



Winkelman Natural Resource Conservation District

Watershed CRMP meeting

November 18, 2013

Minutes

Central Arizona College, Aravaipa Campus, Room E102

In attendance:

Steve Turcotte, Bill Dunn, Steve Spangle, Josh T. Avey, Stefanie Smallhouse, Scott Cole, Peter Else, Anna Lands, Mick Meader, Beverly Miller, Hattie Hedrick, Donna Woods, Scott Wilbor, Sharma Torrens, Bob Evans, Stephen Williams, Bill Radke, Charlie Ffolliott, Joel Quisenberry, Bob Rogers, Francie Meyer, Walt Meyer

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m.

There was a discussion of the corrections to the minutes of October 18, 2013. Corrections made. Francie moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Seconded by Josh. Approved unanimously. Further discussion ensued as to the format and adoption of future minutes.

Steve Spangle announced that all work for the planning on refuge is suspended as a result of a visioning meeting of upper management. The two documents are the results of that new direction for the agency in refuge planning.

Kristen commented that Katie will be able to help us with the project.

Introductions were made via videoconference with Norm Evenstad, Utah State Hydrologist, NRCS; Tyce Palmer, Zone Coordinator, Utah Association of Conservation Districts; and Wally Dodds, Utah Division of Water Quality, Watershed Coordinator, our guests for the meeting.

After the introductions, we briefly described our Watershed CRMP project and the parties involved so far. The following advice was offered to help guide the overall process and identify next steps:

- Remember that the end goal is to “put conservation on the ground.” All stakeholders should be involved to ensure adoption of the plan at the end of the process.
- Keep timelines tight and meetings productive to support continued interest and participation. One year should be sufficient to produce a draft document that includes timelines.
- Break the process into phases and plan for each phase.
- Identify focus areas and priorities.
- Include enough detail in the plan to identify treatments and practices; otherwise, it can be difficult to secure funding.
- Identify a coordinator as soon as possible.
- Identify who is going to actually write the plan.
- Research possible funding sources.
- Remember to include printing and production costs in the overall budget.

- Existing landholder CRMPs can be incorporated into the plan.

Some sample plans will be made available, either via email or via Web links.

Possible funding sources include: Division of Water Quality, NRCS, state funds from the Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service, the County Commission (Board of Supervisors), 319 Clean Water Act funds from the state via the EPA, and BLM or other agencies.

The videoconference ended at 11:30. Many thanks to our guests for their support and advice.

Our discussion regarding the Watershed CRMP process continued. Josh Avey and Bill Dunn offered to check into possible funding sources. Possible sources for maps were also discussed.

Discussion on who we could recruit to do the writing and research for the CRMP. Bill Dunn reported that he talked to Katie Cline and Kristen Egan of NRCS. Katie is just finishing two CRMP projects and will have time for this. Also, she is intimately familiar with the two districts.

Bill Dunn asked Stu Tuttle to join our committee as an advisor. He said he would but couldn't make today's meeting. He has much experience in CRMP and is from the state NRCS office. Steve Spangle said we should contact the Upper Gila Watershed Partnership to see if they could provide any resources to our project. Bill Dunn said he would contact them.

Steve Spangle answered questions from a previous meeting regarding the refuge proposal.

Scott Cole handed out a document outlining a possible structure for the group. He moved to approve the document with a change that he identified. After some discussion, it was decided to add identification of the group structure to the agenda for the next meeting. Motion rescinded.

Anna displayed literature from the Quivera Coalition conference which she attended.

Next meeting agenda items:

- Identify a structure for the group
- Establish ground rules for the process
- Discuss funding options and resources
- Identify other people and agencies to invite into the process
- Approval of minutes for 10.18.13. and 11.18.13 meetings

Next meeting scheduled for December 18, 10:00 a.m. at CAC, Aravaipa campus room E102.

Motion to adjourn was made by Joel and seconded by Steve Turcotte.

Meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

Thank you, everyone.