

Water Transfer Working Group Meeting Minutes Monday, February 6, 2017, @ 1:00 PM

Attendees:

Dave Brown, Stuart Crane, Seth Defoe, Debi Freudenthal, Robert Granger, Carron Helberg, Elayne Hovde, Stan Isley, Chris Lynch, Larry Martin, Erin Moore (phone), Tom Ring (phone), Kurt Walker.

- Approval of Minutes:

January 9, 2017 – the group approved the minutes.

Previous Business:

- 2017-27 Nassen and 2017-28 Morgan: At the previous meeting Jonathan wondered about Badger Creek upstream of KRD's spill, because of the fish questions. Jonathan was not in attendance today but Robert explained that they were unable to get in the field and hoped they could get out in the next couple of weeks. **Pending, come back next month.**

New Business:

- 2017-32 WSDOT: Debi Freudenthal asked for preliminary input for this proposal for the next phases of I-90 construction that go down to the Easton area. This proposal is changing where the water will be withdrawn, either through a surface water diversion from the Yakima River or Kachess River or a ground water withdrawal through well use. The mitigating surface water (Trust water) right is from Wilson Creek, transferred to instream flow use with 60 acre feet per year temporarily assigned to mitigation use through November 2021. Currently using the Exchange Contract to ensure TWSA neutrality. WSDOT needs new additional points of diversion/withdrawal for the 2019 water season, and plans to submit the formal request in early 2018. Kurt said to submit soon, the sooner the better, as it is taking more time even for the simple ones. The group asked how long WSDOT used its water this last season, Debi said until November 3rd. The group was concerned about the May and November use affecting river operations for Reclamation. Chris stated that Kachess River is harder to fill, thus prefers the new diversion use to come out of the Yakima River, and farther downstream if possible, for operational purposes. A well is also better than a direct river diversion. Larry reminded WSDOT that if there is impairment of his clients, they will be impacted. Stan and Tom were OK with this so far. Ecology will work with WSDOT to develop this proposal. This will come back next year.

- 2017-33 Kiene: Kurt explained this 1 residential well proposal at 350 gallons per day, no irrigation, mitigated by the Burchak (Tillman Creek) Water Bank, in a yellow zone, between Spex Arth and Tillman Creeks, lots of work has been done in this area, pumping impacts to the Yakima River, using the Exchange Contract from September 1st to March 31st. Stan said the calculations were fine, with Tom and Robert OK, the group gave it a **Thumbs Up**.
- 2017-34 Hinterland Holdings LLC: Kurt explained this 1 residence well proposal at 275 gallons per day, mitigated by the Cabin Owners Water Bank water right, in the Mosquito Creek area east of Keechelus Dam, in a yellow zone, fully mitigated use, offsetting TWSA and local impacts using the Exchange Contract from September 1st through March 31st, no outdoor irrigation use, pumping impacts to the Yakima River, Stan was OK with the calculations and Tom OK'd, the group gave it a **Thumbs Up**.

Next Meeting:

- March 6, 2017, Monday @ 1:00 PM, YFO Conference Room
- New Proposals in by COB Monday, February 27, 2017.

2017 Future Meeting Schedule:

- Apr 3; May 1; June 5; July 10; all on Monday @1:00 PM

Meeting was adjourned.