



# Lower Boise Watershed Council

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
IDEQ State Offices  
Thursday, January 14, 2010 - 7:30 p.m.

**Attendees:** See attached sign-in sheet.

Meeting called to order, introductions made. The minutes from the November 10, 2009, meeting were reviewed and approved by the Directors.

## **Director Business – Tom Dupuis and Dan Steenson**

Tom indicated that Dennis Searle needs to step down from his position on the Board and suggests that Robert Braun from Amalgamated Sugar take his role. Bob introduced himself and provided some background on his interests and professional history (IDEQ, Heinz, Micron, and now the Corporate Environmental Engineering Manager for Amalgamated). A motion to accept Bob as a new Board member passed unanimously.

Dan provided an update with respect to Flood District #10. Jack McLeod's health has prevented him from actively participating in recent history, and Dan spoke with the Flood District to identify an alternative member. The Flood District is interested in continuing their role on the Board and suggested that either another Board member or their consulting engineer replace Jack on the LBWC Board. Dan indicated the district was still discussing their preferred approach and he would provide an update at the February meeting.

## **Boise General Investigation – Ellen Berggren, USACE**

Ellen provided a presentation on the current phase of the General Investigation (GI), which is the Lower Boise River Interim Feasibility Study. The purpose of this phase is to develop a multi-purpose plan for the Lower Boise River that will reduce flood risk, meet future water supply needs, and restore aquatic and riparian ecosystems. This phase began in June 2009 and is expected to be complete in April 2012. The primary tasks associated with the current phase of work are to: summarize existing conditions, evaluate current flood damage extent and economic analysis of the potential flood risk, perform a water storage analysis, and plan the next study phase. This project is being conducted in parallel with the Treasure Valley CAMP process, which will require coordinated planning efforts. The deliverable from this phase will include an Interim Feasibility Report that will contain an existing conditions description, a water storage assessment, a floodplain inventory, and a scope of work to complete the Feasibility Study.

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The group had a few questions for Ellen and she explained that they are really at the beginning of this process and welcome the feedback and participation needed to shape and answer the critical questions. Ellen encouraged those who were interested in participating in the project to sign-up for project updates and provided the following contact information: Ellen Berggren, Project Manager, US Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District, [Ellen.M.Berggren@usace.army.mil](mailto:Ellen.M.Berggren@usace.army.mil), 208.345.2065 (webpage coming soon: [www.nww.usace.army.mil](http://www.nww.usace.army.mil)). Her counterpart at IDWR for the project is Cynthia Bridge Clark, Project Manager, Idaho Department of Water Resources, [cynthia.clark@idwr.idaho.gov](mailto:cynthia.clark@idwr.idaho.gov), 208.287.4817, [www.idwr.idaho.gov/waterboard/WaterPlanning/CAMP/TV\\_CAMP.htm](http://www.idwr.idaho.gov/waterboard/WaterPlanning/CAMP/TV_CAMP.htm).

### **Treasure Valley CAMP – Helen Harrington, IDWR**

Helen presented an overview of the Treasure Valley Comprehensive Aquifer Management Program (CAMP) process, which is one component of the larger statewide CAMP effort. This CAMP effort is aimed at conducting a statewide comprehensive aquifer planning and management effort over a 10-year period. The Treasure Valley CAMP is scheduled to run from 2009-2012 (contingent on continued state funding). The CAMP has four primary areas of focus: hydrologic component, planning component, stakeholder component, and coordination/leveraging with other activities and projects (e.g., Boise GI). Currently, IDWR has completed, or will be completing, the initial scoping of issues and concerns (Fall 2009), Situation Assessment/ Advisor Committee Recommendations (January 14, 2010), establishment of an Advisory Committee (February or March 2010), and ongoing hydrologic and planning studies.

Hydrologic studies include the Northern and Eastern Ada County Ground Water Studies, evaluating existing ground water models, establishing a monitoring network, developing a hydrologic framework, preparing and updating the water balance, and creating/refining the groundwater model. Planning studies include refining 50-year water demand projections, evaluating impacts of climate change on future water supplies and strategies for meeting future water demand, completing a storage feasibility study, and evaluating groundwater recharge. Additional planning studies will focus on alternatives for meeting projected demands or changing supply including water use transfers, inter-basin transfers, weather modification feasibility, and conservation. Helen encouraged the WAG to submit a nomination for representation on the Advisory Committee (due to IDWR on January 29, 2010) and provided the following contact information: Helen Harrington, Manager, Water Planning Section, Idaho Department of Water Resources, [Helen.harrington@idwr.idaho.gov](mailto:Helen.harrington@idwr.idaho.gov), 208-287-4848, (<http://www.idwr.idaho.gov/waterboard/Planning/CAMP/CAMP.htm>)

### **Director Insurance and Conflict of Interest – Jon Gould**

Jon Gould let the group know that there are Federal and State laws that protect non-profit Board members that act on the behalf of the non-profit, unless those actions are illegal. Johanna informed the group that the Boise City legal department had advised

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her that WAG Board members probably want to consider purchasing Nonprofit Liability Insurance. The purpose of this insurance would be to protect WAG Board members from potential lawsuits. She brought a few quotes from local insurers and it appears that the cost to cover all Board members is in the ~\$700/year range. Johanna also distributed examples of Conflict of Interest to Board members as an informational item.

### **FY2009 319 Grant Update - Sherrill Doran and Dan Steenson**

At Johanna's request, Sherrill prepared and circulated a timeline of the FY2009 319 grant process to date. The timeline shows that we began discussing this grant in October 2007 and are finally at the point where the LBWC Board needs to authorize actual projects. It also shows that Sherrill inadvertently never received formal Board approval to submit the grant, which is a lesson learned for future grant applications.

A list of potential projects was distributed to the group, including a project location map. The grant's technical advisory committee (ISCC, CSCD, NRCS, IDEQ, and LBWC) recommended the top six for funding initially, which would leave \$58,000 for match funds for the remainder of the grant period (through July 2012). The group had a good discussion of the merits of the projects and how this grant could best be leveraged for other grant opportunities and collaborative partnerships. The Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the technical advisory committee. To facilitate the actual signing of the landowners' contract documents, the Board also voted unanimously that Dan Steenson, as a member of the Agricultural Workgroup, be granted signatory authority on behalf of the Board so long as there were no material changes to the approved projects.

### **FY2011 319 Grant Process - Johanna Bell and Sherrill Doran**

This item will be moved to the February meeting due to time.

### **Reinvigorating the Council - Dan Steenson**

This item will be moved to the February meeting due to time.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

# Lower Boise Watershed Council

Meeting Title: Monthly Meeting

Meeting Date: June 14, 2010

Attending?	Name	Affiliation	Email
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