduction in sediment, along with nutrient and bacteria that may be tied to that sediment. An out-of-state company owns the land at this time, but will deed it to the city when the project is complete. The estimated cost is \$117,000 from the 319 Grant, a match of \$121,000 for a total of \$238,000.

**VII. Adjourn**

*Tom Geary- Acting Chairman*

Motion to adjourn was entertained at 7:50 pm and passed unanimously.

  
WAG Chairman

  
Date

The Meeting was recorded, and the recording is included as part of the administrative record.

- \* There was an error in the costs presented in the PowerPoint at the meeting. The actual amounts submitted with the application were grant - \$173,412; match - \$115,608; total - \$289,020.
- \*\* There was an error in the costs presented in the PowerPoint at the meeting. The actual amounts submitted with the application were grant - \$192,700; match - \$129,800; total - \$322,500