

UPPER LITTLE COLORADO RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
MEETING MINUTES
October 30, 2008

PRESENT: Bill Greenwood – Town of Eagar
David Newlin – LCRP RC&D
Milton Nelson – Town of Eagar
K. David Fisher – NRCS
Byron James – ADEQ
Sharon Fisher
Ross Ashcroft – Pioneer Irrigation Company

ITEM #1: Welcome and Introductions:

Bill Greenwood asked everyone to introduce themselves. Excused: Mary Nedrow, Mayor, Town of Springerville; Tom Subrige Apache Sitgreaves National Forest; and Jeff Udall, Pioneer Irrigation Company

ITEM #2: Agenda approval with any changes, if any:

Agenda was approved and no changes.

ITEM #3: Approval of Steering Committee and other minutes:

Tabled the approval of the October 7, 2008 Minutes of the Upper Little Colorado River Watershed Partnership until more members were in attendance.

ITEM #4: approval of slate of officers of Steering Committee:

Tabled the approval of the new officers for the Steering Committee until more members were in attendance.

ITEM #5: Approval of other membership changes

David Fisher from Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) explained his agency. It is a federal agency that provides planning assistance for state trust land and private lands. It is directed by a local board guided by local concerns to identify local concerns. His area is South of the reservation in Apache County.

Natural Resources Conservation District (NRCD) is holding on account \$22,000.00 for ULCR. We need to appoint NRCD as a partnership. Never formally approved the partnership.

ITEM #6: Discussion of grant proposals, projects and Suggestions:

David Newlin said that he would write up a few proposals to pursue grants. One of the projects could be Pioneer Irrigation Company to cover the pipes, maybe concrete and more improvements on pipes and ditches.

David Newlin will come down November 6th to do a site visit and Byron James from ADEQ would also like to attend the site visit.

Project areas are Pioneer Irrigation and Nutrioso Creek. Milt Nelson said that the Nutrioso Creek where it meets the Little Colorado River (LCR) is in bad shape. A lot of sediment is going into the LCR. David Newlin will call Milt Nelson for more information.

ITEM #7: Update on the following:

- a. Membership concerns or problems, illnesses, etc.

David Fisher is an advisor and cannot vote.
Advertise the next ULCR meeting to get the members to come.

- b. LCR Winter Watershed Conference, 28-30 Jan 09

The cost will be \$125.00 to cover expenses and will be held in Show Low, Arizona. There will be workshops on weather modification conference, water-arsenic level and others.

- c. Affiliate Meeting Thursday afternoon, 2:00pm, 29 Jan 09, Show Low Winter Watershed Conference.

David Newlin invited everyone to this conference and will have more information later. Will make sure the White Mountain Apache Tribe is invited.

- d. Apache Sitgreaves Forest Management Plan

David Newlin said that the Forest Service was almost completed with the Forest Management Plan. Byron James (ADEQ) said that he would bring ADEQ's comment letter to the Forest Service on the Forest Management Plan.

- e. Bylaws and Guidelines

Bill Greenwood passed out draft guideline information. Asked anyone that has more information on ULCR to give it to Bill Greenwood or David Newlin.

- f. Watershed Plans and Publications

i. ULCR 2005 Water Management Plan

David Newlin will mail or email copies of the information to everyone that needs it. The ULCR 2005 Water Management Plan needs to be updated to 2007 and make sure it is current. This item will be on the next agenda.

ii. NEMO Little Colorado Watershed-based Management Plan

iii. NRCS Rapid Watershed Assessment, Upper Little Colorado, HUC 15020001

iv. Bureau of Reclamation DRAFT Watershed Management Plan HUC 15020001

ITEM # 8: Set date for next meeting(s)

Next ULCR meeting is set for Tuesday, November 25, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town of Eagar.

ITEM #9: Comments from the Public, if any

Rural Water Loan – Please email comments about this to David Newlin at dmnewlin@aol.com. It is tailored to a population of 5,000 or less.

Negotiation between tribes and Flagstaff, Arizona is at a standstill. Flagstaff is continuing to go with using the right-of-ways of highways and railroads to pump into their aquifer and right back out.