

# Moab Area Watershed Partnership

Meeting Minutes February 18, 2015  
Grand Center, Moab

Stakeholders Present	Affiliation	Others
Dave Erley Mike Allred Ann Marie Aubry Don Andrews Margo Leech Marc Stilson Mark Sovine John Groo Bob Davidson Kirstin Peterson Jeremy Lynch Chris Wilkowske	Town of Castle Valley Division of Water Quality Moab BLM NRCS State Forestry, Fire & Sovereign Division of Water Rights GWSSA Town of Castle Valley USFS City of Moab USU Sustainability USGS	Arne Hultquist, Watershed Coordinator Maddy Fisk, Public Participant Jeff Adams, Consultant Vic Heilweil, USGS

ACTIVITY	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Review Agenda and Introductions	Introductions were made and no changes were suggested for the agenda. There were no changes made to the November minutes.	November minutes were approved.
USGS presentation on Spanish Valley Groundwater Study	Vic Heilweil gave a presentation on the current status of Spanish Valley. Last November they collected almost all the data necessary to determine base surface flow coming from the study area to the Colorado River. They have determined where several stream segments are gaining due to groundwater recharge. They will be working on quantifying the groundwater flow to the Colorado and gains/losses in streams not yet quantified in the next year. Vic has had support from several MAWP partners and will continue to need their support.	MAWP partners that have been assisting Vic will continue to assist the USGS.
Bylaws for election of Officers, and election of Officers	Changes to Section 4 of the MAWP Bylaws were presented and accepted by the members. Chair and Vice Chair are now one year terms that can be extended to two years if re-elected. The Chair and Vice Chair are separate offices such that the Vice Chair can become the Chair (if elected). Elections are at the first meeting of the Calendar year. Dave Erley was elected Chair and Ann Marie Aubry was elected Vice Chair	The changed Section 4 will be inserted into the Bylaws by Arne and changed on the website. Ann Marie and Dave have accepted their new positions.
MIMS Training preparation	MIMS training is scheduled for April 7th through 9th. We will be training in the class room on April 7 and April 9. April 8 training will be in the field. Ann Marie informed the group that the large BLM conference room is available and reserved for the classroom training. The group requested Arne secure a block of rooms at Moab Valley Inn for people from out of town that need a room. Mike Allred will prepare a flyer for distribution that will inform people how to sign up for the training. Six people in attendance signed up at the meeting.	Arne will reserve a block of 10 rooms at Moab Valley Inn. Mike will develop a flyer, track participants and recruit trainers.

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	We will probably have about 16 trainees and 4 trainers attending	
2015 Project Discussion	<p>Jeremy Lynch from the USU sustainability office presented his general ideas for projects that involve harvesting of rainwater for beneficial use. The group appreciated his presentation and requested he put forward a specific proposal for a grant application.</p> <p>Arne asked Don Andrews about the status of the engineering review for the lower Mill Creek restoration project. Don said the engineer was in Moab last week and looked at the project site. He also looked at a few other stream segments. They are evaluating the areas for emergency watershed protection funding and project cost. Arne noted Grand Conservation District and The Nature Conservancy are hoping to put in a NPS grant request this spring for the lower Mill Creek project and therefore we need the engineering estimates for that project as soon as possible.</p> <p>Arne reported the results of inquiries to Sarah Null of USU on a minimum flow study for Mill Creek from the Sheley Diversion to the confluence with the North Fork. The group thought her cost projections were a little high and suggested that if this contract moved forward we would request the same USU overhead that is charged to UDWQ, ie 10%. The group was not comfortable with the scope of the project. They could not determine from the current scope documentation whether all their concerns would be addressed by the study. There were also concerns about the study's applicability to watershed management plans. It was suggested and mutually agreed upon that this study will probably need more time for members to consider than is available before the UDWQ grant deadline and we should refine this project this year and consider this project for next year's funding.</p> <p>Arne informed the group of another grant opportunity for removal of invasive vegetation from the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food.</p> <p>Arne asked the group if they had any other projects in mind for this year. The group did not bring forth any new projects for this year's funding cycle</p>	<p>Jeremy will put together a specific proposal for a grant application. The NRCS will hopefully provide GCD and TNC with a cost estimate for the Lower Mill Creek Project and a grant proposal will be prepared by GCD and TNC.</p> <p>Arne will communicate with Sarah the group's concerns and speak to her about possibilities for her to present information to concerned parties and the MAWP.</p>
Annual Project Updates	<p>Arne and Dave Erley reported that 3 of the 4 spring development projects in the 2013 grant have been completed. We are not sure if the deadline to finish the projects is this July, or July 2016. Dave informed the group he would have difficulty getting volunteers to finish the last spring before July 2015.</p> <p>Dave reported that work on the 7 spring development projects funded in 2014 has not begun yet.</p> <p>Dave reported the Placer Creek Reseeding project was complete and all the reimbursements have been made. The final report has been written but is missing required post-</p>	<p>Arne will ask UDWQ when the 2013 projects need to be completed. Dave will let the group know when monitoring for the Placer Creek project will take place.</p>

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	<p>project monitoring. The monitoring cannot be done till after this spring and Dave will let us know when that can take place. The BLM has been working with Moab Solutions on Phase 1 of the Mill Creek restoration project. Funding should be available from UDWQ by June and that project will proceed then.</p> <p>The City of Moab Wagner Street project is waiting on the grant agreement from UDWQ. The project can proceed once the agreement has been signed.</p>	
Watershed Coordinator Update	Other than reporting he has not completed all the tasks he was given at the November meeting, the update was not presented because due to lack of time.	Hopefully this will be presented at the next meeting.
Items not on the Agenda	Ranking Criteria, Section 2.8, 9, & 10	Arne put these items out as not on the agenda, using it as a place holder for future meetings.
Adjourn	The next meeting will be March 18 at the Grand Center	Adjournment