

# SONOITA CREEK FLOOD and FLOW STUDY COMMITTEE

MISSION: The watershed is a vital component of this community's well being. The Sonoita Creek Flood and Flow Study Committee will (i) make recommendations to the Patagonia Town Council with respect to best practices within its jurisdiction to manage erosion, to enhance water flow, to create optimal flood mitigation and to promote the long-term health of the riparian corridor, (ii) look at the entire watershed area to influence upstream conditions and to optimize downstream consequences, and (iii) educate the public.

## MINUTES for January 12, 2017 Meeting

ATTENDEES: Dave Teel, Dave Ellis, John Hays, Brent Bowden, Kate Tirion, Carolyn Shafer.  
Guests: Bill O'Brien, Randeisa Riggs, Susan Belt, Tomas Jonsson, Oliver Lysaght.

1. Dave Ellis moves and Carolyn seconds to approve the December 8, 2016 Minutes; motion unanimously adopted.
2. Retention pond solution (update by Dave Ellis) - Dave provided us with interesting historical experiences of flood events. Dave proposes that based on the history it is the SHORT term water event that is a CRITICAL event. Work in the Redrock / Harshaw creek bed could be an excellent mitigation activity. There was extensive discussion about the economic impact of flood insurance and other factors related to that program.
3. Watershed Planning Concepts - Bill O'Brien of NextGen Engineering - Bill shared some additional information about creating Watershed Management Plan. Phase I is an annotated outline and would be a 1-2 months project with a \$5,000 cost. All agreed such a plan is important to informed decision making.
4. Grant Opportunity: there followed a discussion about the annual PRCF grant cycle and that this Committee could apply for a \$5,000 grant to accomplish Phase I of a Watershed Management Plan. Following discussion, Brent moved to apply for the grant with a second by Kate; motion unanimously adopted to request Town Council approval for the F&F Committee to submit a grant application to PRCF.
5. Next Meeting: February 9, 2017 at 10 a.m.

### PARKING LOT (future agenda items)

- Town of Patagonia watershed designation by FS
- Town of Patagonia water improvement projects
- Santa Cruz County flood plain review
- List of private owners of creek bed
- Conservation easement
- Public education program on water related issues
- Flood mitigation plan
- Active Water Management Area (AMA)
- AZ Municipal Water Users Association
- Discussion of possible funding sources

QUARTERLY REPORT:

- sub-committee on upstream water retention (Tirion, Bowden, Peterson)
- sub-committee on retention pond solution (Reese, Bowden, Hays, Beauregard)
- Story of the Creek brochure

### RADAR SCREEN

- Hudbay property ownership