

# VERDE RIVER BASIN PARTNERSHIP

<http://www.vwa.org/vrbp.htm>

Partnership Coordinating Committee

Ed Wolfe, Chair

## Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Location: Verde Room, Jerome Town Hall, Jerome, Arizona

Time: 2:00pm

Guests in Attendance: Win Hjalmarson, Tom Slaback, Joan McClelland, Brent Maupin, Keran O'Brien

1. **Establish quorum.** In attendance: Bob Luzius, Ed Wolfe, Dick Ellis, Dee Hines, Dorothy O'Brien, Jane Moore, Doug Von Gausig- Quorum established.
2. **Introductions of committee members and public attending.**
3. Approval of the minutes of previous Coordinating Committee meeting(s). Motion made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the March 30, 2009 meeting.
4. **Reports from Committee Chairs:**
  1. Coordinating Committee: Doug Von Gausig reported that he and Ed Wolfe met with Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick's northern Arizona aide, Virginia Turner on May 12 to seek Rep. Kirkpatrick's support in obtaining federal funding for the USGS work under Title II as specified in the revised VRBP-USGS 2009 Hydrology Science Plan. Rep. Kirkpatrick replied subsequently via Virginia Turner that she is not inclined to support an appropriation request until the "two sides of the mountain" are in concert. She said if there was a significant change in that status she would consider it again for FY2011 appropriations.
  2. Technical Advisory Group (TAG): Ed Wolfe reported the revised 2009 Hydrology plan, which was prepared by the USGS was reviewed by the TAG's Hydrology Subcommittee. Jim Leenhouts of the USGS reviewed the committee's suggestions and revised the plan as appropriate. The plan has since been approved by the TAG, although there may be some additional comment from the Arizona Department of Water Resources.
  3. Communications Committee: Dorothy O'Brien reported that the VRBP website is running successfully with Diane Joens as the webmaster.
  4. Structure Committee: No report.
5. **Resignation of Coordinating Committee Chairman Von Gausig.** Doug noted that his resignation as Coordinating Committee Chair had been submitted to the Committee. He remains on the Coordinating Committee as chair of the Structure Committee, and is willing to continue as an at-large member of the Coordinating Committee. Motion made, seconded, and passed to accept Doug's resignation as chair. Motion made, seconded, and passed to thank Doug for his highly valued service as chair.
6. **Election and installation of new Chairman of the Coordinating Committee.** Vice Chair Bob Luzius asked for nominations for Coordinating Committee Chair. Doug Von Gausig nominated Ed Wolfe to the position of Chair. Motion, made, seconded, and passed to appoint Ed Wolfe as Coordinating Committee Chair. Bob Luzius will remain as Vice Chair.
7. **Discussion and possible action regarding strategies for the future success of the Verde River Basin Partnership.** Discussion centered on three possible options for movement of the Partnership to obtain federal funding for the USGS work in support of Title II. Options considered are: (a) mobilize an intensive grass-roots campaign to persuade our federal representatives to seek federal funding for the Partnership as it now exists; (b) reduce the focus of the work to address only the Verde Valley part of the basin (in effect, concentrate no effort in the upper Verde watershed); (c) dissolve the Partnership as it now exists and invite the Yavapai County Water Advisory Committee (WAC) to declare itself to be the Verde River Basin Partnership and to seek funding for the USGS work in coordination with WAC. It is recognized that selection of one of these options will require a vote of the Partnership's members, and option (a), in particular will require strong participation by the Partnership's members.
8. **Set Future meeting times and date(s).** July 13, 2009, 2pm, at the Jerome Fire Station was set for the next Partnership general meeting.