



February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Pullman City Hall, East End (large) Conference Room, 2:00 PM

**Attendance**

	UI: Elmer Johnson, Water Systems Manager	X	WSU: Dan Costello, Assistant VP, Facilities Services
	UI: Eugene Gussenhoven Utilities and Engineering Director	X	WSU: Steve Potratz, Plant Engineer – Facilities Operations
X	Moscow: Tyler Palmer (Vice-Chair) Deputy Director Operations	X	Pullman: Clayton Forsmann Deputy Director of Public Works
X	Moscow: Gina Taruscio, City Council Member	X	Pullman: Kevin Gardes (Chair), Director of Public Works
X	Moscow: Les MacDonald, Director of Public Works		Pullman: Fritz Hughes City Council Member
X	Latah County: Paul Kimmell, County Representative	X	Whitman County: Mark Storey, Director of Public Works
X	Latah County: Tom Lamar, County Commissioner	X	Whitman County: Art Swannack, County Commissioner

**Visitors and Others**

Daniel Sturgis, IDWR; Lara Floyd; Julie Padowki, SW Water Research Center, Morgan Case IDWR, Robin Nimmer, Terragraphics; Ben Floyd, Anchor/QEA; Korey Woodley, PBAC; Steve Robischon, PBAC (via phone)

**Call to Order**

Kevin Gardes called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM and the group conducted self-introductions. Korey Woodley introduced herself to the group as the new Executive Manager of PBAC (contingent upon vote of approval for her position).

**1) Approval of the January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

January draft minutes were approved by consensus.

**2) Ratification and Acceptance of Korey Woodley as the PBAC Executive Manager**

During the January meeting a motion was passed to negotiate salary and make an offer to Korey Woodley for the PBAC Executive Manager position. Gardes asked for a motion to ratify the offer for the position and the acceptance from Woodley. The motion was passed.

### **3) Public Comment for Items not on Agenda – None**

### **4) Presentation/Discussion – 2016 PBAC Pumping**

Robischon presented information on 2016 pumping and weather conditions. In aggregate (Pullman, Moscow, UI, WSU, Palouse) pumping in 2016 was down 4.8% from 2015. About fifty percent of the annual pumping total is pumped during the summer months of June, July, August, and September. The summer temperatures were cooler in 2016 as compared to the warmer temperatures in 2015.

### **5) Unfinished Business –**

- **Water Supply Alternatives Project; Comments, Next Steps Update – Ben Floyd**  
Ben Floyd walked the group through the comments summary on the Draft Palouse Groundwater Basin Water Supply Alternatives Analysis Report. The comments were provided by PBAC members. Floyd mentioned that most of the comments were related to minor adjustments to the document. Letters from the Washington State Department of Ecology and the Idaho Department of Water Resources were provided and gave positive feedback.
- Gardes expressed that taking dates out of the reports and adding steps to follow from high to low priority to the document would be best. Gardes mentioned that coordination with multiple jurisdictions on specific deadlines can be difficult and adding steps to the document would be a good alternative.
- Floyd asked the committee whether or not to update the report to include the UI information. The committee advised that at this point it will not be necessary.
- Gardes noted the discussion of a peer review process for the project will need to be brought up in the future. MacDonald expressed his hesitation with a full peer review process and that the project has already gone through an extensive process. Gardes mentioned that the project review phase could be folded into the public outreach and environmental review process. Palmer suggested that a panel could be created to involve the public and local university researchers in order to evaluate specific parts of the project. Gardes suggested an outreach item that calls for an outreach effort but also includes the universities. MacDonald mentioned that it would be important to include more than just university people during the review process. Gardes stated that they would invite a review including university and other experts. Floyd offered to write a couple of paragraphs about the public involvement strategy and to circulate it around to ensure that it reflects what the committee wants, it was agreed that this would be helpful.
- There was discussion about Alternative 4 and lowering the priority relative to the other Alternatives. The committee agreed that they would like to keep Alternative 4 within the document to ensure a variety of options for the public to consider.
- Committee members agreed that by 2020 the preferred alternatives would be selected with the goal of 2025 for the final plan for implementation.
- Floyd stated that the final draft of the report should be completed on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **5) New Business –**

- Water Supply Alternatives Project, Contingency Funds Access  
Established within the contract, there was a 10% contingency fund. Ben Floyd wrote a justification letter for the need of \$10,900 of the contingency funds. The research members of the committee approved requested amount contingent on approval from UI.
- PBAC Communications Plan – Kimmell Suggested that Korey and himself do a formal presentation on the plan at the April Meeting. Start identifying tactics and establishing timelines for rolling plans out. The committee agreed to add this to the April agenda.

### **6) PBAC Projects Progress Report**

- Robischon presented the project status updates.
- John Bush emailed an update on February 12<sup>th</sup>. They are wrapping up their GIS file on well locations and the PDF file of interpretations of the well logs. Robischon mentioned they would send the directions to him to test out before putting it on the PBAC website. They still need to do the mapping and the cross-section development.
- An earlier status from John Bush back in January noted that Dean Garwood, who was part of the original proposal, took a job elsewhere. They will be employing Daisuke Kobayaski to do illustrations during the spring semester.
- Langman emailed an update on January 25<sup>th</sup>. They are compiling the well construction logs and well videos to establish the well screen elevations. They will be sampling more wells over the summer months. Sulfur isotope analysis was added to all well samples. Landman decided to drop the inclusion of sampling a couple wells for the PNNL's argon-39 analysis. The free program is now costing thousands due to program changes. They had hoped to have a TA to conduct data analysis, but the funding for that has fallen through. Langman will be conducting the data analysis.

### **7) Budget Report**

- Robischon displayed current budget balances.

### **8) Other Reports and Announcements**

- Robischon presented other announcements.
- Blake Nylund emailed a video scan of Well 5 that took place on January 30<sup>th</sup>. He pointed out that it is high in iron and darker areas show signs of elevated manganese. Robischon forwarded the email to Bush and Langman. In both of their responses there was mention of the possibility of upper to lower aquifer recharge in the area.
- Robischon mentioned the importance of continued research even while the committee shifts focus to the water supply alternatives.

### **9) Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 PM.

**Next PBAC Meeting – March 16, 2017, 2:00 PM, Moscow**

Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee  
February, 2017 Meeting Minutes

**Preliminary draft minutes submitted for PBAC review and approved on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

**Korey Woodley, PBAC Executive Manager**