**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 Zoom Meeting**

**Meeting I.D. 957-511-4862 Passcode 338501**

**10 a.m., Thursday, May 16, 2024**

1. Call to Order: Bill

**Committee Members:**  *Bill O’Brien-Chair/PTE, Ron Robinson-TM, Aaron Mrotek-TNC, Rodrigo Sierra-Corona- BRN, Carolyn Shafer-PARA, Kathy Pasierb-FoSC & recording secretary, Bob Proctor-FoSC, Howard Buchanan -TAS,* *Chris Gardner-Hydrologist PARA, Kate Tirion.*

1. Roll Call; Ron, Bob, Kathy, Rodrigo, Bill, Aaron, Carolyn, Kate

Guests: Alan Sanchez, Tomas Goode

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Bill
2. Correction and/or Approval of Minutes from April 18, 2024, regular monthly meeting. Ron moves, Bill second. Two Corrections; Bob moves and Kate second. *Changes made on Apr minutes*
3. 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

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Update on School Canyon Failure of CCC Structures- Impact on Town and Watershed Analysis

(Bob Proctor*): Kate noticed that the culvert is higher than the berm.*

*Lowest part of the berm is 38” at the bottom of the culvert.*

*Overflow spillway is 14” below the berm.*

*The berm is 56” above the floor of the stock tank.*

*Bob requested permission from Ken Morrow-President of Mesa HOA to inspect the 9 ponds.*

*Bill reports that the engineering firm design plan for the Forest Service property & the Mesa HOA will be presented to Borderlands Restoration Network.*

1. Patagonia Regional Flood Control Project Feasibility Study Update (Allan Sanchez, Bill O’Brien)

*Alan- Received survey information and Kimly-Horn is assessing it. Phase 2 plan will be available at the end of July or early August.*

1. Update on Potential Aquifer Management Area (AMA or RMA) for Sonoita Creek Watershed (Bob

Proctor)

*The Cienega Groundwater Basin consists of Cienega Creek, upper Elgin Babocomari & upper Sonoita Creek Municipal Watershed. Governor’s water advisory panel is forming a rural water working group with Chris Kuzdos. 57 people are listed in the group. 29 have signed a letter opposing state bill SB 1221. Bob is offering to represent the town. Ron suggested to Bob to send a letter of intent to him. June 4 County Board of Supervisors meeting to present AMA & RMA issues. Chris Kuzdos will be presenting.*

1. Harshaw Creek Watershed Restoration Plan – F&F subcommittee appointments, status, and discuss Town position (Howard)

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Update on the Hermosa Project NEPA process (Carolyn).

*PARA will send a letter to advise on how to comment on the S32 mining plan. There is a June 10 deadline to comment. The mine plan of operations is being read by PARA committees. Senator Grijalva has requested an extension to the comment period.*

1. Update of BLM Grant for Sonoita Creek Watershed Planning Group (Howard, Bill)

*Bob reports that the meeting is twice monthly. May 29 is a stakeholder meeting 1-3 pm. by Zoom. Bill will send an invite to the Flood and Flow Committee. U of A -WWRC is helping with application for a grant.*

1. Invite to Join Rural Water group (Ron)

F & F has nominated Bob to represent the town.

1. Next Regular Monthly Meeting: June 21, 2024, at 10 a.m. Via Zoom.

14. Future Agenda Items

15. Adjourn *Ron moves Carolyn second*

PARKING LOT (future agenda items)

Community Database of Water Studies

RADAR SCREEN

Hudbay property ownership