Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council Meeting December 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes (draft)

Attendees:

Board Members: James Baker, Sara Harris, Nathan Viavant, Joel Huesby, Ed Chesnut, Ralph Perkins, John Zerba, Clark Lampson (Zoom), Caty Clifton

Staff:

Troy Baker, Emily Tilden, Luke Adams, Eric Hoverson, Tara Patten, Graham Banks <u>Guests</u>:

Amy Charette, Jon Brough (Zoom)

(0:2:25) The Meeting was called to order by John Z. at 7:01 pm. Attendance of a quorum noted. Moved by Ed to approve minutes from Nov, seconded by Ralph.

(0:3:42) Flow Report by Luke Adams

Quick update for the 11/18/2023 – 12/18/2023 window.

SITE	CURRENT (12/18/23)	MEASURED FLOW & DATE	30-DAY MEDIAN
South Fork WW near confluence	139 cfs		123 cfs
North Fork WW near confluence	41 cfs		25.6 cfs
Couse Creek @ RM 1.1	8.1 cfs	3.0 cfs on 11/20/2023	3.2 cfs
WW @ 15 th Ave Bridge	220 cfs		172 cfs
(Grove)*			
Little WW Diversion *	55 cfs		
WW below Nursery	Not collecting data	Not collecting data	Not collecting data
Bridge			
WW below Tum-A-Lum	98 cfs		99.6 cfs
Pine Creek below	6.2 cfs	15.8 cfs on 12/5/23	2.3 cfs
Schubert			
Mill Creek (USGS data)	78 cfs		76.2 cfs

*OWRD data

**NRCS/SNOTEL- overall at 77% of the median water equivalent snowpack value.

- Emigrant Springs@ 33%
- High Ridge @ 81%
- Milk Shakes @ 75%
- Touchet @ 75%
- Spruce Springs @ 88%.
- Sourdough Gulch @ 50% **was asked if data could be provided about total precip (rainfall during these times too), Luke said he'd look into it

NOAA/NWS update- Slight degradation; overall Umatilla was warmer than normal. Looking ahead, temp is likely to continue to be above normal in warmth with normal chances of precipitation.

(0:13:42) 2023 Year-in-Review

- Mill Creek watershed; most of the summer through Oct. Data combined on map with N and S Fork watersheds as well, from previous years.
- North Fork as a whole; restoration construction first reach completed, second reach design close.
- Big and Little Meadows assessment funding work
- o Couse Creek RM4 low tech restoration
- Cup Gulch Assessment
- Dry Creek Landowner Engagement project groundwork
- Watershed Stewardship Workshops
- o Recharge
- PSP Sampling
- Basin Trend Monitoring

(1:10:39) Board member appreciation

(1:17:04) Announcements

- December photo contest: let it snow
- The next board meeting is January 15th, 7-8:30p.
- Bi-State Flow meeting January 23rd
- BAC meeting January 24th

(1:19:04) Meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.