**SONOITA CREEK FLOOD and FLOW STUDY COMMITTEE**

MISSION: The watershed is a vital component of this community’s wellbeing.  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.

**MINUTES for Meeting via ZOOM**

**10 a.m., Thursday, May 11, 2023**

1. Call to Order—Bill O’Brien called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.
2. Roll Call—Bill O’Brien present, Bob Proctor present, Aaron Mrotek present, Howard Buchanan present, Kate Tirion present, Tess Wagner present, Ron Robinson present. Absent Rodrigo Sierra-Corona

PUBLIC PRESENT: Tomas Goode (South32) Alex Johnson (FOSC)

1. Pledge of Allegiance—Bill led the Pledge of Allegiance
2. Correction and/or Approval of Minutes from April 13, 2023, regular monthly meeting

**MOTION:** Ron moved to approve the Minutes from April 13, 2023, regular monthly meeting.

**SECOND:** Bob Proctor

**VOTE:** The motion passed with unanimous consent

1. Call to Public A. R. S. §38-431-01(H):  AT THIS TIME, ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC IS ALLOWED TO ADDRESS THE TOWN COMMITTEE, SUBJECT TO REASONABLE TIME AND MANNER RESTRICTIONS.  THE PUBLIC WILL ONLY BE RECOGNIZED TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS LISTED FOR PUBLIC INPUT PURSUANT TO TOWN CODE SECTION 2-5-6.  PURSUANT TO THE ARIZONA OPEN MEETING LAW, AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CALL TO THE PUBLIC, INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL MAY RESPOND TO CRITICISM MADE BY THOSE WHO HAVE ADDRESSED THE COUNCIL, MAY ASK STAFF TO REVIEW THE MATTER, OR MAY ASK THE MATTER BE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA.  HOWEVER, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC BODY SHALL NOT DISCUSS OR TAKE LEGAL ACTION ON MATTERS RAISED DURING AN OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS THE MATTERS ARE PROPERLY NOTICED FOR DISCUSSION AND LEGAL ACTION. No one spoke.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Update on the Patagonia Regional Flood Control Project Feasibility Study. (Bill O’Brien) Bill advised the committee that the County, Town & Kimley-Horn met on April 19th to discuss Phase 1 of this project. Phase 1 will be the collection of new higher-tech data to update the floodplain maps. The next meeting will be at the end of June.
2. Update on the process for the flood control permit for South32 relative to the Cross Creek Connector road. (Carolyn Shafer and Bob Proctor) Bob advised that the PRT released an update on South32’s progress.
3. Update on the University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center on the Town of Patagonia’s “Drought Response Planning for Water Resilient Communities.” (Howard Buchanan and Bob Proctor)

No updates. Howard said the report should be out in June.

1. Update on working with the Coronado Forest Service to begin drafting Watershed Restoration Action Plans (Carolyn Shafer, Bob Proctor, Howard Buchanan). Bob advised that the Coronado staff are working on a report and will advise him during the week of May 15th about next steps.

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1. Discuss status of Parking Lot items:
   1. Comprehensive Groundwater Study. (Look at South32’s groundwater management video)

Bill showed the South32 video about potential flooding and also shared the South32 slide on the cone of depression enhanced by Robert Gay to show identifying landmarks. Tomas advised that South32 is monitoring the watershed.

* 1. Town of Patagonia Municipal Watershed Plan. the Town drafted Phase 1 of a plan in 2017.
  2. Watershed Stakeholders Group. Howard advised that the title of this item should change to reflect what it is. It should be “Application to USBR for the Cooperative Watershed Management Program” (CWMP) for the Sonoita Creek Watershed.
  3. Community Database of Water Studies. Howard advised that the TAS, TNC and BRN continue to work on creating the database of water studies and monitoring. This could take 1 to1 ½ years.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. School Canyon Failure of CCC Structures (See attached report from Bob Proctor & emails) Bob said he and Chuck visited the site with Sierra Vista Ranger Daisy Kinsey and another USFS employee. The Forest Service is working on a solution but there are budget issues. Bob said he would be willing to meet with South32 and share what information and pics he has. Tomas said he would share the information internally with South32.
2. Next Regular Monthly Meeting: June 8, 2023, at 10 a.m.

1. Future Agenda Items--No Items were discussed.
2. Adjourn

**MOTION:** Bob Proctor moved to adjourn.

**SECOND:** Ron

**VOTE:** The motion passed with unanimous consent.

**TIME ADJOURNED:** 11:14 AM

PARKING LOT: TBD

RADAR SCREEN

Hudbay property ownership