

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE:**

**\*\*\*Daytime Meeting\*\*\* Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008, 9 AM – 11:30 AM, downstairs meeting room at Lincoln County Public Works in Davenport.**

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**Minutes from the WRIA 53 Monthly Meeting**  
**LOWER LAKE ROOSEVELT WATERSHED PLANNING UNIT**  
**Lincoln County Public Works**  
**Davenport, WA**  
**March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

**IN ATTENDANCE: (24)**

Gene St.Godard, WNR Group	Mimi Wainwright, Ecology
Jim DeGraffenreid, Lincoln County Planning	Ted Hopkins, Lincoln Co. Commissioner
Eddie Johnson, Landowner	Dean White, Lincoln Co. CD
Joel Jahn, Landowner	John Whyghan, Landowner
Gregg Behrens, Columbia Springs Estates	R. McVey, Landowner
Dave Lundgren, LCCD	Dennis Maier, Landowner
Fred Bell, City of Davenport	Kayti Didricksen, Landowner
Frank Hanson, Hanson Harbor	Riechelle Brown, Landowner
Loren Brown, Whitestone Land Mngmnt	Chris Martin, Water Quality Engineering
Paul Stoker, Columbia Basin GWMA	Yvonne Eyler, Landowner
Marlena Guhlke, Landowner	Ray Dashiell, NPS
Ken DeBooy, Campbell Bay Water Users	Scott Hutsell, Citizen
William Guhlke, Farm Bureau	Jamie Short, Ecology
Derek Sandison, Ecology	Kevin Lindsey, GSI Water Solutions

**SESSION CALLED TO ORDER:**

Gene St.Godard with WNR Group, facilitator for the WRIA 53 Planning Group, opened the meeting at 6:00 PM . Gene thanked the group for attending the Planning Unit meeting for WRIA 53. Gene gave a brief overview of how the meeting would be conducted, and then began the meeting by making sure everyone had a copy of the agenda for the meeting and a copy of the meeting summary from the 2/20/08 PU meeting.

Gene informed the participants that Mimi had brought copies of the “Guide to Watershed Planning”. Copies are located on the back table. Binders were also available for PU participants to keep PU documents.

**Introduction of Participants**

Gene opened the floor for people attending the meeting to introduce themselves and who they were representing. Introductions were made around the room. It appeared there was a diversified group of water users who were attending the meeting. The list of participants is presented above.

**MEETING DISCUSSION AND COMMENT:**

**Review and Acceptance of Minutes**

Gene asked the participants to review the meeting summary and provide any comments and/or corrections. Eddie Johnson commented that two participants that were present last month were not noted on the meeting summary. Scott Bar and Ellen Savage was added as in attendance during last meeting. Gene informed the participants to make sure they sign in on the Attendance Sheet located in the back of the room. This is the only record Gene has of who participated in the meeting. Fred Bell also noted that his name was spelled wrong, this correction was made. No other edits or comments were noted on the Meeting Summary and the group accepted them as edited.

Gene also asked if there were any edits and or comments on the proposed agenda. Hearing no comments, he began the meeting.

**Watershed Planning Presentation – Derek Sandison, Central Regional Director Ecology**

Derek Sandison was introduced by Gene St.Godard to provide the Planning Unit with an overview of the ongoing Columbia River Water Management Program (CRWMP), including the status of the Hawk Creek water storage project. Derek distributed a handout to the group summarizing all the various activities currently ongoing in the CRWMP.

Derek first spoke of the legislation, Chapter 90.90 RCW, which authorized the CRWMP. The basic premise of the statute requires Ecology to aggressively pursue new water supplies for both instream and out-of-stream uses, and provides funding for water storage and conservation projects.

A summary was provided on the ongoing CRWMP grant funding program. Ecology received 42 grant applications for various projects in the CRWMP. Ten of the applications were withdrawn, and 32 will be evaluated during the final application process. Of these, approximately 1/3 are feasibility studies, 1/3 water storage projects, and 1/3 conservation projects. Of importance to WRIA 53, is the Lincoln County Passive Rehydration proposal that was submitted in WRIA 43.

Derek also gave a summary of the Water Supply Inventory that was conducted along the Columbia River, and of the Programmatic EIS. An overview of the Lake Roosevelt Incremental Storage Release was given, with an estimated 82.5K Acre-feet of water being available for the Odessa area, Municipal needs, and instream flows. This can be increased an additional 50K acre feet can be available for interruptible water rights and instream flows.

Ecology also allocated \$1 million for the Kennewick Aquifer Storage and Recovery project. This project will divert and store water in the aquifer for needs by the City of Kennewick. Derek also briefly touched on some of the other on-going projects such as the Walla Walla pump exchange, Kennewick Irrigation District pump exchange, the Odessa Subarea Special Study, and the Supplemental Potholes Feed Route. A heated discussion was also held with the group and Derek regarding the Hawk Creek Reservoir. Hawk Creek and Lower Crab Creek made the final two proposed storage sites as determined from Ecology's Appraisal Report. However, any further investigation on these sites will have to be approved by the U.S. Congress.

Derek also noted that information on all the topics and projects being addressed in the CRWMP can be found on the Ecology web site at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/cwp/crwmp.html>. Any questions can also be sent to Derek or Dan Haller at Ecology's Central Region Office.

**Watershed Planning Presentation – Paul Stoker- Columbia Basin Ground Water Management Area (GWMA)**

Paul presented a power point presentation on the on-going efforts of the GWMA hydrostratigraphic mapping project. Paul had Kevin Lindsey, Principal Hydrogeologist with GSI Water Solutions, and Technical Project Manager for the mapping project present to assist him with the presentation. Paul gave a brief overview of the history of the GWMA. The GWMA currently encompasses four counties (Lincoln, Adams, Grant and Franklin) which have county Commissioners representative on the board. There are also a citizen representative from each county on the board.

Paul showed several slides of what the mapping project can do. Of importance is the ability to map, and subsequently project where a basalt aquifer will be located. The interflows of the basalt flows, caused by multiple magmatic eruptions from fissures across Washington and Idaho, are the major water bearing units that are used by irrigators and municipalities throughout the Columbia Basin. Currently, these aquifers are declining, and it is not yet understood where the recharge to

these aquifers are located. The water within the aquifers are obviously over allocated, as evident from the declining water tables, some up to 9 feet per year. Many of the wells were approved with the understanding that the East-High Canal was going to be built which would eventually bring water to the irrigators in the Odessa area. The canal never was constructed.

The mapping project is being extended to the north into Lincoln County to understand the aquifers, both where they are being recharged, and the flow paths of the water in the basalt interflows. Paul requested that if any people in Lincoln County would allow access to their wells for the group to monitor, please contact him. Any information will be held confidential. Landowners can contact Paul at the GWMA web site. Additional information on the GWMA can be found at their web site: <http://www.gwma.org>.

### **Public Comment**

After the presentation, Gene opened the meeting to public comment and discussion. Much discussion was held on whether the Hawk Creek project would be constructed. People involved in the process did not feel it was a feasible alternative. Jamie and Mimi from Ecology noted that Ecology does not make the decision on the construction of these storage facilities. Approval of the reservoirs would have to come from the U.S. Congress and siting and building of any storage facilities would be conducted by the Bureau of Reclamation.

### **Setting of Next Meeting Time**

A discussion was held on scheduling the next meeting. Participants discussed whether to keep meetings during the day, or schedule night time meetings. Many local landowners were in favor of night time meetings. However, many participants at the February meeting requested daytime meetings. It was discussed that we would alternate the meetings every month from daytime to night time. The next meeting was set for April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008 from 9:00 to 11:00 AM at the Lincoln County Public Works building. The next meeting would be held to finalize Operating and Voting procedures. Gene also mentioned again that Lincoln County has already developed a web site for WRIA 53. It is located on Lincoln Counties Planning web page.

### **Actions Completed**

Acceptance of February meeting minutes

### **Actions Needed**

Gene to check into TMDL listings in WRIA 53.

Gene to get draft Operating Procedures ready for next meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM. If you have any questions please call Gene St.Godard at (509) 468-4876 or send an email message to Gene at [stgod@comcast.net](mailto:stgod@comcast.net)