



**CCRSCo**  
**Clean Colorado River Sustainability Coalition**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Hosted By Lake Havasu City**  
**WALETA Safety Center**  
**Western Arizona Law Enforcement Training Academy**  
**1801 S. Hwy 95-Class Room #1**

**Thursday, January 28, 2016**  
**1:00 p.m.**

**Voting Membership Present**

Dr. David Young	ASU-Colleges of Lake Havasu
Bob Leuck	Bullhead City
Raymond Mejia	Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Jerry McGuire	Colorado River Sewage Systems
Mark S. Nexsen	Lake Havasu City
D.L. Wilson	La Paz County Board of Supervisors
Greg Turner	Clark County Water Reclamation District
Maria Lopez	Metropolitan Water District of So. California
Steve Moss	Mohave County Supervisor
Todd Tietjen	Southern Nevada Water Authority
Tim Edwards	Town of Parker

**Others in Attendance**

Charlie Cassens	Lake Havasu City
Don Callahan	Lake Havasu City
Dr. Doyle Wilson	Lake Havasu City
Jerri Bracamonte	Lake Havasu City
Louis Martinez	Lake Havasu City
Haley Walters	Today's News Herald-Lake Havasu City
Shelly Ward	USDA-National Resources Conservation Service Arizona

**Call to Order**

Chairman Nexsen called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Introductions were made and it was determined that there was a quorum.

**1. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from September 10, 2015-Chairman Nexsen**

Vice Chair Steve Moss made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2015, Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Secretary/Treasurer Bob Leuck and unanimously carried.

**2. Treasurer's Report-Chairman Nexsen**

The Treasurer's Report was given by Secretary/Treasurer Bob Leuck. He reported the beginning balance as of August 31, 2015, as \$224,386.76. Four months of interest netted us a total \$14.38. He reported some expenses for meetings meal and new checks for the name change, leaving an ending balance of \$224,093.20.

Vice Chair Moss made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Member D.L. Wilson and unanimously carried.

### **3. Discussion Regarding Multi-Function Facility at Havasu 280 Site-Charlie Cassens, LHC**

Charlie Cassens, Lake Havasu City Manager, gave a brief overview on the Havasu 280 Project and the current three-way partnership plan for the 280 acres along the river off SR 95. He explained that the 280 acres is a lease of federal land under the Bureau of Land Management that can only be used for recreational and public purposes, under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act of 1954 (R&PP). The three-way partnership begins with Lake Havasu City as the control of the property for development as related to the R&PP lease and the construction of the road access to the area; AZ State Parks, as the control of the federal land along the river for a public launch facility and boat storage facility, and in the future, a mainland marina; and Komick Enterprises, a private developer, as the owner of the private property slated for residential and mixed-use commercial in the transition zones, along with trails and public uses.

He explained, as part of the overall economic development plan, there are plans to create a facility or manufactured office type open facility for educational purposes to give the schools and agencies in the area a place to study and learn about water, water reclamation, water quality, the Colorado River, and conduct water sampling, etc. In talking with various entities and jurisdictional authorities, he has gained interest from others in procuring space in the facility. In addition, another part of the project includes a public desert botanical garden and day-use facility with meeting rooms, atrium, gift shop, library, and daily countertop presence.

He asked the CCRSCo members to let him know if there is interest in use of the facility. He said he is not asking for funding at this point, he just wants to determine how this facility can satisfy the potential needs of others, while in the design and planning stages. He suggested such interest in use of the facility including meeting rooms, dock space, countertop presence, laboratory with microscopes, office with agency name on it, and desk space with internet access for field work, etc.

Chairman Nexsen offered an alternative that CCRSCo could obtain space and anyone belonging to CCRSCo could use that space on a part-time basis.

Dr. David Young, added that a design consultant was brought in a year ago for the desert botanical garden, and in the process of coming up with a conceptual diagram, the idea of a golf course was brought up as an idea to be an integral part of what the desert garden would look like with desert regions of the world, not just the southwest. He will be spearheading the effort to create a 501c3 to operate, and maintain the garden with primarily an educational focus for K-20. He said that ASU is very interested in having classrooms and a laboratory on this site.

Charlie thanked the members, and added that Dr. David Young is a Botanist and ran the Santa Barbara botanical garden and said we are fortunate to have his expertise with the design and layout.

### **4. ASU – LHC Proposal-Dr. David Young**

Based on interest from CCRSCo members wanting to invest in the ASU Colleges at Lake Havasu students through an educational component for those majoring in Environmental Science and Life Science, Dr. Young introduced a proposal that would initiate a Lake Havasu/Lower Colorado River Research Program, by conducting a bottom topography survey of Lake Havasu along with a high resolution 3D imaging component that will record bottom features of the lake.

Dr. Young explained that over the past year he has brought various people together to talk about creating some type of water research program based at ASU Lake Havasu starting with a

bathymetric imaging survey of the lake. He credited Dr. Doyle Wilson as being instrumental in putting together the proposal for the program to begin the project. He explained that the primary objective of the program is to characterize the bottom geometry and stratum of the lake, and to identify and map cultural resources, aquatic plant accumulations, and pre-lake natural settings within the lake environment. He added that there has been interest from the Chemehuevi Tribe in finding significant cultural sites underwater, and there's a practical application, and would be of interest to fishermen. But it also develops the physical foundation setting for further investigations in the lake, particularly in trying to predict lake and river models.

Dr. Young explained that this project is also intended to have a significant educational component for ASU students. Senior capstone projects may be developed in conjunction with this project.

He said the direct benefits of sounding and imaging the lake bottom include determining a detailed physical framework for implementing various types of lake water models to identify flow dynamics, algal blooms, watercraft and navigational issues, and changes in lake condition over time, etc.

He said ASU will invest in the project by procuring a boat. The proposal includes other expenses anticipated during the project including total cost for equipment and one year BioBase subscription, fuel for boat, and boat maintenance estimating a total budget of \$9,816.10.

There was much discussion about the direct benefits of sounding and imaging of the lake bottom, and several applications of the mapping project.

Mayor Nexsen asked how they envision sharing the information. Dr. Doyle Wilson said that all data will be made available in the public domain; however, tribal data and cultural sites may not be made public.

In conclusion, Dr. David Young said that he will discuss with his grants and contracts person at ASU and will get back to the group on the process moving forward.

Mr. Nexsen asked the group if there was a general interest moving forward and all agreed.

Secretary/Treasurer Leuck made a motion to authorize working with ASU Lake Havasu and fund up to \$10,000 to initiate a Lake Havasu/Lower Colorado River Research Program by conducting a bottom topography survey of Lake Havasu along with a high resolution 3D imaging component that will record bottom features. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Moss and unanimously carried.

## **5. Status of Foam, Phosphorus Levels, Blue-Green Algae in River-Todd Tietjen, SNWA**

Todd Tietjen stated he has not seen or received any reports of foam. He reminded all members to contact him to get samples of foam as soon it is seen. There were no reports from other members on foam.

He reported that as far as phosphorus, he received the waste load allocations from Las Vegas Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant and reported they are removing phosphorus almost to 50% below their allocated waste load, so they are in the 180 pounds per day level, of the 334 allowed, meaning Lake Mead is in good shape for phosphorus levels.

He reported as far as microcystis, they continue to see it, more in Lake Mohave than Lake Mead. He said that SNWA has purchased a new instrument for measuring the toxin microcystin and other algal toxins, and offered to assist other agencies with it once they work out the kinks and learn its limitations.

He added that with the Grand Canyon group doing a high flow experiment in the spring, probably doesn't have any impact once we get this far down the stream, and probably will not be impacted in Lake Mohave. He said they have seen measurable, but not detrimental impacts in Lake Mead. Also, he reported that he heard from the Glen Canyon group that they do have sediment collections on Lake Powell for the Gold Canyon Mine that turned the river gold. At the upper ends of Lake Powell you could see that same color, but it's really unlikely any of it made it out of Lake Powell.

Dr. Doyle Wilson announced that he was on Lake Havasu with the Bureau of Reclamation and they did see mycrocystis. He said they were in dispersed colonies, thicker, south of the island than north of the island, but it was significant enough for EPA to send him some sample jars; however the jars broke in transition. He said it is not as abundant as it was, but he was surprised it was apparent in the cooler weather.

## **6. Update on CCRSCo Website Launch-Dr. Doyle Wilson, LHC**

Dr. Wilson displayed the website for all members and explained that he has been working closely with the website developer to update old information. He said the domain is registered as cleancoloradoriver.org and is good for five years.

He asked the members to go through the website and asked for suggestions on what should be included, removed, changed. He stated that most of the information on the website is outdated and will redesign the text, and modernize it. He said that the contact list will be updated as well. He asked for members to review the website and submit comments to him.

Secretary/Treasurer Leuck agreed replacing the Remediation page with information that includes success stories and accomplishments on more recent things that have been done.

Chairman Nexsen offered to include projects the agencies have completed or are ongoing.

Members requested to add current events, news, calendar, meeting agendas and minutes, etc.

Mr. Cassens suggested making the logo bigger and to include a mission statement from CCRSCo.

Mayor Nexsen asked everyone to visit the website and send any comments to Dr. Wilson's attention.

## **7. Future Agenda Items – 2016 Direction and Goals –Chairman Nexsen**

Member Lopez suggested adding spill notification to future agenda items for discussion. She said she will go back and look at EPA documents that were being produced to help coordinate.

Member Leuck asked if any other organizations received calls on any notifications of the spill. Member Tietjen said he was notified by their Colorado River Team (water quality group), and they did samples and calculations on how fast it could reach Lake Mead.

## **8. Discussion on Current Events – Chairman Nexsen**

Member Leuck passed around an article that came out several months ago regarding caddis flies and mosquitos. He said Bullhead City has had a real problem with the caddis flies and mosquitos. He asked if anyone else is familiar with any techniques that Bullhead City could consider to bring back to the pest control office.

Member D.L. Wilson suggested bat houses have been used to control mosquito populations at residences in lower area by Parker Dam, but added they had very limited success, if any. Vice Chair Moss stated that introducing bat houses created a domino effect with other species.

Dr. Doyle Wilson reported that while on the lake collecting sediment surveys for a BLM project, he noticed there is a general decrease in the population in the soft sediment, north of the island. Going south of the island, he said there seems to be an overall sense of decline in certain places as he used to see.

Member Tietjen commented that SNWA studies juvenile stages and not adult stages, but the Parks Service did do adult sampling and he may have some data at a future date.

Member Tietjen also reported that the Lower Colorado River Science Symposium will be held February 8 and 9 in Las Vegas, SNWA headquarters. He will forward that webinar link and agenda to Jerri.

#### **9. Future Meeting and Tour Suggestions – Chairman Nexsen**

If there is a desire to do the Wetlands in Henderson, Member Tietjen offered to assist with setting up the tour. Members suggested March 30 or April 7 as two possible dates.

Dr. Doyle Wilson said that he would check with conservation group, the Desert LCC, and Scott Bryan with Central Arizona Project.

Jerri Bracamonte asked Member Raymond Mejia to check with Chemehuevi Tribe for a tour as well.

#### **IV. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Secretary/Treasurer Leuck and seconded by Vice Chair Moss. Mayor Nexsen declared the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.