



IDAHO WASHINGTON AQUIFER COLLABORATIVE

2160 West Dakota Ave.
 Hayden, ID 83835-5122
 208.772.2612
 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.

February 10, 2015, 1:30 – 4:00 PM, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District
 Representatives Present

	Organization	Representative	Email Address
√	Avista	Michele Drake Linda Kiefer	Michele.drake@avistacorp.com 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	Shane Sheppard	consolidatedirrigation@comcast.net
√	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 Rick Neal	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	thenry@verawaterandpower.com
	Guest Speakers		
√	City Idaho Water Engineering	Bob Haynes	bob@idahowaterengineering.com
	Guests		
	City of Spokane, Environmental Programs	Doug Greenlund	dgreenlund@spokanecity.org
	City of Spokane Valley	Aaron Clary	aclary@spokanevalley.org
	City of Spokane Valley	Art Jenkins	ajenkins@spokanevalley.org
√	City of Spokane Valley	Henry Allen	hallen@spokanevalley.org
	IDWR	Giovanni Del Papa	Gio.delpapa@idwr.idaho.gov
	IDWR	Keith Franklin	Keith.franklin@idwr.idaho.gov
	K & L Gates	Brian Werst	Brian.Werst@klgates.com
√	University of Idaho – Water Education	Jim Ekins	jekins@uidaho.edu
	WA Department of Ecology	Guy Gregory	ggre461@ecy.wa.gov
	WA Department of Ecology	John Covert	Jcou461@ecy.wa.gov
	WA DOH Drinking Water	Craig Riley	Craig.Riley@doh.wa.gov
	Washington State University	Melanie Thornton	melanie.thornton@email.wsu.edu
	Welch Comer Engineers	Ashley Williams	awilliams@welchcomer.com
√	Idaho Water Users Assn.	Norm Semanko	
√	University of Idaho, Environmental Science Intern	Todd Higen	

AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions - President Mike Galante opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

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 January 13, 2014. Hearing none the minutes were approved as submitted.

Financial Report – Treasurer Alan Miller submitted financial reports for January 2015.

\$7,349.51 2015 Beginning Balance

2015 Income

\$5,000.00 from five water purveyors: Coeur d’Alene city, Spokane city, Post Falls city, Hayden Lake Irrigation and Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District.

\$.36 Interest Income YTD

\$ 5000.36 Total Income YTD

2014 Expenses

\$ 340.30 Bob Haynes facilitation December 2014

\$ 340.36 Total 2015 Expenses YTD

Current Account Balance

\$ 12,009.21

Old Business

Request for IWAC Letter of Support – Jim Ekins, Area Water Educator, UI Extension, Northern District wrote a Grant Proposal for **Stormwater/Clean River Interpretive Trail**. President Galante prepared and mailed a letter of support on IWAC letterhead.

Spokane River Instream Flow Rule and Implementation – Ty Wick reported that the Spokane River Instream Flow rule was adopted on January 27, 2015 and takes effect on February 27, 2015. Ecology purchased a water right from Central Premix to mitigate for new exempt wells that might need to be installed after February 27, 2015. The water right of approximately 400 acre feet was reduced to approximately 212 acre feet. The purchased water right had been placed in the state water trust and because the purpose was for industrial use it will have to go through the water right change application process to change the water right place of use and the purpose to municipal, which is subject to appeals.

At a recent WRIA 54-57 meeting, Rusty Post, Ecology, explained that the water right was put into trust to mitigate water needs for residential parcels that could not be provided water by public purveyors. Ecology is determining how the water right will be administered. Rusty Post asked to attend the SAJB meeting on 2/19/15 to discuss the process. Susan McGeorge and Ty Wick asked for clarification on a possible future scenario. If Ecology provides a mitigated water right from the water trust and the water service is later turned over to a public water system will that water right be turned over to the water system? In this scenario, Ecology is currently planning that the water right would be returned to the water trust.

Discussion included the following questions and comments:

Ecology's Process:

- Ecology is not planning to charge for the water right but public money was used to purchase the water right.

Need:

- How will this water trust process for single family residents support the type of building that is actually happening?
- Some water systems in the Spokane Valley are still annexing properties into their districts but many water systems have no room to expand or they are transitioning from irrigation to residential /commercial water service.
- The Instream flow rule is not optimum for either type of the fish for which the rule is intended to protect.

Water Rights:

- Ecology will likely deny existing water right applications that have been pending for over 20 years in some cases. The Ecology notion that the lack of new water rights can be solved by water purveyors "sharing" or relinquishing some of their water rights to other purveyors is not in keeping with water law.

- WA State law allows 5,000 gallon/day for exempt wells. Susan McGeorge, Whitworth Water District, is working to get credit when service for an exempt well is transferred to the water system. To date, Ecology is not willing to grant the amount established in the state law.
- Water rights must be put to “beneficial use” or be subject to relinquishment.
- How much land is available with water rights that could be purchased?

Examples Outside of Spokane River:

- A similar process was implemented in Walla Walla but there was a Water Master and tighter controls.
- Some Stevens’s County farmers who want to stop farming but don’t want to lose the water rights are placing them into the state trust until the land can be sold and the water put to beneficial use again.
- Spokane and Stevens Counties are considering an inter-basin transfer to pump water from the Pend Oreille River into the Little Spokane River; but this would do nothing for Little Spokane River tributaries.
- In the Little Spokane watershed, numerous water rights, were issued after the instream flow rule was adopted; however they were not made subject to the Little Spokane River instream flow rule. Since western water law states: “First in time, First in right”, an adjudication could quickly establish priority dates that would result in curtailment of these water rights when instream flows are not met.

New Business

IWAC Member Workshop to discuss Executive Board meeting ideas sent on 1/14/15.

Possible Future Meeting Topics:

1. What would a Bi-State Solution Look Like? This is more of the legal side of what options are available to both states for formulation of a long term solution to water needs. Invite attorneys Chris Meyer and Rick Eichstaedt to speak.

Discussion included the following summarized topics:

IWAC goals and common objectives need to be understood before we move forward on solutions. How do we view things in common? Do we have an agreement of a bi-state issue? We need to do our work before we investigate state solutions.

IWAC needs to know if it is working on an objective that is not legally obtainable and what legal underpinnings would be required for structure and certainty. Existing precedence for bi-state water agreements occurs at a federal level unless the agreement is informal. However, if the agreement is informal there is no power to enforce such an agreement. IWAC may develop solutions to bi-state issues that require us to advocate for changes in state legislatures.

2. Moving forward on an IWAC model. This would be a combination of the Spokane County Model and the new IWRRI Demand Study done in ARC GIS. Previously, the membership determined that it was worthwhile to have a model that both states can use and share a common way of measuring. Invite Mark Solomon from IWRRI to present the new study.

Discussion included the following summarized topics:

IWAC Water Demand Model Format:

- The IWAC water demand model would build on the Spokane County model and incorporate GIS capability. A GIS based relational model, spreadsheet and map with key identifiers would be easy to modify and change as land use changes.
- The Spokane County model utilizes GIS to identify consumptive and non-consumptive water use and census tracks. Spokane County gathers data which is required by the WA DOH. Some of the data is not required in Idaho, however, population data tied to census and transit planning are available in both states. The 11-15 major Idaho water purveyors could agree to supply the water use data needed for the model on an annual basis.
- The Spokane County water demand model is a water resource management tool but the Idaho model is a planning document. If each state needs to have unique data there could be a way to merge the data bases.

IWAC Water Demand Model Development: Several scenarios were discussed for developing a proposal, scope of work and budget for the IWAC model.

- Work with a third party consulting firm that has no vested interest and is acceptable to both states.
- Ask Rob Lindsay and Mike Hermanson at Spokane County to put the initial framework together and then get a 3rd party for verification of the model.
- Use the same company with which Spokane County contracted for the initial model then go to Mike and Rob for the revisions they implemented.
- Have a group of IWAC members work on an initial draft and path forward. Form a subcommittee to meet with Rob and Mike, get an outline of a scope of work and put together a request to IDWR. Mike Galante may be able to get his engineers at Welch Comer to do some pro-bono work to write the proposal.

IWAC Water Demand Model Funding:

- CAMP has available funds and one of the CAMP goals is to minimize areas of conflict between Idaho and Washington states. Having a common water use management tool is one way to reduce conflict. IWAC needs to build relationships with advisory committees and encourage the Idaho Water Resources Board of the value of a regional water demand model.
- WSU has funding for basin research but is not likely to allocate funds for water demand.
- The Regional Water Demand Model needs to be wholly owned by IWAC and not a consultant.

IWAC Water Demand Model Hosting: Where would IWAC house, maintain and update the model with annual information from water purveyors on water use.

- Idaho water purveyors do not have an organization like SAJB. IWAC could develop a website on which to host the demand model but does it make sense to have separate models hosted in each state? The hosting entity could be a university, city or Kootenai County.
- The Aquifer Protection District (APD) is not an option. The APD is organized for protecting water quality not quantity and is currently struggling with requests from the forest service for gauging quality issues. APD would require matching funds and cannot pay for ongoing maintenance.
- IWRRRI is a research organization and couldn't maintain the model for ID because it would be updating an existing model not performing research.

IWAC Water Demand Model Possible Next Steps: An IWAC subcommittee comprised of Henry Allen, Alan Miller, Bob Haynes, Ron Wilson, Mike Galante and BiJay Adams was formed. The subcommittee will determine what is needed to assemble a scope of work. Mike Galante will talk to the principals at Welch Comer to request their assistance in preparing the scope of work and proposal. Data, previously provided by Rob Lindsay and Mike Hermanson, will be reviewed. Ron Wilson will set up shared Google docs for the subcommittee to use for collecting and reviewing information.

- Subcommittee members meet with Rob and Mike RE:
 - i. additional data as needed
 - ii. additional elements (e.g., GIS)
 - iii. how to integrate the Idaho and Spokane County models into a regional model
 - Ask Mark Solomon, IWRRRI, to identify discrepancies or differences (i.e. planning vs. water resource management) between the Idaho and Washington demand models.
 - Write the proposal and scope of work.
 - Submit the proposal to CAMP as a solution to resolving potential bi-state conflict through a common method of measuring water use and future demand across the SVRP aquifer region.
 - Get approval to move the proposal to the Idaho Water Resources Board for funding.
 - Talk to Kootenai County GIS department to determine how much work it will take to develop, house and maintain a regional water demand model.
 - Present proposal to Kootenai County Commissioners.
3. Wastewater dischargers. We need to re-invite the major point source dischargers to the meetings and encourage their input and participation. They have a different slant on the river, reuse, storm water, and where they are going in the future.

Discussion included the following summarized ideas: Bob Haynes expressed the importance of integrating the concerns of the dischargers with IWAC goals in an effort to make IWAC a more pertinent group for dischargers.

The dischargers meet as the Spokane River Stewardship Partners (SRSP) and are very busy dealing with their direct concerns. BiJay Adam, John Beacham and Ken Windram participate in SRSP and IWAC and can be liaisons between the two groups. SRSP's next meeting is 2/24/15. An SRSP update will be added as a regular part the IWAC Agenda.

4. Water Quality. Perhaps we should designate a member to be a liaison to the Toxic Taskforce group.

Discussion included the following summarized ideas: PCBs and groundwater is an upcoming topic. One idea presented for consideration was to hold an annual meeting to focus on topics of interest to both the Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force (SRRTTF) and IWAC. This does occur at the Spokane River Forum but an even more targeted discussion might be useful. An IWAC agenda item will be added for monthly SRTTF updates.

5. Review IWAC Goals. Let's take what we've learned and write down some thoughts that apply to meeting our goals. Maybe we need to review and adjust our goals?

This agenda item was tabled due to time constraints.

Possible Subcommittees: Subcommittees are not active all of the time only as a need is identified.

1. **Water Use subcommittee.** Compile ideas for wise water use, conservation and water use efficiency to implement into our service areas and create a cohesive regional message.

Subcommittee volunteers are: Ty Wick, Linda Kiefer and Todd Henry.

Discussion focused on the difference in perception between the terms 'conservation' and 'efficiency'. The general perception is that water is being taken away with conservation whereas efficiency is perceived as being smart about use, handling leaks and saving money. Given the discussion the committee will be called 'Water Use' rather than conservation.

- Washington DOH Drinking Water Division requires water systems submit a water efficiency plan with specific measurable targets for reducing water loss through fixing leaking pipes and other strategies.
- IDWR requires conservation plans be submitted when there is a new filing or a change of an existing filing. If there is no change the groundwater management plan does not require a conservation plan. North Kootenai Water and Sewer District and the City of Post Falls have completed conservation plans.

Possible Next Step: Develop an IWAC Water Use Survey gathering regional water efficiency and conservation strategies. Review the 2014 survey format Alan Miller drafted and modify as needed.

2. **Water Demand Model subcommittee.** Provide the membership with ideas on funding and hosting an IWAC Model. Answer questions on what would the IWAC model look like and how would we use it?

Subcommittee volunteers are: Henry Allen, Alan Miller, Bob Haynes, Ron Wilson, Mike Galante and Bijay Adams. Alan Miller and Mike Galante will gather and send materials to subcommittee members and set a meeting date via Doodle Poll. (See meeting notes above pages 5-7).

3. **Public Awareness and Education Sub-Committee.** Develop a public awareness of IWAC, who we are and what we're planning to do.

Subcommittee volunteers are: Jim Ekins and Jeremy Jenkins.

Updates Around the Table

Mike Galante reported that Allyson Beall King and Melanie Thornton are thinking about an October meeting to bring all groups together for a WISDM grant symposium. WSU is funding the event so there will be no cost to participants.

Tonilee Hanson reported that Kootenai County is managing the 2015 Aquifer Atlas printing contract and taking pre-orders. Letters of commitment were mailed to organizations which purchased the 2009 atlas in an effort to determine the number of 2015 atlases to print.

Agenda for March, 2015

Mark Solomon will be requested to present the Idaho future water demand model. If Mark is not available, Bob Haynes will present a spreadsheet model. Alternating guest speakers and IWAC member workshops every other meeting gives two months for subcommittees to achieve results.

Handouts: Agenda, 1/13/15 meeting minutes, Treasurer's reports for January 2015, Membership Invitation Letter ***"Who we are, why we are here and why your participation in IWAC is important."***

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/>