MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
WATER QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, April 2, 1998
MAG Office Building
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

James Kaylor, City of Glendale, Chairman
*Esmie Azila, City of Avondale
Pat Sampson for Jacqueline Strong, City of Chandler
Manuel Dominguez for Leonard Rivera, City of El Mirage
Lonnie Frost, Town of Gilbert
*Councilmember Perry Hubbard, City of Litchfield Park
Bill Haney for Ralph Wisz, City of Mesa
*Kevin Kadlec, City of Peoria
Bob Hollander, City of Phoenix
*Jim Nelson, City of Scottsdale
*Barbara Olivieri, City of Tempe
John Boyer, Arizona Public Service
*Steve Hildreth, Arizona State Land Department
Jack Watson for Michael Maurer, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension
John Power, Maricopa County Department of Environmental Services
Ajay Shah, Motorola
*Mark Courtney, Phoenix Chamber of Commerce
Ray Hedrick, Salt River Project
Gene Cetwinski, Valley Forward Association
Eugene T. Jensen, Citizen Representative
Laura Watson, Citizen Representative
Elaine Arena, Citizen Representative

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS PRESENT

Jerry Rathke, Arizona Department of Water Resources
Carol Aby, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Lorraine Borro-Ayers, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
John Hathaway, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
V.C. Danos, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association
Christine Hennemann, Carollo Engineers
Thom Besett, Carollo Engineers
Bruce Ringwald, Arizona Department of Administration
Anthony Zelenak, Arizona Department of Corrections

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the MAG Water Quality Advisory Committee was conducted on Thursday, April 2, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. James Kaylor, City of Glendale, Chairman, announced that since a quorum was not present a discussion would begin with Agenda Item 2.

2. Approval of June 3, 1996, Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the June 3, 1996 meeting. Eugene T. Jensen, Citizen Representative, noted that on page five of the minutes a sentence should be corrected to reflect that the Federal Prison System wastewater facility is in New River and not in Perryville.

3. MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Small Plant Process - ASPC Lewis/Juvenile Complex

Mr. Thom Besett, Carollo Engineers, gave a presentation on the Arizona State Prison Complex - Lewis/Juvenile Complex. He indicated that the proposed facility would be located in Maricopa County between Interstate 10 and Interstate 85. The owner of the facility is the Arizona Department of Administration and the operator will be the Arizona Department of Corrections. The wastewater treatment facility will serve the Lewis Prison Complex. Mr. Besett explained that the facility will have a capacity of 0.75 million gallons per day and all of the treated effluent will be used on the prison grounds to irrigate recreation fields, gardens and green ways.

1. Call to Order

At this point, a quorum had been reached. Chairman Kaylor called the meeting to order.

3. MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan Small Plant Process - ASPC Lewis/Juvenile Complex (continued)

Mr. Besett continued with his presentation. He indicated that any remaining effluent will be utilized to irrigate the sod farm that the Department of Corrections will maintain. Mr. Besett also indicated that the Bureau of Reclamation and the Army Corps of Engineers may create a wetlands in close proximity to the wastewater treatment facility and that this could be an additional use of the treated effluent.

Chairman Kaylor asked the committee members if there were any questions on the proposed wastewater treatment facility for the Lewis Prison Complex.

Gene Cetwinski, Valley Forward Association, asked if the effluent would be used to irrigate edible crops noting that the effluent would be treated with tertiary and ultraviolet processes. Mr. Besett indicated that effluent from the facility would not be used on edible crops. He explained that the tertiary and ultraviolet treatment were redundant treatments.

Chairman Kaylor indicated that he read the report that Carollo Engineers had provided and that he was comfortable with the facility. He stated that the facility had a conservative design and that the capacity appeared to be planned for properly.

Bob Hollander, City of Phoenix, asked if there would be enough turf area to utilize all of the effluent.

Mr. Besett indicated that all of the effluent would probably be used on the recreational fields and the sod farm. In addition, Mr. Besett indicated that two lagoons would be available for storage if the capacity was needed.

Chairman Kaylor indicated that this agenda item was for information, discussion and possible recommendation to the Management Committee for the approval of the facility as part of the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan. Mr. Cetwinski moved and Mr. Hollander seconded and it was unanimously passed that the proposed ASPC Lewis/Juvenile Complex Wastewater Treatment facility be recommended for approval as part of the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan.

4. Arizona Unified Water Quality Permit Rewrite Project

It was decided that this item would be heard and discussed later in the meeting.

5. Arizona Licensing Time Frames

Ms. Drenan Dudley, Maricopa Associations of Governments, made a presentation on the Arizona Licensing Time Frames. Ms. Dudley indicated that according to State law, ADEQ must identify and set application review times for all licenses that the Department issues in rule by December 31, 1998. Once the rules are in place, if ADEQ fails to make a licensing decision within the time frame, the Department is subject to sanctions. Ms. Dudley indicated that ADEQ is in the informal rule-making part of the process and ADEQ anticipates proposing a unitary rule that has two main parts including an Administrative Completeness Review Time Frame and a Substantive Review Time Frame. Many stakeholders participated in the draft rule effort. A proposed rule is expected in April 1998. However, ADEQ recently indicated that this proposal may be delayed.

Chairman Kaylor asked what the impetus was behind the State law.

Elaine Arena, Citizen Representative, indicated that the law applies to all State agencies but that there had been many complaints about the delay and back log of ADEQ issuing permits.

6. Arizona Statewide Watershed Framework

Mr. John Hathaway, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, made a presentation on the Arizona Statewide Watershed Framework. Mr. Hathaway indicated that this effort has many purposes including organizing ADEQ efforts around watersheds, building effective

partnerships to share resources and divide workloads, gaining a better understanding of local issues through local leadership, ensuring enough clean water and maintaining a healthy environment and sustainable future. The key facets of the program are geographic water management zones and a unified view of water including ground water and surface water. Mr. Hathaway outlined the key elements that would be taken toward each management zone and noted that the approach is flexible. In addition, Mr. Hathaway named the sequence of the watershed projects and described what activity has occurred to date.

Mr. Hollander indicated that this project has some large issues that might affect Total Maximum Daily Loads and potential anti-degradation rules. He indicated that this effort is an opportunity to bring Non-Point Source pollution into the regulated framework. He also indicated that this was a worthwhile project.

Laura Watson, Citizen Representative, stated that she admired the ADEQ for initiating and maintaining this effort because politics had precluded the effort from commencing earlier.

Chairman Kaylor commended the Department for examining and then utilizing information from previous watershed programs in other states. He noted that the federal government is interested in unifying water quality efforts.

Eugene T. Jensen, Citizen Representative, also indicated that this project was a good idea. He indicated that it would be difficult to organize all of the stakeholders in an effective manner. He also indicated that the effort should focus on wet streams.

Jack Watson, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension, indicated that he was impressed with the efforts of the Gila Monster project that developed out of this effort.

2. Approval of June 3, 1996, Meeting Minutes

Since the meeting had been called to order, Chairman Kaylor offered to entertain a motion to approve the minutes as corrected in the previous discussion. Bill Haney, City of Mesa, moved and John Power, Maricopa County Department of Environmental Services, seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes from the June 3, 1996 meeting as revised.

4. Arizona Unified Water Quality Permit Rewrite Project

Mr. Chuck Graf, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, gave a presentation on the current efforts of the Unified Water Quality Permit Rewrite project. Mr. Graf indicated that the project was an outgrowth of the back log that the Department was experiencing in issuing water quality permits. He stated that some projects needed many permits and that some of the information required for each permit was the same. Therefore, in late 1997 a steering committee, which consists of stakeholders, was established to make recommendations to the ADEQ regarding unification of water quality permits. Mr. Graf said there were many subcommittees that were a part of this effort including the unified permit process, mining,

industrial facilities, NPDES and UIC primacy, stormwater, constructed wetlands, wastewater treatment facility and on-site system (EB12) subcommittees.

Mr. Graf indicated that the subcommittees were concluding their efforts and were beginning to make recommendations to the Steering Committee. Mr. Graf provided examples of some of the recommendations that were being made and indicated that he would like to come back to the Water Quality Advisory Committee when he could provide information on the final recommendations made by the subcommittees and the steering committee to ADEQ.

Lonnie Frost, Town of Gilbert, asked Mr. Graf how long it would take for ADEQ to take action on the recommendations from this effort.

Mr. Graf indicated that all of the recommendations should be made by April 16, 1998 and that ADEQ would need at least nine months to take action on the recommendations.

Mr. Hollander indicated that ADEQ and many stakeholders have worked diligently on this report and he expressed his concern that there would be no action taken by ADEQ on the report.

Mr. Graf recognized this concern and indicated that the project has the support of ADEQ upper management and it is important to Mr. Graf.

Chairman Kaylor asked what the philosophy of the State is on obtaining NPDES primacy.

Mr. Graf stated that initially the State wanted primacy. He also indicated that the stakeholders, after researching the issue, indicated that the concept of primacy was good but that it may not be wise at this time. He added that a major concern of the stakeholders was how primacy would affect Water Quality Standards. In addition, Mr. Graf added that NPDES primacy would also make the State responsible for the storm water programs and that responsibility would be a large.

Ray Hedrick, Salt River Project, added that if the State assumed primacy there may be a fee involved for the applicants. Currently, the EPA does not have a fee for applicants. In addition, he indicated that many of the stakeholders want to gain benefits from unifying State programs before ADEQ takes responsibility for primacy of new programs.

7. <u>West Valley Central Arizona Project Subcontractors (WESTCAPS)</u>

Ms. Dudley made a presentation on the West Valley Central Arizona Project Subcontractors (WESTCAPS). The organization is made up of twelve Central Arizona Project subcontractors in the west Salt River Valley. The organization was formed to accomplish several outcome goals including protection, preservation and enhancement of CAP allocations; efficient use of CAP and other renewable water resources; understand and influence water policy in the State; and develop long-term and sustainable regional water resource management, infrastructure and implementation. Currently, WESTCAPS is doing

strategic research that will allow the organization to describe the current situation, potential future outcomes and identify key strategic issues. MAG serves as an advisor to the technical committee of WESTCAPS.

8. Call to the Public

An opportunity was provided to members of the public to address the Water Quality Advisory Committee. No comments were presented.

Bill Haney, City of Mesa, asked if the MAG 208 Water Quality Management Plan would be updated in the near future. He indicated that the 208 process was cumbersome and that Arizona was one of only two states that utilize the process.

Mr. Hollander indicated that the process comes out of the Clean Water Act. He stated that the Arizona Unified Water Quality Permit Rewrite Project Wastewater Treatment Plant Subcommittee explored the 208 process and found it to be a viable process. Mr. Hollander indicated that 208 planning is a live process but none-the-less it could be revisited and improved upon.

Chairman Kaylor also recognized that many of the aspects of the process are valuable including long-term planning and awareness of the activities in each of the jurisdictions. Chairman Kaylor stated that originally the process was established to distribute federal money.

Ms. Arena, Citizen Representative, asked how other states handle 208 water quality management planning.

Chairman Kaylor asked MAG staff to research what other similar states are doing and to talk to EPA Region 9 staff.

Mr. Hollander indicated that since the area is a rapid growth area, a planning process is needed.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Kaylor at 12:00 p.m.