

City of Ashland
Ashland Water Advisory Committee
Community Development Engineering Services Building
51 Winburn Way, Siskiyou Room
Meeting Minutes 4/15/2010

I. CALL TO ORDER: 4:00 p.m.

Committee members present: Rich Whitley, Donna Mickley, Darrell Boldt, Alex Amaratoc, John Williams, Lesley Adams, Councilor Carol Voisin and Pat Acklin

Absent: Amy Patton and Councilor Kate Jackson

Staff present: Mike Faught, Pieter Smeenck, Robbin Pearce and Brenda Barker

Carollo Consultants: Nicki Pozos, Bob Eimstad and Dave Kraska

II. OPENING REMARKS:

Council approved the appointment of 11 members to the committee in addition to one chair/facilitator. One at-large position is still to be determined.

The committee was welcomed by Carol Voisin and Michael Faught. Both stressed the importance of the work that lies ahead for the committee, particularly in light of climate change and the potential for a catastrophic event impacting the watershed. The committee was told that a great deal of data already exists from prior studies and committees and that part of this project will be to review that data. The consultants should be challenged to make sure the project fits Ashland's needs.

Rich Whitley also welcomed the committee to the first meeting. He explained his role as facilitator and offered two options for the Committee to consider regarding the meeting chair person. The committee could elect a chair from the committee or Whitley could conduct the meetings as the chair/facilitator. This item will be decided upon towards the end of this meeting. Chair Whitley asked the committee to consider group norms and look over the Charter before the next meeting. If everyone agrees, these items may be accepted or revised and finalized at the next meeting. Since the committee doesn't operate under Roberts Rules of Order, it is important for group norms to be adopted.

The committee discussed the possibility of a website which would facilitate information sharing with the committee and the community. Everyone agreed that a website should be established. The site would have the standard information such as meeting dates, times, locations, minutes and agendas, as well as previous reports and other relative data that community members might be interested in.

III. PRESENTATION:

Carollo presented a PowerPoint on the project overview that described the City Council's overarching objectives, overview of Ashland's water supply system, potential sources of supply and the role of the Ashland Water Advisory Committee. The presentation included a list of Level of Service Goals. The four key areas are capacity, redundancy, reliability and regulatory requirements.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM: Ron Roth, 6950 Old Hwy 99 S. has been taking and recording temperatures at various locations in Ashland Creek, above and below the park for the last 25 years. The temperatures have fluctuated, which can have an effect on the fish in the creek. The committee showed interest in his historical temperature records and Ron indicated that he would continue conducting the readings.

V. DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS:

There were questions brought up of how to replace water that normally flows into Bear Creek, especially during low flow times. How does reduced water flow possibly affect fish in Bear Creek? Irrigation helps to move more water into Bear Creek from April to October when TID is in effect. Current status on TAP (Talent Ashland Pipeline) and the future home station is on hold by Council.

The committee also discussed how to deal with old data which may not apply to issues like:

- Effluent from WWTP to meet new DEQ requirements as they change
- Aquifers and water storage to solve long term plans of water shortages
- 2016 is projected to be year of serious water shortage
- Conservation and what level is needed to meet LOS (level of service) goals
- Potential for limited supplies out of creeks
- Recycled water
- Infrastructure
- Evaluate water roles
- Curtailment
- Groundwater
- Grant/SDC money to fund projects
- How water is viewed as being used to limit growth

VI. NEXT MEETING / SUGGESTED TOPICS:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 5, 2010 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. The event will take place in the Ashland High School Commons room at 210 S. Mountain Ave.

VII. ADJORN: Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by
Brenda Barker, Administrative Assistant*