

Water Transfer Working Group Minutes for May 19, 2008 at 1:00 PM

Dave Brown, Stuart Crane, Paul Dempsey, Bill Ferry, Chuck Garner, Carron Helberg, Stan Isley, Paul LaRiviere, Chris Lynch, Jim Milton, Darrell Monroe, Kelly McCaffrey (on phone), Tom Ring, Scott Turner, Ron Van Gundy, Dawn Wiedmeier

Dawn Wiedmeier called the meeting to order and asked for the approval of the previous meeting minutes. The minutes were reviewed and approved by the group.

Dawn proceeded to the next agenda item with the return of Ahtanum Irrigation District previous proposals numbered 2007-04 through 2007-27. Scott Turner briefly discussed the revisions with Tom Ring commenting that the revisions have improved but that he would like more time to review. The group agreed and asked them to be tabled to the next meeting.

Dawn continued with the new proposals 2008-06 for Kuchin and 2008-07 for Cromarty with Kelly McCaffrey explaining both transfers. Kelly started with 2008-07 for Cromarty with Stan Isley adding further explanation of where the water rights are located, a correction of the use of the Washington Irrigation Guide (WIG) in the calculation, and the group talked about the declaration and the map. Chuck Garner noted a possible error in the declaration with the 1172 cubic feet looks like it should be 1.72 cubic feet. Once the corrections are made, the group recommended approval of the 2008-07 proposal. Kelly continued with 2008-06 for Kuchin proposal discussing the creek right and supplemented by the district right. The group discussed the district right and Paul Dempsey said he would get back to Kelly after he talks to the district about managing this right. The group continued discussing if the water would be used elsewhere, keeping it water budget neutral, fallowing of the land, and Stan shared different scenarios of Whiskey Creek. Kelly stated she wanted to understand why this water right loses its value as it is transferred downstream.

Dawn continued with the next agenda item with Bill Ferry providing the group with an update on the progress of the Ecology/Reclamation contract. Bill discussed the remaining steps, which includes internal review and signatures by all parties and is hoping that this can be completed in two months or so.

Next meeting is suggested for June 30, 2008 at 1:00 PM at the Yakima Field Office conference room.

Dawn adjourned the meeting at 2:00 PM.