



Moses Lake Watershed Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 18, 2025 - 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

In-person/Teleconference
CBCD Office

903 W. 3rd Ave, Moses Lake, WA 98837

Meeting Minutes

Call to order - 10:01 AM

Introduction - Ron Sawyer

Attendance: Ridwan Akogun, Jason Buck, Sam Castro, Griffin Hansen, Ryan Van Goethem, Gene Welch, Randy Gubler, Joel Metcalfe, Deanna Martinez, Kristina Ribellia, Ron Sawyer, Stephanie Shopbell, Anna Maletzke, Ty Swartout

Council Member Reports/Updates - (All)

Phosphorus Mitigation Project - Ryan Van Goethem

Ryan Van Goethem shared an update on the phosphorus mitigation project. This year, the treatment system will be placed in a secure trailer including cameras. Installation is planned for the week of April 7. Seven totes of EutroSORB WC will be applied to complete the 2024 project, with a possible second round of seven more totes through a pending MLIRD project. A draft report is expected next week.

City of Moses Lake - Deanna Martinez

Deanna Martinez shared that the City of Moses Lake has submitted a request to the Washington State Capital Budget. In a separate effort, the city is looking to purchase a section of soon-to-be available railroad property. The goal is to redevelop the area so businesses can face the lake, supporting economic growth and encouraging lakefront development. A key part of this effort is ensuring water quality in the lake to attract investment. CBCD and MLWC are interested in partnering with the city to enhance and potentially preserve the shoreline as part of this project.

Grant County Health District - Stephanie Shopbell

Grant County Health District is currently working to fill open positions, three will be open by the end of the week. One of these roles supports the district's blue-green algae monitoring efforts. She also shared that revisions to the onsite septic system rules will go into effect on April 1, 2025. Local ordinances have been updated accordingly and will take effect on the same date. Key changes include increased minimum lot sizes and a new requirement



for certified operations and maintenance providers.

Grant County Tourism

No new updates.

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation - Ron Sawyer

A groundwater study will start in April, with monitoring at five locations. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and WDFW have granted the Columbia Basin Conservation District permission to collect the samples. Updates will be provided as they become available.

Washington Department of Ecology - Joel Metcalfe

Troutlodge is exploring ways to reduce phosphorus contributions, and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife plans to more comprehensively monitor both inputs and outputs from their hatchery operations to better manage nutrient impacts on the lake.

Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife - Ron Sawyer

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is excited to announce the hiring of Nick Buckmaster, the new Warmwater Team Leader in Region 2. Nick is an environmental scientist who has been working for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.. One of his first tasks will be to finish the 2024 Moses Lake Creel Survey. Published data is 9–10 years old.. This effort will help provide a clearer picture of the current state of local fisheries.

Citizen Representative - Ty Swartout

The 2025 Moses Lake Carp Classic is scheduled for May 17, 2025, at Connelly Park in Moses Lake. In support of the event, Moore Brewing in Moses Lake is launching a special beer, donating \$1.25 to the Carp Classic for every beer sold. So far, \$700 has been raised from Moore Brewing Co.

Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District - Sam Castro

Sam Castro shared that MLIRD has submitted and received approval for its North Dam Emergency Action Plan from the Department of Ecology (DOE). They are also working with NRCS on a grant for phase two of the lake treatment. Funding for this is currently frozen. Updates will be provided as they become available. MLIRD is conducting a natural flow study and is preparing for the Annual Lakeshore Cleanup, scheduled for Saturday, March 22, from 8 AM to noon. Volunteers are needed.

Columbia Basin Conservation District - Ron Sawyer, Griffin Hansen



Urban Water Efficiency Program

CBCD's new program, the Urban Water Efficiency Program (UWEP), was introduced to the council. UWEP is a free service designed to promote water use efficiency throughout the region. The program aims to assess domestic water use and irrigation system performance, providing comprehensive reports that include maps and usage statistics to help improve water efficiency.

Westshore Septic to Sewer Project

Updates were provided on the Westshore Septic to Sewer Project, which is serving 11 participants, the top-ranking applicants for this project. The project is funded by the Washington Department of Ecology.

Groundwater Study

For the Groundwater Study, a \$24,000 grant will support the collection of 15 samples, with sampling scheduled for April 2. This is a continuing project aimed at understanding the transportation of phosphorus in the Crab Creek and Rocky Ford watersheds.

Algae Control Grant

Progress was shared on the Algae Control Grant, where work is underway with Geosyntec to refine their Comprehensive Lake Management plan and evaluate mitigation strategies the Watershed Council could use.

Meeting Adjourned - 11:13 AM

Next Meeting April 15, 2025
10:00 AM to Noon
CBCD Office 903 W. 3rd Ave, Moses Lake, WA 98837

moseslakewatershed.org

"Improving, protecting, and preserving the water quality in Moses Lake and our greater watershed for present and future generations"