

Lake Walcott Watershed Advisory Group

Meeting Minutes

Burley City Council Room
Burley, Idaho
Thursday February 20, 2014
7:00 pm

ATTENDEES:

Mike Beus – Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)
Rich Bupp- DEQ-TFRO
Tom Geary - Rancher
Carolyn Firth – Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission (ISWCC)
Sonny Buhidar – DEQ- TFRO
Reid Beck – Burley Irrigation District
Pat McCammon – Rancher
Dan Davidson – Minidoka Irrigation District
Katie Shewmaker - DEQ-TFRO

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:05 p.m. by Chairman, Tom Geary. Everyone in attendance was welcomed and each of the attendees introduced themselves and whom they represented at the meeting.

Wag Business

- The minutes from the previous Lake Walcott Watershed Advisory Group meeting on July 25, 2013, were reviewed and approved as written.
- Due to a scheduling conflict Sean Woodhead was not available to present on the 2014 Burp Monitoring. He will present at the next meeting.

Marsh Creek E. coli and Temperature TMDL

Rich Bupp presented on the final Marsh Creek Temperature PNV and E. coli TMDL. The document was sent out for public comment and DEQ only received comments from EPA. No changes were made to the PNV TMDL. EPA requested an adjustment to the presentation of the E. coli data and tables. Rich presented a map and a visual demonstration to explain the reductions needed in the two Marsh Creek segments. The document was submitted to EPA in December and is pending approval.

House Bill 271

Sonny Buhidar presented information on House Bill 271 that was approved by the Idaho State Legislature last year. The drafting of the bill stemmed from members of the Lower Boise WAG's concern that DEQ did not consult for WAG input when defining existing uses. The purpose of the bill was to amend existing law to clarify DEQ director's considerations in designating beneficial uses and to provide that the director consult with BAGs and WAGs. This legislation updates water quality statutes that authorize DEQ to designate, revise and assess the statuses of beneficial uses for Idaho water bodies. It requires the consideration of hydrologic and atmospheric conditions, and that DEQ consult with BAGs/WAGs when designating, revising or assessing the status of beneficial uses.

DEQ Updates

Katie Shewmaker presented on the following updates:

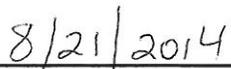
- Integrated Report: The final report was submitted to EPA and DEQ is waiting for their response. The timeframe on the data call for the 2014 Integrated Report has closed. DEQ received few outside data submittals. If anyone has data they would like to submit, they can contact Nicole Deinarowicz at the DEQ state office.
- DEQ Five Year Review and Schedule: DEQ will be working on the Camas Five Year Review this year.
- 319 Projects: The Super BAG met in December to discuss the applications for the FY2014 319 Grants. They decided not to disclose their rankings until the EPA funding amount was determined in the spring and arrived at the state office. Katie presented a 319 video – Clean Water, 319 and Two Guys Named Jeff. This video was funded by the three Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Twin Falls.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Tom Geary at approximately 9:30 p.m.



WAG Chairman



Date