

City of Kingman
Water Sustainability Task Force
Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2025

Committee Members Present:

- Rob Owen – Chairman, Public Works Director, City of Kingman
- Randy Gremlich, P.E. – Floodplain District Engineer, Mohave County
- Mike Garmon – City Engineer, City of Kingman
- Scott Holtry – Development Services Director, Mohave County
- David Dale – Public Member
- Bob Posey – Water Resource Manager, City of Kingman
- Robie Crockett – Committee Clerk, Flood Control Office Specialist, Mohave County

Absent Members:

- Katherine Fish – Vice Chairman, Floodplain Programs Manager, Mohave County
- Andrew Brischke - Public Member
- Tim Walsh – City Manager, City of Kingman

Staff Present:

- Mike Prior – Civil Engineer, P.E., Mohave County

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm, by Chairman, Rob Owen.

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman, Rob Owen.

Announcement:

Chairman, Rob Owen announced that today is probably his last time attending Water Sustainability Task Force Meeting as he is planning to retire after 33 years of service. There is no definitive date yet, but it'll probably be before the next meeting. Moving forward, Bob Posey will be taking over for the city side.

- **Approval of Minutes:**

Bob Posey requested to correct the month of his conference to May not March. Minutes corrected. David Dale moved to approve the minutes from January 22, 2025. Randy Gremlich seconded. All in favor.

- **Election of Officer**

Chairman, Rob Owen stated that Bob Posey will be taking over for the city. Due to some members not present, election is tabled for next meeting.

- **Bylaws Review and Approval**

Chairman, Rob Owen shared a handout of the Bylaws and Rules of Procedures for the City of Kingman, Arizona Water Sustainability Task Force. He gave an overview of what it is for and asked for members approval. David Dale moved that the current Bylaws and Rules be approved. Randy Gremlich seconded the motion. All in favor.

- **Drought Contingency Plan**

Chairman, Rob stated that the Drought Contingency Plan is funded by Bureau of Reclamation. Funds were frozen with the new administration up until couple of weeks ago. Project is now back moving forward, and Bob Posey will be the primary contact for the consultants and Bureau of Reclamation. Budget is set aside for some public outreach. Task Force will act as a technical advisory committee. Draft versions will be provided to members to get input. He stated that we need to put together a larger stakeholder group that will include ranchers and farmers, open houses and probably a project website and hopefully, the group can help in reviewing and ensuring good quality product for this project that the city and county can both stand behind. He is also hoping to lay out some mitigation project addressing drought

conditions and will try to have a consultant join the upcoming meetings via Zoom or Teams to finalize the work plan. David Dale stated that Kat is good with grants and that she is a vital part of this project.

- **Mohave County Projects**

Scott Holtry and Randy Gremlich provided updates on current Flood Control projects:

- ***Monitoring Wells*** – Flood Control is in process of drilling three monitoring wells to keep track of ground water. The plan is about 99% completed and construction is expected to start within the next month or so. Randy Gremlich stated that with this project, we should be able to find out in real time the effect of any storms or city's recharge effort.

David Dale asked if the spots are far enough between the monitoring wells to cover the entire aquifer.

Randy Gremlich stated that monitoring wells are spaced out and we should get a good representation of the aquifer.

- ***Feldspar Detention Basin*** – This project will help protect the northwest part of the city. It should be able to put in average 15-acre feet of water per year into the ground. Construction is expected to start in August or September once Right-of-Way from the Bureau of Land Management is received. GSA company completed an in depth scientific study on the groundwater infiltration capability. There is already a contract for the construction.
- ***Riata and Crestwood Detention Basin*** – This project is located along the west side of Kingman. Of note, 100% of the designs are completed and the county is waiting for the State Land of Arizona to approve the use the of state land. As of now, there's no timetable yet.
- ***Mohave-Rattlesnake Wash Detention Basin*** – This is a new basin at the confluence of Mohave Wash and Rattlesnake Wash. The design has started and will take several months to complete. The county acquired 100 acres of land north of Grace Neal Parkway. There is a grant money already available which Flood Control received for this project, but it may only cover half and the county is hopeful to acquire another

grant to cover the difference. Flood Control will be submitting the application for congressional funding for this project.

Mike Garmon asked if the basin address existing floating or also address future developed condition.

Randy Gremlich stated it's mainly existing. It won't intercept 100-year flow and we should get 10-year or maybe 25-year detention out of it.

Chairman, Rob Owen asked if the plan is only for basins or is there plan for dry wells as well.

Randy Gremlich stated that it'll be basins that will meter out the flow very slowly across dry wells and infiltration trenches. Additionally, it has potential to do a lot of good and help protect the water treatment plant.

- ***USGS Water Model*** – Currently waiting for some information from ADWR for any data they have from the farms on well activities that they should be reporting to ADWR. Flood Control conducted aerial surveys of the farms to see what is out there and compared it with the tagged crop, plug it in the model to see what the projections would be. Once more information is received, it will be shared with the group.

- **City of Kingman Projects**

Chairman, Rob Owen provided updates on current City of Kingman projects:

- ***Water Meter Replacement*** – City is wrapping up meter replacement project. Most meters average lifecycle is at 12 years. As such, these meters fail to produce accurate statistics on water usage. As a result, the deficiency in water consumption data is in the customer's favor where city is supplying water not being billed or paid for. Importantly, the new automated reading system transmits every 15 minutes to one of the repeater stations and transmitted downtown to utility building. This system will provide good information on a regular basis. For example, if it shows large water usage at 3 am, city can notify the customer and check the root of the problem. About 630 new meters are to be installed in New Kingman Butler area which is grant funded through WIFA. Additionally,

another grant application was submitted for WIFA for approximately 4,000 more water meters.

- ***Well Site Flow Meter Replacement*** – City will be replacing 9 flow meters at well sites. Current meters are old and probably not plumbed right when they were constructed. These new flow meters will provide accurate information when water is being taken out of the ground and when being provided to customer.
- ***City Water Audit*** – The city is focused on acquiring accurate data of water being pulled from the ground to ensure water selling is reasonable while eliminating data entry errors, to include bad and/or incomplete information in the system. Bob Posey stated that the city is discussing calibration whether it is for large meters or small meters to maintain level of accuracy through time.
- ***Water Quality*** – The city is focused on operations for water quality and went through the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions and completed an inventory of lead in water service lines. There is no historical information of lead found in Kingman water service lines.

Randy Gremlich asked about the effluent from treatment plants.

Chairman, Rob Owen stated that the recharge wells are complete but not in operation right now. The city is looking at doing some additional filtration. Requirements for the permit for water quality to recharge are met but not the drinking water standards. Under the previous administration, there was a talk about drinking water standards will become the new effluent standard. There is a budget for next year for this project for additional filtration to get it to drinking water standard.

Randy Gremlich asked if the effluent is being released to the wash.

Chairman, Rob Owen answered yes, it is being discharged to the wash and is covered under the protection permit.

Scott Holtry asked if effluent is not getting down into the basin at all.

Chairman, Rob Owen stated that there's going to be some infiltration from the discharge to the wash. The well is not direct, so it doesn't go directly to the aquifer, but it goes out a lot further.

David Dale asked if there's any discussions within the city or state regarding fluoride.

Chairman, Rob Owen stated that there are fluoride standards for drinking water, but they never added fluoride to water. Fluoride occurs naturally.

David Dale asked how the city provides water bill to the city buildings and golf course.

Chairman, Rob Owen stated that all the buildings are on metered water and accounted for. He suggested that Mike Meersman or Tina Moline, City of Kingman's Finance Director will be a better place to start to get more information.

David Dale mentioned about the next dry well location and hoping to have it tabled in next meeting. He also asked why ADOT was not involved in any mitigation of the water coming out of the new construction.

Chairman, Rob Owen stated that there are subject state regulations. Any big construction projects must comply with all state requirements for plans and permits. City doesn't have any jurisdiction over ADOT.

- **Partnering Opportunities**

Chairman, Rob Owen stated that at some point, he would like someone from the city to be involve with USGS groundwater model updates.

Scott Holtry stated that the county will have someone to work with the city. He also addressed about the ongoing Bank St project. 100% plans should be completed soon and will start getting it ready out to bid. Still working out with utility companies to move their facilities to make room and may take 4 to 5 months.

- **Grant Opportunities**

- **WIFA** – City has one awarded and another application submitted.
- **FEMA BRIC** – This grant has been eliminated.
- **WIFA** – County received 2 million to construct Feldspar Detention Basin.
- **Congressional Funding** – County will be submitting congressional funding application to add for the construction of Mohave-Rattlesnake Detention Basin.

Chairman, Rob Owen stated that the City Manager, Finance Director, Mayor, and Vice Mayor will all be heading to Washington D.C. in couple weeks to meet with legislators to talk about direct spending and track some things down.

- **Legislative Update**

Chairman, Rob Owen shared recent updates from Governor's office where Gov. Hobbs vetoed 7 water bills.

- **Public Outreach Opportunities**

Public outreach opportunities will increase as the team work with the Drought Contingency Plans.

- **New Development Issues**

David Dale asked if the city or county look at 100-year supply of water prior approving new development.

Scott Holtry stated that the county requires a 100-year adequacy certificate on the plat or if it's not available, it needs to be stated on the plat and the Board of Supervisors has the authority to say yes or no.

Chairman, Rob Owen added the county involves the city for subdivision reviews.

Articles and/or Conferences

- Northern Arizona Municipal Water Users Association Conference – Flagstaff, AZ – May 23, 2025
- Law of Colorado River Conference – Tucson, AZ – April 28-29, 2025
- Arizona Public Works Association – Tucson, AZ – August 2025
- Water Resource Conference – Tucson, AZ – Summer

Comments/Announcements by Task Force Members

Committee Clerk, Robie Crockett mentioned about the USGS reimbursement request, and that the city should receive a \$25,000 invoice from the county.

Call to Public

No one came forward.

Next Meeting

Bob Posey will send out invites for the next meeting and looking to schedule around last week of August.

Adjournment

Chairman, Rob Owen adjourned the meeting at 3:09 pm.

Minutes approved at the meeting of _____.