

Water Transfer Working Group Meeting Minutes  
Monday, June 3, 2019, @ 1:00 PM

Attendees:

**In the room:** Chris Lynch, Stan Isley, Kerrie Mathews, Jonathan Kohr, Dave Brown, Scott Turner, Stuart Crane, Tom Ring, Trevor Hutton, Chris Kossik, Jolee Ramos, Nathan Draper, Larry Martin, Allison Britn, Arden Thomas, Erin Moore, Samantha Cox.

**On the phone:** Peter Dykstra, Jessica Kuchan.

Approval of Minutes:

- May 6, 2019 – The group approved the draft meeting minutes posted on the website.

Previous Business:

- None.

New Business:

- 2019-28 – Veeder and Kirkpatrick (G4-36037). Chris Kossik presented. The proposal is for two residential connections at 275 gpd each, year round, with 1,000 total square feet of lawn and garden irrigation (500 square feet per connection). The proposal is mitigated by Reecer Creek WR LLC's right (CS4-02261sb7@2(B)). The exchange contract will be used to address out of season impacts (9/1-3/31). The location is in the yellow zone, approximately 0.6 mile from the Yakima River, with expected impacts to the Yakima River. **Thumbs up.**
- 2019-29 – Zirkle Fruit (G4-33226). Scott Turner presented. The proposal is for an emergency drought authorization for 64.2 consumptive acre-feet for irrigation of 813 acres of various crops mitigated by the Triple Dutch Farms right (CS4-01180sb12@3). The applicant proposes to drill two additional wells as part of their authorization. The purpose of the proposal is to allow them to deficit irrigate late in the season after their standard irrigation supply from KRD is shut off. The historic diversion of the mitigation right is lateral to the proposed new wells, and was located along the Yakima River upstream of the northern end of the Yakima River canyon. The group discussed expected KRD deliveries for the season and the necessity of the new wells. **Thumbs up.**
- Kittitas County Proposed 2019 Drought Leasing Program. Arden Thomas presented. Kittitas County was seeking conceptual approval from the group to run a drought leasing program for the 2019 drought, using the forward mitigation portion of their water rights portfolio that are not otherwise obligated through the Over-the Counter (OTC) program. They expect about 235 acre-feet of mitigation water is available for lease. Specific transfers will be brought to the group by Ecology. The group discussed pricing, timing of the auction, and locations where the leased water could be used. Kittitas County asked that this amount be removed from the target flows at Parker and Prosser immediately, coinciding with the June 3, 2019 beginning of prorationing for Yakima Basin proratable water rights. This would add to TWSA between now and when the off-stream use of

this mitigation water begins. The group also discussed target flows and storage control status. **The group conceptually approved of the leasing program.**

- Kittitas County Proposed 2019 OTC Amendment. Erin Moore presented. The group in late 2018 approved a large area permit expansion, so that Kittitas County could approve mitigation to permit-required parcels above the KRD canal through the OTC program. This proposal is to allow the County the authorization to issue mitigation water to permit-exempt eligible parcels as well. The hydrogeology of the area was reviewed broadly and narrowed during evaluation of the large area permit, and well construction criteria set out. The same well construction criteria will be required for the permit-exempt certificates. In areas further up the canyon, beyond the hydrogeological analysis, requests would still be evaluated on a case by case basis. This request will still fit within the 467 total residences across the OTC area. **Thumbs up.**

Other business:

- None.