

**MINUTES OF THE FLOODWATER TASK FORCE
COMMISSION MEETING
OF THE TOWN OF STAR VALLEY
3675 EAST HIGHWAY 260
STAR VALLEY, ARIZONA 85541
STAR VALLEY TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2010 @ 6:00 PM**

- **CALL TO ORDER**
- **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- **ROLL CALL**

Present: Chairperson Binney, Vice-Chairperson Conlin, Commission Member Gary Rolf, Commission Member Ray Lyons, Commission Member King

Absent/Excused: Commission Member William Mennen, Commission Member Gary Wilder.

Town Staff: Chancy Nutt, Finance Administrator

- **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Acceptance and approval of the Floodwater Task Force Minutes of June 17, 2010.

Commission Member Rolf made a motion to approve the Floodwater Task Force Minutes of June 17, 2010 and Commission Member King seconded the motion.

The motion is voted on and passed 5-0.

- **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the Friends of the Creek letter.

The Finance Administrator Chancy Nutt gave an update on phases 1- 5 of the Friends of the Creek Care letter. Miss Nutt stated that 60 letters had been returned by the U.S.P.S. as undeliverable and 7 surveys were returned by the citizens.

Miss Nutt now drew the Commission's attention to a brochure created by the Commission called "Star Valley Creek Care Guide". Miss Nutt stated that the Town Manager has done some editing to the brochure and would like the Commission to give the brochure a final review before it is printed and made available to the public. Miss Nutt distributed a copy of the brochure to the Commission. The Commission discussed the editing of the brochure and made changes as follows:

- Woody debris may need to be repositioned, removed or partially removed if it threatens life or property or restriction of natural flow.
- Woody plants should be left and possibly thinned along the creek banks, unless it causes flooding or property or speeds up natural erosion processes.
- Woody debris may have to be repositioned or removed if it obstructs creek flow and causes upstream flooding or if it causes streambank erosion by redirecting flow. Creekbeds should be clear of debris.

- Before you do any repair or construction in the creek, check the town, county or state ordinances to determine what you are allowed to do.

The Commission also made various grammar and spelling changes (see attached corrected brochure). The Commission discussed the legalities regarding floodplains, the 100 year floods and storm drains. Commission Member Rolf stated that he would like to obtain a copy of the Town's Grading and Drainage Ordinance and the Commission encouraged him to contact a staff member to obtain a copy.

Vice-Chairperson Conlin made a motion to approve the brochure with the changes requested and Commission Member Lyons seconded the motion.

The motion is voted on a passed 5-0.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding the residence of Dan Curtis located on Moonlight Dr.

Chairperson Binney gave the Commission an overview of Dan Curtis' residence and the Commission's attempts to assist this homeowner through the Town and other governmental agencies. Chairperson Binney stated that Mr. Curtis is using recycled construction debris as backfill and expressed his concerns regarding the dangers involved with the material being washed into the stream. Chairperson Binney stated that he would like to inform Mr. Curtis of "improper armoring" of the creek banks and the Commission discussed the possibility of having the Building Official Joe Janusz informing Mr. Curtis of the violations of the Towns Grading and Drainage Ordinances. Commission Member Rolf stated the importance of researching the Towns Ordinances in order to pinpoint what ordinance Mr. Curtis is violating. Vice-Chairperson Conlin stated that the Commission also needs to re-visit Engineer Andy Romance's study to determine which plan of action to recommend to Mr. Curtis.

Vice-Chairperson Conlin made a motion for Commission Member Rolf to research the Towns Grading and Drainage Ordinance to determine what types of materials are permitted as backfill, convey the information to Chairperson Binney, who will in turn inform Mr. Dan Curtis and if necessary Mr. Janusz if there are violations to report to the Town and Commission Member Rolf seconded the motion.

The motion is voted on and passed 5-0.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding retention basins with the Forest Service.

Chairperson Binney stated that Commission Member Wilder was attempting to contact the Forest Service and has not been successful. Chairperson Binney stated that it is extremely important for the Town to pursue retention basins as a long-term solution for the Town. Chairperson Binney stated that a \$5K study is needed in order to continue with this project and has discussed this need with the Town Manager Tim Grier. Commission Member Rolf stated that he is willing to contact the Forest Service and invite their representatives to a Floodwater Task Force Commission Meeting in order to determine what the Town needs to do to pursue the installation of retention basins.

4. Discussion on the Valley Road Crossing.

Chairperson Binney stated that the Town voted to accept Option #3 as presented by Verde Engineering for the Valley Road Crossing. Chairperson Binney informed the Commission that he voted against this Council action due to what he perceived as micromanagement of the project and discussed the details of the engineering aspects of the Valley Road Crossing.

Commission Member King made a motion to have Mr. Janusz confer with Mr. Grier and the Gila County Sanitary District to correct the flow issues created along Highway 260, Chaparral Pines and George Randall's property and Vice-Chairperson Conlin seconded the motion. The motion is voted on and passed 5-0.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding a culvert located at 152 Valley Road.

Commission Member King stated that George Randall has changed the drainage along Highway 260, consequently the water now flows into the channel behind Commission Member King's home and the water has now created a pond. Commission Member King stated that a 12" culvert is unable to support the amount of water created from this water flow and estimates that the work involved would require approximately \$3500 to correct the problem. The Commission moved to table this agenda item.

• COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Star Valley citizen Ray Lyons addressed the Commission and stated that everything the Commission discussed this evening relating to water and the flood channels needs to be firmly and strongly recommended to the Council to move forward with condemnation and domain of the floodways. Mr. Lyons stated that if the Town owned all these floodways, it would streamline the process with the governmental agencies as well as create a stable pattern of action for the Town. Mr. Lyons stated that he would also like to see his comments addressed on a future Commission Agenda.
2. Star Valley citizen David King stated that he would recommend that the Town take ownership or easement of any creeks and streams before any future building construction commences along these waterways.

• ADJOURNMENT

Commission Member Lyons made a motion to adjourn and Commission Member King seconded the motion.

The motion is voted on and passed 5-0.

APPROVED:

_____ **Date:** _____
George Binney, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Chancy Nutt, Finance Administrator

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Commission of the Floodwater Task Force of the Town of Star Valley held on this day, the 19th of August, 2010. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 16th Day of September 2010.

Josie Castillo, Executive Assistant