
Water Pollution Control Advisory Council (WPCAC)

Monday, April 6, 2026, 11:00 A.M.

Zoom Webinar

FINAL MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Council Members

Amanda Knuteson (chair)

Shannon Holmes

Jeffrey Mark

Adam Pummill

Mike Koopal

Chad Bauer

Montana DEQ

Hannah Riedl

Rachel Clark

Lindsey Krywaruchka

Members of the Public

Guy Alsentzer

Lara Guercio

KKennah

Frank Greenhill – Bozeman Stormwater

Amy Deitchler

Jaden Voth

Lea Anderson

Aurore Musy

Casey Lewis

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Knuteson called the meeting to order and a round-table attendance was taken.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Knuteson moved to approve the agenda as written. Adam Pummill seconded, all approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jeff Mark moved to approve the January 29, 2026 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Adam Pummill, all approved.

PROPOSED RULEMAKING TO IMPLEMENT HB 923

Rachel Clark provided a briefing on the proposed rulemaking.

Chair Knuteson asked for background about the scenario that initiated this bill and subsequent rulemaking. Rachel responded it was a subdivision application where public water services were available, but no wells in place from which to take the sample.

Chair Knuteson requested Adam Pummill's opinion of the proposed rule, and he responded that it raised no red flags for him and his colleagues.

The floor was opened for public comment. Guy Alsentzer commented that the absence of a shallow groundwater well should not equate to the absence of a great depth of groundwater, and that 300 ft was insufficient depth for certain geologies like limestone/karst. Rachel responded that it is likely very few sections lack a logged well, and that all wells should be logged in GWIC, not just public water wells. Rachel responded that 245 ft was the depth the hydrogeologist found to be sufficient to avoid harm to groundwater, even in limestone geologies. As such, 300 ft is proposed as a protective depth. After some discussion, the recommendation to map out the sections that this rule would apply to was provided to the Department.

Mike Koopal asked where the Department was at in the rulemaking process and what was needed from WPCAC today to proceed. Lindsey and Rachel responded that the Department would consider WPCAC's advice and proceed with rulemaking which will include further public comment; they clarified that this rule package would not come before WPCAC again.

UPDATES FROM WPCAC MEMBERS

Mike Koopal updated that the Western Montana Conservation Commission meeting scheduled for May 20-21 with nonpoint source pollution as the feature topic. He asked if anyone knew the status of WPCAC member reappointments. Lindsey and Chair Knuteson responded that they hadn't heard anything; Lindsey had submitted recommendations to the Governor's office.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Lara Guercio provided public comment and concurrence with the Department that 300 ft depth will be protective.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Council and the Department discussed whether there is need to schedule WPCAC meetings for the remainder of the calendar year. Lindsey noted that the Department has 20 rule packages in the works, and will need to confirm how many of those would go before WPCAC.

ADJOURN

Chad Bauer motioned to adjourn, Jeff Mark seconded, all approved.