

PALOUSE BASIN AQUIFER committee

MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022, 2:00 PM
 UI, FACILITIES SERVICES CENTER, JACK'S CREEK MEETING ROOM
<https://uidaho.zoom.us/j/82719054247> (Passcode: PBAC)

Attendance

X: In-person attendance **V:** Video attendance

| | | | |
|----------|--|----------|--|
| X | Pullman: Cara Haley (Chair), City Engineer | X | Moscow: Tyler Palmer (Vice-Chair), Deputy Director, Public Works & Services |
| V | Pullman: Shawn Kohtz, Director of Public Works | V | Moscow: Mike Parker Water Utility Manager |
| X | Pullman: Eileen Maccoll, City Council Member | X | Moscow: Gina Taruscio, City Council Member |
| | Whitman County: Mark Storey Public Works Director/County Engineer | X | Latah County: Paul Kimmell, Citizen/County Representative |
| V | Whitman County: Tom Handy, County Commissioner | X | Latah County: Tom Lamar, County Commissioner |
| V | WSU: Jeff Lannigan, Facilities Services | X | UI: Tim Link, Professor of Hydrology |
| | WSU: Jason Sampson, Asst Director, Environmental Services | X | UI: Rusty Vineyard, Director of Facilities |
| | WA, Dept of Ecology: Patrick Cabbage | V | ID, Water Resources: Michelle Richman Regional Manager/Staff Engineer |
| V | WA, Dept of Ecology: Chris Beard Hydrogeologist | | ID, Water Resources: Daniel Sturgis, Hydrogeologist |

Others:

Céline Acord, PBAC Executive Director (X)
 Steve Robischon, PBAC Technical Advisor (V)
 Robin Nimmer, Alta Science and Engineering (X)

Community Members:

Colt Shelton, JUB Engineers (V)
 Cristin Reisenauer, City of Pullman (V)
 David Hall, SEG Member (X)
 Pamela Tetarenko (V)
 Allison, Nez Perce Tribe (V)
 Bridget Pechtel, Project Manager for Public Works Board, WA Dept of Commerce (V)

PALOUSE BASIN AQUIFER committee

**Denotes Action Items*

1) Introductions

Meeting called to order at 2:01pm. Roundtable of introductions of in person and online participants.

2) *Approval of Minutes

a. August 18, 2022 Meeting - [attached](#)

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Motion: | Approve August 18, 2022, Minutes |
| Mover: | Gina Taruscio |
| Second: | Paul Kimmel |
| Result: | ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED |

3) Public Comment for Items not on Agenda ([Video Link 04:17](#))

The [attached](#) letter was received in June. A response was provided from PBAC.

There was an editorial in the Moscow-Pullman Daily News by Terrance Day. Discussion regarding the content, how or if PBAC should respond, etc. Co-Chair Tyler Palmer and Paul Kimmel will draft a response for the paper. Overall, the recent press is positive as it is starting a community conversation.

4) Presentations/Discussion ([Video Link 09:22](#))

a. Recap of Moscow and Pullman City Council Presentations

Overall, presentations were positive. PBAC should capture questions asked and follow up with answers for the councils and explain PBAC's next steps. These questions/answers will also help to craft an FAQ page.

b. Discuss Next Steps for Public Outreach & Research Refinement

Subcommittees will be meeting next week to dive deeper into these topics, but overall, both need to have a timeline.

- Ideas for Outreach include: county fairs, 4th graders, girl/boy scouts, PCEI, Palouse Science Discovery Center, farmers market. Social media posts could include "question of the day" for the FAQs around the alternatives.
- Ideas for Research include: prioritizing questions needed answered, potentially having a colloquium/workshop to work out data gaps/next steps

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c. Leadership Roundtable Goals

The roundtable is slated for early November. Discussion of what PBAC is hoping to gain from it. An exercise in prioritization for leaders. PBAC should open with the positives (less decline even with population growth, average use is X but in the Palouse it's Y, etc.) while also explaining the necessity for moving an alternative forward. PBAC needs to provide talking points for leaders to take away with them – digestible Q&A facts based in science.

5) Unfinished Business

a. None

6) New Business

a. None

7) Subcommittee Reports ([Video Link 55:29](#))

a. Budget

Scheduled for October 3. Will discuss funding increases and if rewording the “research” budget would be beneficial.

b. Communications

Scheduled for September 19. Will have a brainstorm session to rename the alternatives, focus on public engagement planning, and preparing for the SEG meeting in October.

c. Research

Scheduled for September 20. Will discuss next steps with the groundwater model and research prioritization.

8) Other Reports and Announcements ([Video Link 1:01:31](#))

a. FY23 Assessments

All member entities were sent invoices in August. University of Idaho and City of Pullman has paid but no one else at this time.

b. Next Member Entity Presentations Scheduled in September

Presentations/Meetings with the Counties and Universities are in the next two weeks.

c. Upcoming October Events

Pullman Chamber Luncheon, SEG meeting and Water Summit are in October.

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d. Other Items brought up

- IDWR provide a status update of the Mountain View Park monitoring well project. Delay due to waiting list for a well driller. Potentially 1-2 years.
- Discussion was had on the WDOE monitoring sites and battery replacement and if PBAC should insert their own loggers into the wells. Folks will bring together a proposal for PBAC to review.
- IDWR had a Water College event on August 26. Michelle Richman provided a brief update/overview on the Basin.

9) Next PBAC Meetings:

- a. **October's Meeting cancelled due to Palouse Basin Water Summit**
- b. **November's Meeting: Thursday, November 17th at 2:00pm**

10) **Adjourn** at 3:22pm

Minutes Adopted at the November 17, 2022 PBAC Meeting

PALOUSE BASIN AQUIFER committee

MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022, 2:00 PM
UI, FACILITIES SERVICES CENTER, JACK'S CREEK MEETING ROOM
<https://uidaho.zoom.us/j/82719054247> (Passcode: PBAC)

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Approval of Minutes
 - a. August 18, 2022 Meeting
- 3) Public Comment for Items not on Agenda
- 4) Presentations/Discussion
 - a. Recap of Moscow and Pullman City Council Presentations
 - b. Discuss Next Steps for Public Outreach & Research Refinement
 - c. Leadership Roundtable Goals
- 5) Unfinished Business
 - a. None
- 6) New Business
 - a. None
- 7) Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Budget
 - b. Communications
 - c. Research
- 8) Other Reports and Announcements
 - a. FY23 Assessments
 - b. Next Member Entity Presentations Scheduled in September
 - c. Upcoming October Events
- 9) Next PBAC Meetings:
 - a. October's Meeting cancelled due to Palouse Basin Water Summit
 - b. November's Meeting: Thursday, November 17th at 2:00pm
- 10) Adjourn

PALOUSE BASIN AQUIFER committee

DRAFT MINUTES

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022, 2:00 PM
UI, FACILITIES SERVICES CENTER, JACK'S CREEK MEETING ROOM

Attendance

X: In-person attendance **V:** Video attendance

| | | | |
|----------|--|----------|--|
| X | Pullman: Cara Haley (Chair), City Engineer | X | Moscow: Tyler Palmer (Vice-Chair), Deputy Director, Public Works & Services |
| | Pullman: Shawn Kohtz, Director of Public Works | V | Moscow: Mike Parker Water Utility Manager |
| | Pullman: Eileen Maccoll, City Council Member | X | Moscow: Gina Taruscio, City Council Member |
| X | Whitman County: Mark Storey Public Works Director/County Engineer | X | Latah County: Paul Kimmell, Citizen/County Representative |
| | Whitman County: Tom Handy, County Commissioner | X | Latah County: Tom Lamar, County Commissioner |
| V | WSU: Jeff Lannigan, Facilities Services | | UI: Tim Link, Professor of Hydrology |
| | WSU: Jason Sampson, Asst Director, Environmental Services | | UI: Rusty Vineyard, Director of Facilities |
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| V | WA, Dept of Ecology: Chris Beard Hydrogeologist | | ID, Water Resources: Daniel Sturgis, Hydrogeologist |

Others:

Céline Acord, PBAC Executive Director (X)
Steve Robischon, PBAC Technical Advisor (V)
Robin Nimmer, Alta Science and Engineering (X)

Community Members:

Bill Spence, Lewiston Tribune/Daily News (X)
Colt Shelton, JUB Engineers (V)
David (V)
David Dalby (V)
A Thompkins (V)

PALOUSE BASIN AQUIFER committee

**Denotes Action Items*

1) Introductions

Meeting called to order at 2:02pm. Roundtable of introductions of in person and online participants.

2) *Approval of Minutes

- a. June 16, 2022, Meeting
- b. July 28, 2022, Workshop

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Motion: | Approve June 16 and July 28, 2022, Minutes |
| Mover: | Co-Chair Tyler Palmer |
| Second: | Mark Storey |
| Result: | ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED |

3) Public Comment for Items not on Agenda

None

4) Presentations/Discussion

None

5) Unfinished Business ([Video Link 01:49](#))

a. Extend Alta Contract

This item was placed under “Unfinished Business” to confirm nothing changed from what was discussed at last month’s meeting. That is the case so no action was taken. The contract extension will be for \$50,000.00 with Alta Science & Engineering for **attached** scope of work, to include but not limited to assisting with outreach and refining next steps. The original contract was setup through City of Moscow so the extension will be as well. It is scheduled for the Moscow City Council Public Hearing on September 6th.

6) New Business ([Video Link 05:56](#))

a. *Adopt Final Water Supply Alternative Study Report

Co-Chair Tyler Palmer reiterated that the recommendations of Alta and PBAC are not final but stressed the importance of moving forward in a positive direction on refining next steps.

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Motion: | Adopt the Final Report |
| Mover: | Paul Kimmel |
| Second: | Co-Chair Tyler Palmer |
| Result: | ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED |

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b. Budget Report

Executive Director Céline Acord gave a budget update. No action taken.

c. *Budget Request

Executive Director Céline Acord presented the **attached** budget request to attend a conference and pay membership fees.

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Motion: | Approve the budget request |
| Mover: | Co-Chair Tyler Palmer |
| Second: | Gina Taruscio |
| Result: | ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED |

7) Subcommittee Reports ([Video Link 18:21](#))

No action items. Discussion was around scheduling subcommittee meetings on a more regular cadence so there can be report updates at future meetings.

a. Budget

None

b. Communications

Paul Kimmel provided an update for the upcoming outreach and engagement planned with the **attached** document. PBAC's recommendation for the water alternative supply project will be presented to the member entities throughout the month of September, cumulating with the Water Summit in October. Next steps are to finalize a Leadership Roundtable date and reactivate the Stakeholder Engagement Group (SEG). The Communications Subcommittee will be scheduling more regular meetings to plan out broader community outreach in the coming months and into next year.

c. Research

None

8) Other Reports and Announcements ([Video Link 31:06](#))

a. FY23 Assessments Issued

All member entities were sent invoices. University of Idaho has paid but no one else at this time.

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b. Latah County ARPA Funding Awarded

Paul Kimmel provided an update that a meeting with Latah County and University of Idaho counsel's are scheduled to occur to discuss how funds are transferred.

c. Meeting with Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Roger

Executive Director Céline Acord gave an update that she and Paul Kimmel and other community members were able to speak and provide updates to the Congresswoman in early August.

d. Member Entity Presentations scheduled in September

Discussed earlier with the Communications Subcommittee update. But further discussion was had to ensure the messaging over the next few weeks will be critical. Also, meetings need to be scheduled with other entities including the state agencies, tribes and fisheries.

e. Leadership Roundtable TBD

Executive Director Céline Acord gave an update that coordinating times and schedules are still occurring but to expect the Roundtable to occur in early November.

9) Next PBAC Meetings:

- a. **Thursday, September 15, 2022, 2:00 pm**
- b. **October's Meeting to be Cancelled due to Water Summit – Tuesday, October 18, 2022, 4:30-8:00 pm**

10) Adjourn at 3:05pm

1045 NE Creston Lane
Pullman, WA 99163

June 10, 2022

Mr Steve Robischon,
Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee
P.O. Box 443301
University of Idaho
Moscow, ID 83844-3301

Dear Mr Robischon,

Successive Palouse water summits have confirmed the perilous state of water supplies on the Palouse.

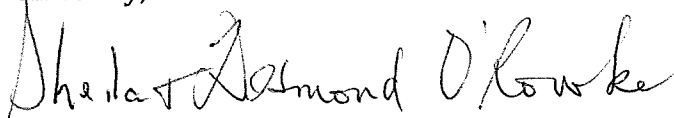
You may have seen a recent issue of the Spokesman Review that indicates one major source of water that is freely available but largely untapped. The writer, Tim Carter, asserts that each inch of rain falling on a 1,600 square foot roof generates over 1,000 gallons of water.

We suggest that PBAC investigates how investment in water storage facilities could be encouraged for city buildings, university buildings, home builders and individual homeowners. Such stored water could be tapped when needed. No less a company than Microsoft Corporation is already doing this on its Washington state campus.

The City of Pullman could take the lead among communities on the Palouse in helping to alleviate concerns about adequate water supplies to support a growing population.

We would be happy to respond to any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Sheila and Desmond O'Rourke
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Email: odesmond515@gmail.com