



IDAHO WASHINGTON AQUIFER COLLABORATIVE

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 Mike Galante - President
 Ty Wick - Vice President
 Bryan St. Clair - Secretary
 Alan Miller - Treasurer

The Idaho Washington Aquifer Collaborative (IWAC) works to maintain and enhance water quality and quantity for present and future generations by developing management strategies which benefit the Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer and the Spokane River region.

December 9, 2014, 1:30 – 3:45 PM, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District
 Representatives Present

	Organization	Representative	Email Address
√	Avista	Linda Kiefer	Linda.Kiefer@avistacorp.com
	Avondale Irrigation District	Bob Chandler	bobchandlercda@gmail.com
	Bar Circle S Water Company	Rob Turnipseed	avondalecon@frontier.com
	City of Coeur d’Alene	Jim Markley	jimm@cdaid.org
√	City of Post Falls	John Beacham Matthew Isch	jbeacham@postfallsidaho.org misch@postfallsidaho.org
	City of Spokane RPWRF	Mike Coster	mcoster@spokanecity.org
	City of Spokane Water Department	Dan Kegley Bill Rickard	dkegley@spokanecity.org brickard@spokanecity.org
√	Coeur d’Alene Tribe of Indians	Laura Laumatia	llaumatia@cdatribe-nsn.gov
√	Consolidated Irrigation District No. 19	Bob Ashcraft	consolidatedirrigation@comcast.net
√		Shane Sheppard	
	East Greenacres Irrigation District	Ron Wilson	ron@eastgreenacres.org
	Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board	Ken Windram Shirley Carter	ken@harsb.org
√	Hayden Lake Irrigation District	Alan Miller	alan@haydenirrigation.com
√	Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District	BiJay Adams	bijay@libertylake.org
√		Jeremy Jenkins	jjenkins@libertylake.org
	Moab Irrigation District	Kathleen Small	kathleensmall@comcast.net
√	Model Irrigation District	Jim Lahde	jimlahde@netzero.net
√	Modern Electric Water Company	Bryan St Clair	bstclair@mewco.com
√	North Kootenai Water & Sewer District	Mike Galante	mikeg@nkwsd.com
√	SAJB Program Leader	Tonilee Hanson	sajbinfo@gmail.com

√	Spokane Co. Water Resources	Rob Lindsay	rlindsay@spokanecounty.org
√	Spokane County Water District No. 3	Ty Wick	scwd3@comcast.net
	Spokane Tribe of Indians	Brian Crossley	crossley@spokanetribe.com
√	Vera Water and Power	Todd Henry	thentry@verewaterandpower.com
	Guest Speakers		
√	City Idaho Water Engineering	Bob Haynes	bob@idahowaterengineering.com
√	Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee (PBAC)	Steve Robischon	pbac@uidaho.edu
	Guests		
√	City of Spokane Valley	Art Jenkins	ajenkins@spokanevalley.org
√	City of Spokane Valley	Henry Allen	hallen@spokanevalley.org
√	Department of Health Drinking Water	Craig Riley	Craig.Riley@doh.wa.gov
√	ID Department of Environmental Quality	Gary Stevens	gary.stevens@deq.idaho.gov
√	University of Idaho – Water Education	Jim Ekins	jekins@uidaho.edu
√	Washington State University	Melanie Thornton	melanie.thornton@email.wsu.edu
√	Spokane Valley City Council	Rod Higgins	Rod.higgins@spokanevalley.org
√	Spokane Valley City Council	Ed Pace	ed.pace@spokanevalley.org
√	Spokane Valley City Council	Arne Woodard	awoodard@spokanevalley.org
	2 additional guests did not sign in		

AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions - President Mike Galante opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Representatives of IWAC and guests introduced themselves.

Agenda Additions – President Galante called for additions or revisions to the Agenda and no changes were requested.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – President Galante called for additions or revisions to the Minutes for October 14, 2014. Linda Kiefer suggested alternate wording for the last discussion bullet on page 4. The suggested wording reads as follows, *“Perceived value of water by residential users appears to vary in areas of scarcity vs. plenty. Can a modeling scenario capture this difference, or can the issue be more adequately addressed through educational outreach opportunities?”* President Galante called for discussion. The members present agreed by consensus to adopt the revised wording.

Financial Report – Treasurer Alan Miller submitted financial reports for October through December 2014

Income

\$ 0.00 No new membership income was received
 \$ 0.74 Sept-October Interest Income
 \$ 0.40 November Interest Income

Expenses

\$ 347.60 IWAC facilitation August
 \$ 620.58 IWAC Facilitation September & October
 \$1,500.00 IWAC Administration Jan – Dec 2014 to SAJB

Year to Date Income from Membership Dues

\$5,500.00

Year to Date Income from Interest

\$ 3.69

Year to Date Expenses

\$3,821.18

Current Account Balance

\$6,380.66

Old Business

Our Gem Coeur d'Alene Lake Symposium November 18, 2014 and the **Spokane River Forum Conference** November 19 – 20, 2014, CDA Resort – Feedback. The Our Gem Symposium and SRF Conference received many favorable comments from IWAC members and guests. The general consensus was that the plenary and break-out sessions were informative and the variety of sessions covered a range of important regional topics. President Galante encouraged IWAC members to begin planning for greater participation in the next conference.

New Business**Guest Speaker - Steve Robischon, Executive Director Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee**

The Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee (PBAC) was formed in 1967 because of declining groundwater levels in municipal wells. The Palouse groundwater basin is the sole source of water for over 50,000 residents of Pullman, WA and Moscow, ID and outlying areas in both Whitman County (WA) and Latah County (ID). PBAC is a multi-jurisdictional, cooperative group with the mission of ensuring a safe and sustainable supply of water for the future. For more information about PBAC go to <http://www.webpages.uidaho.edu/pbac/>

Steve Robischon was asked to address the lessons learned by PBAC that might assist in the long term success of IWAC. With great humor and wisdom, Steve said he would share lessons that had been learned and re-learned many times by PBAC and “hopefully” would assist IWAC. Steve’s presentation included a look at the history, geology, hydrology, water law and modeling of the Palouse basin water conditions from 1882 to the present as well as the economic, social and political considerations that shaped the region’s decisions. Defining events in Moscow, Idaho and Pullman Washington were included in Steve’s very informative talk using archived newspaper accounts, postcards, photos, letters, state statutes, model diagrams, proposed water projects and the “1992 Ground Water Management Plan”.

The lessons learned and re-learned that Steve highlighted were:

1. Encourage Adaptive Management – i.e., check models against reality and revise the models when they don’t match what is actually occurring based on measurable data.
2. Keep the community informed. Solicit community opinions about issues under discussion and get them on board.

3. Leverage outside money from IDWR, Ecology and other sources wherever possible
4. Managing goals requires numbers to know if the plan is working.
5. The Palouse basin community can't conserve its way out of a declining aquifer. Other solutions, in addition to using less water, need to be considered such as, finding new sources of surface water and using reclaimed water.

PBAC is currently creating a menu of options for addressing the declining aquifer. They are collecting all existing studies and proposed water projects and developing a uniform format that includes legal considerations, cost, risks, feasibility and the pros and cons for each project.

Steve's 12/9/14 IWAC presentation is available at <http://www.spokaneaquifer.org/steve-robischon-executive-director-pbac/>.

A wide ranging discussion followed. Below are some of ideas and questions, however, this does not represent the full extent of the detailed conversation.

- The Palouse aquifer demonstrates that historically planners sat down and worked together across state lines. There were MOUs and water agencies were abiding by each state's rules. This is good news and can apply here in the SVRP aquifer.
- The questions of, "Who should pay for projects?" and "How do we get competing interests to view the aquifer as a single regional resource?" are applicable for IWAC.
- Building long-term relationships is essential to the success of a group but it can also have participants overlook issues out of respect for those long-term relationships.
- Some level of urgency and momentum is needed to keep groups working toward a purpose.
- Land and water management planning are regulated by different agencies. To create comprehensive plans land and water need to be considered together but state agencies keep the two management areas separate.
- Considering economic development is essential to decisions around ground and surface water. Political leaders, water purveyors and other interest groups have felt their voices were not considered when state agencies made rulings.
- Collaborative modeling is designed for the purpose of getting all stakeholders to the table to discuss water management.
- Use of reclaimed Water is regulated differently in ID and WA and it is unclear how a future regional project using reclaimed water could be impacted by those differences. It was recommended that Keith Stoffel at Ecology and his counterpart in ID be invited to address current law and possible future scenarios.
- The Palouse Basin Water Summit is held annually in October. The Summit attracts nationally recognized speakers and provides public outreach. For more information about the Water Summit go to palousewatersummit.org. Steve Robischon's 2014 Water Summit PBAC update is available at <http://www.webpages.uidaho.edu/pbac/>.

Updates Around the Table

- President Mike Galante expressed gratitude and congratulations to Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District for their leadership in the Lakemore project which protected the aquifer from 700 wells each 450 feet deep.
- Gary Stevens, IDEQ reported that the 2015 Aquifer Atlas update is 2-3 month from completion and making significant progress. Jim Ekins, University of Idaho Water Extension is working with his students to assemble a teaching guide companion for the new atlas.
- Bob Ashcraft is retiring this month after 20+ years as General Manager of Consolidated Irrigation District (CID) No. 19 and Vice President of the Spokane Aquifer Joint Board. Shane Sheppard will become the General Manager at CID #19. Congratulations to both Bob and Shane.

Agenda for January 13, 2015

Guest Speaker – **Dale Ralston - Hydrogeology: Ground Water Pumping and River Flows.** Dale will discuss results of the bi-state numerical model, the impacts of ground-water pumping on the Spokane River, the hydraulics of the river/aquifer system and related spreadsheet tools. The Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Pumping Effects Spreadsheet Single Well Version and Multiple Well Version are available at

http://www.idwr.idaho.gov/WaterBoard/WaterPlanning/CAMP/RP_CAMP/2010docs.htm

Handouts: Agenda, 10/14/14 meeting minutes, Treasurer's reports for October and December 2014

Previous IWAC meeting agendas, minutes, supporting documents and presentations can be found at <http://www.spokaneaquifer.org/category/iwac/iwac-agendas-minutes/> and <http://www.spokaneaquifer.org/idaho-washington-aquifer-collaborative/initiatives/>