

## Meeting Notice

**A meeting of the Planning Unit for the WRIA 55 and 57 Local Watershed Planning program will be held at:**

**Time:** 10:00 am  
**Date:** September 19, 2001  
**Place:** Conference Room  
Spokane County Conservation District  
210 N. Havana, Spokane, WA

### Agenda

- 10:00 am**      **Call to Order: Introduction of Committee Members**  
Facilitator Lead
- 10:05**            **Discuss and Approve June Meeting Summary**  
Facilitator Lead
- 10:10**            **Presentation and Discussion of Data Assessment Report**  
Golder Team: Discussion of data assessment  
Note: The report will be available to review on the project web site  
(<http://spokanewatershed.golder.com>) by September 14, 2001
- 11:15**            **Phase 3 and Supplemental Activities Grant Application**  
Spokane County Staff: Update on Grant status  
Phase 3 Grant approved – will be reimbursable  
Instream Flow – in line to get at least \$100,000, probably \$200,000  
Need approval by Initiating Agencies, explain instream flow scopes (call Stan Miller if you would like a copy of the detailed scope prior to the meeting)  
Need for setting date for a Fall 2001 public meeting
- Facilitator Lead: Review draft scope of work for Instream Flow  
Decide if any final changes are needed for October submittal to Ecology  
Set date for Fall 2001 public meeting
- 11:50**            **Other items of Public or Committee Concern**  
Facilitator Lead
- 11:55**            **Wrap Up of Session: Facilitator summarizes information presented**
- 12:00**            **Adjourn**

If you have any questions regarding this notice contact Stan Miller at (509) 477-7259 or via e-mail at [smiller@spokanecounty.org](mailto:smiller@spokanecounty.org)

## Meeting Summary Planning Unit

Little Spokane River – Middle Spokane River Local Watershed Plan  
September 19 2001

### Committee members recorded on the sign in sheet were:

Bill Rickard	Jim Wilson	Reanette Boese
Steve Skipworth	Neil Beaver	Stan Miller
Terry Liberty	Ty Wick	Sarah Hubbard-Gray
Gary Fergen	Julia McHugh	Chris Pitre
Tom Hargreaves	Steve Roberge	Bryony Hansen
Rachael Paschal Osborn	Doug Allen	Megan Harding
Dave Jones		

**Introductions:** Sarah Hubbard-Gray called the meeting to order at 10:15 am, which was late due to the Initiating Agency's 9:30 am meeting on the 2002 budget and instream flow grant application extending beyond 10:00 am. Committee members introduced themselves. Sarah provided an overview of the agenda and asked if there were comments on the June 20, 2001 Meeting Summary. There were no comments on the meeting summary.

**Presentation and Discussion of Data Assessment Report:** Chris Pitre, Golder Associates, provided an overview of the planning process, status of the technical work, and overview of the Data Assessment Report. Chris presented information on the major phases of watershed planning, the data compilation and data that has been gathered and used, permitted agricultural water use and the need for additional agricultural water use data, purveyor water use and the variations between permitted and actual use, data findings, outstanding issues, and the schedule for completion and review of the Data Assessment Report. The revised schedule calls for Golder Associates and Spokane County starting their internal review on October 15, 2001, getting the report posted on the project web site for Planning Unit review by October 31, 2001, and gathering Planning Unit comments at the November meeting. Along with gathering comments on the report at the November meeting, Golder hopes to get final direction on model development. Committee comments, questions, and discussion regarding the presentation included:

- There was a question regarding whether a sensitivity analysis had been done. Chris indicated that one had not been done since this preliminary work is not associated with model output. However, Golder has looked at it from a basin scale in the qualitative analysis.
- There was a question regarding why the data analysis indicated no net loss of water from septic systems. Chris indicated that the loss is only around 5%, and that at this level of data analysis it would not add clarification.
- There was a question regarding whether the transport of water from one basin to another was evaluated. Chris indicated that this will be done in the upcoming model runs.

Stan Miller indicated that the report will be posted on the internet project web page by October 31, 2001 (<http://spokanewatershed.golder.com>). Stan will provide hard copies to committee members without internet access.

**Phase 3 and Supplemental Activities Grant Application:** Stan Miller explained that the Department of Ecology has approved the WRIA 55 and 57 Phase III grant application. Stan will work with Doug Allen to develop the grant funds contract. Even though the WRIA 55 and 57 Spring 2001 grant application included a request for instream flow funds, Stan explained that Ecology has decided to fund instream flow work through a separate program which requires a separate application. Since a new application now needs to be submitted, and since Ecology is requiring that half of the Initiating Agencies submit a letter of support along with the grant applications, the Planning Unit needs to revisit the topic and decide if a new application should be submitted.

The Planning Unit discussed the instream flow grant applications. Different interpretations regarding Ecology's intent of the instream flow work was discussed (e.g., whether an instream flow recommendation from the grant funded project needs to include a specific instream flow number). Some committee members seemed to interpret that Ecology's funds would act as a tool to help get to an actual instream flow number, but stop short of requiring the Planning Unit to establish an instream flow number that would be entered into Ecology rule making. Several of the committee members want to be sure they know what Ecology is expecting and how far the instream flow work needs to go. Doug Allen, Ecology representative, offered to get clarification to this question before any instream flow contract negotiations begin. The committee agreed that the instream flow grant applications for WRIA 55 and 57 should be submitted, and that Ecology's intent could then be discussed prior to entering into contract negotiations.

Stan Miller indicated that any instream flow work would begin in the Little Spokane River, with the Middle Spokane River instream flow work starting the following year.

**Fall 2001 Public Meetings:** The need for a set of public meetings this fall was discussed. Stan indicated that the results of the Data Assessment can be presented, along with an overview of the upcoming modeling effort and an opportunity for the public to provide input. Stan expressed interest in getting input on the data gathered from the agricultural areas and finding out if clarifications can be provided. Committee members suggested that a news conference be held with media packets provided prior to the public meetings. It was suggested that a sub-committee be formed to help with the public meetings. It was agreed that two duplicate meetings will be held, one in Riverside and one in the mid-Valley, the week of November 12, 2001.

**Other Items Discussed:** Bill Rickard, City of Spokane Environmental Programs, announced that there will be a panel discussion of current critical water-related issues impacting the Spokane area on September 20, 2001 at 6:30 pm in the Spokane City Council Chambers. Committee members were invited to come and ask questions; this discussion will also be filmed and aired on Cable Channel 5 in the future. This forum is sponsored as a WaterWeeks event.

Reanette Boese announced that there will be tours of the Upriver Dam Power House on September 28 and 29, 2001 from 10 am to 4 pm. These tours are sponsored as a WaterWeeks event.

The next meeting was set for October 17, 2001 at 10:00 am.