**Town of Patagonia, Arizona Flood and Flow 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 mitigate downstream consequences, and (iii) educate the public.*

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**:

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| --- | --- |
| Carolyn Shafer-*F&F* ***Chairperson*** &  *Patagonia Area Resource Alliance:* ***PARA***  Dave Ellis-*Patagonia Area Water Study:* ***PAWS***  Marty Lawrence-*The Nature Conservancy:* ***TNC*** Robert Proctor-Friends of Sonoita Creek ***FOSC*** | Kate Tirion-Deep Dirt farm: ***DDFI***  Kurt Vaughn-Borderlands Restoration Network:  ***BRN***  Howard Buchanan-Tucson Audubon Paton Center: ***TAPC*** |

# Minutes of March 11, 2021 Meeting

**Members Present:** Carolyn, Howard, Bob, Marty, Kate, Kurt, Dave **Members Absent:**

**Guests:** Ron Robinson (Patagonia Town Manager), Michael Stabile (Patagonia Vice

Mayor), Francesca Claveria (Patagonia Council Member and Borderlands Restoration

Network), Jennifer Varin (FS Watershed Manager), Zac Ribbing (FS), Hailey Stock (FS

Environmental Engineering), Peter Leiterman (TNC), Sarah Richman (South32), Shelley White (Simmons College Professor)

Meeting called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Carolyn Shafer

1. Call to the Public - no one spoke
2. February 11, 2021 Minutes: Howard moves to approve Minutes, Marty seconds, Minutes are unanimously approved.
3. Howard reported that the grant to fund a formal watershed management group has been filed and now we wait.
4. Howard updated the Committee regarding the status of the funding opportunities for

FMA and BRIC Notice of Intent which now involves working through ADEMA

(Arizona Dept of Emergency and Military Affairs); application filed and now we wait.

1. Bob advised that he and Coronado Forest Service Watershed Manager Jennifer Varin are bringing together various FS Sierra Vista and Nogales District staff working in the watershed to understand ongoing and future projects; FS representatives presented during the February meetings and are presenting today at the March meeting.
2. Bob advises that the Sonoran Institute is presenting the 2021 Santa Cruz River

Research Days event on March 25 & 26; Bob has drafted a brief presentation that

Carolyn will speak about the unfolding events in the Sonoita Creek Watershed.

1. Carolyn gave an update on the status of AZDEQ proposed clean water regulations

House Committee hearing. At the March hearing before the Senate Committee, the ADEQ Water Quality Director advised that the Harshaw Creek is now on the list of state protected waters.

1. Carolyn gave an update on Arizona Mineral’s (South32) AZDPES Permit Application advising that the EPA and Congressman Grijalva have advised ADEQ they are following the application process.
2. Carolyn gave an update on the Flood & Flow Committee update to the Town of Patagonia Council at its March 10 meeting.

10.Several representatives of the Sierra Vista District of the Coronado National Forest provided updates on activities.

11. Bob makes a Motion to adjourn; seconded by Kate. The meeting is adjourned at 10:40 a.m.