

Citizen Coordinating Council Meeting

Meeting Summary Notes

Tuesday, April 14, 2015, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

VFW Hall, 4th and Mullan, Osburn, Idaho

Jerry Boyd, Chair began the meeting at 6:10 p.m. with a welcome and round of self-introductions.

Attendees:

Jerry Boyd (Citizen, CCC Chair)

Glory Carlile (BEIPC, note taker)

Julie Dalsaso (Citizen)

David Fortier (Citizen)

Rene Gilbert (EPA Community Liaison)

Denna Grangaard (IDEQ)

Terry Harwood (BEIPC Executive Director)

Andy Helkey (PHD)

Ed Moreen (EPA)

Kit Pearson, (Citizen, Shoshone NewsPress)

Scott Peterson (IDEQ)

Bill Rust (Citizen)

Bruce Schuld (IDEQ)

Ron Streeter (Citizen)

Bob Witherow (Citizen)

What do you want the CCC to do for you? What makes a good CCC meeting?

Jerry Boyd, CCC Chair, opened the discussion on how the CCC can serve the community better. He explained that the group serves as a liaison between the citizens and the Basin Commission for communication back and forth. The meetings are to get comments from the citizens and get that back to the Basin Commission.

David Fortier agreed that the CCC serves as a communication link with the citizens regarding the activities going on in the valley and within the organization and that the BEIPC serves as the mechanism for use as outreach. But, although we come and listen, learn some of the things going on, he does not feel very comfortable about the input as being listened to enough and does not see where comments are followed through enough. He has not felt that they received response and/or feedback to concerns or questions brought up at meetings. He would like to see a list of the comments that are being passed on and if there is a specific question, then he would like to see a documented response to whatever was asked included in the minutes. He said one of the frustrations expressed over the years was they were not getting answers to whatever was asked. He suggested specific answers to specific questions have a mechanism for a specific response be given to the one who asked and then whatever the response be, including no response, also be distributed to those who have not attended the meeting.

Fortier also said that he is disappointed that there is little or no information about the project plans available. As an engineer he would like to see more detailed information particularly from EPA and technical reports. He commented that he had brought up at the last BEIPC meeting that these projects are not on the website. He would like to see more technical information such as reports and plans posted on the EPA website and more on the BEIPC website. Harwood stated that the Work Plans are posted but he could look in to providing updates with current activity, and that it is doable to let people know where more technical information can be found. Fortier commented that the Basin Bulletin has great information but that he would like to see more monitoring data and more technical information on the website available to the public to look at. Rene Gilbert (EPA Community Liaison) said that the EPA website is undergoing some major changes but she will make sure to address his issue(s) and get back to him to see what they can do, let him know where they are at in the process, and how to subscribe to the EPA webpage for information to access the links available.

Jerry Boyd suggested that when a presentation is made with maps etc., that it becomes available. Harwood answered that he posts on the Basin Commission website anything that is authorized by the author of the material. Boyd suggested that it also be sent out to our CCC contact list by e-mail.

Julie Dalsaso first commented that she thinks that the EPA Bulletin is wonderful. She then brought up her idea regarding the format of a CCC meeting to be scheduled on the same day as a Basin Commission meeting. She suggested a consolidated meeting with the Basin Commission - perhaps with a lunch meeting for CCC members like a "Lunch & Learn". However, Boyd explained that the CCC meeting is held about a month before the Basin Commission meeting so that the notes can be included in the BEIPC meeting packet.

Fortier agreed that the original design of the council is for discussion as a group as a forum and the intent is for the local community to convey on some of the things brought up at a CCC meeting to the Basin Commission at their meeting.

Bruce Schuld, (IDEQ) noted that there is already outreach to city council meetings and county commissioner meetings and that anyone interested should attend the public meetings as they are open to the public. He suggested that when a member of the senior management team goes out to make a presentation then an announcement go out to the community. Harwood agreed that we could put out a monthly calendar of upcoming meetings and events with information about what will be presented as specific agenda topics, when and where and time. This will also provide more opportunities for input and a means to ask questions. Agencies could let the CCC know what our public speaking engagements are using e-mail as a good method of communication. Kit Pearson from the Shoshone Press said that he would like to receive the calendar as well.

Bill Rust agreed that he would also like to receive information about the meetings with local officials, especially with county commissioners, and hopefully to receive a schedule a month in advance even as a list of upcoming events. He also commented that the CCC meetings act as a warning system device stating "As long as nobody comes to the meetings, that things are going well."

Boyd said that he is available to accept questions and/or comments at any time and that the format of the CCC meetings is to encourage citizen/local thoughts and he can forward comments and/or questions and concerns to the Basin Commission

Overview of construction activity in the Upper Basin in 2015

Terry Harwood gave an update on flood control and drainage projects activities. He gave a little background information that after drainage studies in Osburn, Wallace, Mullan, and Silverton, projects were added in 2012 to the Upper Basin ROD Amendment.

He gave an overview of the activity in the Upper Basin:

Little Pine Creek in Pinehurst is almost done. The project increased the capacity for the channel through the city to carry the 50 year rain on snow event so that it does not flood. This summer will do Jackass Creek in Kellogg (the hospital) project to increase the capacity of drainage. There will be a culvert to run alongside the hospital. They will start in July and end by the 15th of August. EPA is funding the design and he is the Project Manager managing the project for IDEQ. He is hoping to add the Slaughterhouse Gulch project in Wardner to Jackass Creek project and the culvert replacement in Silver Creek in Page that will complete all the drainage projects in the Box.

In the Basin, Mill Road in Mullan will carry drainage down the hill to the South Fork. They are currently working on getting the Environmental Covenants. Revenue Gulch is a drainage project in Silverton taking the water down to a culvert on Markwell Street.

Rene Gilbert commented that there will be an informational open house in May with work slated to begin in July. She added that there are community meetings to help inform the property owners of the work that will be done. Door hangers are put out before the projects start to give a heads up and provide contact information.

Harwood said that a couple of culverts are being replaced up Ninemile as small side drainage projects. Harwood explained that part of the process regarding the Remedy Protection Projects is that documents from attorneys are created and it is his responsibility to make sure all are signed by the jurisdictions and the property owners and then filed at the courthouse.

Bill Rust commented about his own place up Ninemile. He said that there was an onsite meeting with the CDA Trust but they determined that no erosion work is going to be done so that they will not protect the remedy on each side. Therefore he will do the work himself that he can do. When he is done then they can do their work. Therefore, he stated that it will be at least another year before he will be remediated.

Haul traffic patterns to repositories and Limited Use Repositories (LURs)

Bruce Schuld, with the roads board with DEQ, reported on the haul traffic patterns to repositories and Limited Use Repositories (LUR's). He explained that because a lot of asphalt pavement is being ripped up, then the LUR was developed. Traffic will be hot and heavy everywhere. There will be lots of potential places for LUR's all along the I90 corridor to dispose of waste. Construction schedules will be put out to the public to promote public safety and they will also be announced in the paper and with spots on KWAL. Boyd asked if this all can also go on the BEIPC website. Harwood assured him that the most important information is going to the community affected. Rene Gilbert noted that communication is part of their public outreach. All of these efforts must be coordinated locally.

Overview of work in Ninemile Canyon:

Rene Gilbert talked about Ninemile Canyon east fork watershed Waste Consolidation Area (WCA). She offered a flyer with the information about the Success Mine complex with waste at WCA. They are informing ATV'ers that there has to be limited access during the work week and that there will be gates put up.

There is also a flyer about the Lower Burke Canyon repository in Woodland Park. They will be building a fence around it to keep people out of the area. Eventually there will be a plan to do something about this site.

Ron Streeter asked about the Ninemile work and hauling contaminated waste because of his concern about the contaminated roads that the trucks go over. He is also concerned about where the water will end up going in the "natural flow". Harwood suggested that he and David Fortier bring in their issues to his office and talk to him about it.

Central Treatment Plant (CTP) Update:

Rene Gilbert presented a summary update on the CTP and the groundwater collection system update. The strategy is in 2 phases. Phase 1 was to identify a pool of interested and qualified contractors. The final stage 2 procurement package is making its way for review. The Corps of Engineers will be managing the contract on this. Harwood added that the project will capture the contaminated groundwater and run it through the treatment plant along with the discharge from the Bunker Mine. Anticipated request for proposals will be issued for the bidding pool in mid-May. Award of contract will be in mid-August. Contractor will be completing design and performing early tasks as early as 2016. Key components is securing access for the pipeline to convey the groundwater and working with some of the parties to complete agreements.

Update of EPA work in the Lower Basin:

Rene Gilbert gave a Lower Basin 2D Hydraulic model development update. They have completed major milestones with successful calibration and validation of the model. EPA and IDEQ met with the peer advisor team and they were very happy with the results. They will be developing a report soon to determine if focus can be shifted to development of a Sediment Transport Model. EPA is also looking into developing more pilot projects.

Human health and recreational activities along the CDA River:

On display were maps of the areas talked about and with examples of where people are recreating. Rene Gilbert invited everyone to view the displays and offer suggestions.

Denna Grangaard reviewed what they have and what they are doing for public outreach. For example, Brochures are available and they are developing a new brochure and she orders about 3500 Riley Raccoon coloring books per year.

Suggestions were made that more signs be put up and be updated and that when people purchased their boat license that they could receive a brochure.

Issue of Sediment on the Shoreline:

Julie Dalsaso brought up for discussion that there is a concern about eliminating controls along the shoreline in Kootenai County causing discharge of nutrients on the shoreline of the CDA Lake. She said they are exempting the 25 ft. ordinance and the permit process for property owners. Boyd added that one of the issues was the requirements. Discussion on this topic included the impact of the exemptions and bank stabilization. Harwood commented that we all need to work together with the Lake Management Plan.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28.