



DRAFT Meeting Notes – Team Formation

March 9, 2017

Team Formation Meeting

Date: March 9, 2017

Time: 1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.

Where: TMWA

1. Welcome, Sign In, Introductions, Overview of Meeting

Attendees:

- RCI: Lynn Zonge, Jill Sutherland
- NDEP: Kim Borgzinner, Birgit Henson
- TMWA: Kara Steeland, Christian Kropf, Andy Gebhardt, Robert Charpentier
- Sparks: Toby Eeben's, Andy Hummel, Karen Melby,
- WCHD: Chris Peterson, Wes Rubio
- NNWPC/WRWC: Chris Wessel
- Washoe: Ben Jesco
- Reno: Theresa Jones, Claudia Hanson
- TMRPA: Chris Tolley

Handouts:

- Agenda & Fun Facts
- Clean Water Protection Program in Washoe County
- Draft Stakeholder Contacted to date
- Draft Washoe County Team Meeting Schedule
- Examples of Funded Projects through Source Water Protection & 319 Grant

2. Clean Water Protection Program Overview

Jill Sutherland and Lynn Zonge presented a power point overview of the Source Water and Watershed Protection Program in Washoe County

- This program is jointly supported by NDEP: Bureau of Safe Drinking Water and Bureau of Water Quality Planning
- The program is about groundwater quality and surface water quality – NOT water quantity
- It is voluntary stakeholder driven, not mandated issues
- It includes public water systems and the Truckee river watershed, not private wells or areas with exiting watershed plans

3. Plan Development Process

- Form team
- Gather information
- Characterize groundwater and watershed
- Contaminant evaluation
- Protection strategies



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- Action plan and public education
- Public review and local approval

Local planning team role:

- Collaboratively develop plan goals and objectives
- Share ideas, plans and data
- Identify other stakeholders
- Prioritize water quality issues and threats
- Support plan adoption and implementation within their agencies

Requested information from the team:

- What works for and is need in your community?
- Stakeholders – who should be on this team in addition to who is already on the list of agency contact (see handout)
- Stakeholders’ local knowledge of the area is needed

Action plan and project description content was discussed including:

- Funding
- Schedule
- Milestones
- Load reductions
- Implementation
- Monitoring

Examples of the types of projects include:

- Closure of unused wells
- Wellhead security improvements
- Stream restoration
- Stormwater BMPs

Once the plan is completed, then the plan it will go to the local governing agencies for adoption. The NDEP will be asked to endorse the Source Water Protection portion of the plan and the EPA will be asked to approve the Watershed Management portion of the plan.

4. Meetings and Project Timeline

RCI presented a draft Washoe County Team Meeting Schedule (see handout)

- Team would like to keep meetings in the same location. TMWA room is very nice and generally available expect for one Tuesday of each month. It is preferred but other options that may be available: Spark Training Reno, Reno City Hall, Washoe County Facilities (Galena Creek, Bartley ranch, County Complex, etc.)



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- It was agreed upon for future meetings to be held at TMWA, on Tuesdays from 2 pm – 4 pm. The next meeting will be April 11th.
- The members present were encouraged to let RCI or NDEP know who else should be invited to participate in this team.

5. Communications

- **RCI also explained that no maps can be posted for the public due to** security concerns for public water systems.
- All present agreed upon e-mail as the best way to stay in contact.

Discussions:

What is the time frame of the plan?

The plan is scheduled for completion approximately May 2019, and then will be presented for local agency approval.

Is the goal of this plan to come out with a watershed management plan?

Concern was to not duplicate efforts, how to coordinate. WRWC is currently funding a water management plan. It was explained that the data gap analyses for the watershed that WRWC is funding is a critical piece of the plan development.

Is there a document that describes the roles of plan participants?

There are goals for this plan, however this is a new program and does not have specific roles identified. The roles will be developed by the stakeholders.

What was the Wellhead Protection Program and how does it relate?

Some team members are not familiar with existing Wellhead Protection Plans and the State program. Source Water Protection is a county-wide approach a step beyond wellhead protection. However, it will expand on the existing documents (like TMWA's wellhead protection plan). The current effort will also include smaller communities/entities that are not in the business of water such as gas stations, mobile home parks etc.

What is the goal for northern end of Washoe County?

Because this is a stakeholder driven planning effort, the team will develop the goals, including the northern portion of Washoe County.

We have been talking about public water wells, what about irrigation wells? Are we taking these into account?

Source Water Protection focuses on public water systems wells and will not be modeling irrigation wells. Irrigation wells and irrigated areas could be identified as areas of concern by the local planning team. Examples discussed from other communities.



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Concern regarding private wells connecting to and compromising the public water system. Private and irrigation wells are not regulated and are potentially point source contamination issues. Land owners are converting water rights for domestic wells to irrigation water rights.

This planning effort does not address water rights. On issues like this the State and local government have regulations. However, communities may address potential contaminant sources in this plan. Perhaps there a way to improve communication with state? The team would identify it as an action item needed in the plan. Source water planning won't solve the problem, but can identify it as a priority (baby steps to start to address the problem).

How does this planning effort relate to the current WRWC planning effort?

WRWC will include this plan into the WRWC plan. There is a need to reach out to smaller PWSs to look at requirements as they have little resources or training regarding water supply protection. Maps of recharge areas would be useful NNWPC desires GIS watershed and storm water mapping. Nuisance flows might be detected with improved storm drain and sewer maps.

How does this planning effort relate to the current City of Reno planning effort?

There will be a new Reno master plan adopted in October - Re imagine Reno. The Reno master plan is updated every 10 years. If the team has something to be considered for entry in the master plan, the City would need it by June. This plan is a 20-year vision on how and where the city is going to develop. They are already working with Public Works on storm water/drainage issues.

Could the Source Water Plan now being created be included in the City Master Plan be reference?

City of Sparks and City of Reno planners indicated their Master Plans are stand alone and cannot reference other policies/plans as a part of their document. Chris indicated that the same is true for the WRWC plan. Because these types of master planning documents cannot control outside Plans, they cannot point to them but rather include the policies they want to use in the Master Plans.

Actions:

- Provide information regarding roles and responsibilities for planning team/stakeholders to consider (RCI).
- Follow up regarding the for Re-Imagine Reno process and schedule (RCI).
- Follow up regarding the Comprehensive Regional Water plan update and Schedule (RCI).
- Check to make sure RCI Website does not get routinely blocked by others (RCI).