

VERDE RIVER BASIN PARTNERSHIP

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Partnership Coordinating Committee Doug Von Gausig, Chair

Coordinating Committee Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date: Monday, March 30th

Location: Verde Room, Yavapai County Annex Room, Jerome Town Hall, Jerome, Arizona

Time: 2:00pm

1. **Establish quorum**
2. **Introductions of committee members and public attending.**
3. Approval of the minutes of previous Coordinating Committee meeting(s). (Dorothy)
4. **Reports from Committee Chairs:**
 1. Technical Advisory Group (TAG)
 2. Communications Committee
 3. Structure Committee
5. **Discussion and possible action regarding possible conflicts of interest on the part of VRBP committee members, officers, and appointees.** (Doug & Dorothy)
6. **Discussion, reports and possible action regarding (1) an amendment to our enabling Legislation to clarify that the Partnership will continue to operate as long as is required to accomplish its mission, per the resolution stated in the last General Partnership meeting; (2) strategies to revitalize the VRBP's quest for the federal funding implied in Title II now and in the future.** (Ed)
7. **Consideration of a new project for the VRBP consisting of a major study with the USGS.** This study would likely be a three-year, 5-person definitive study entitled, "Establishing Environmental Flows for Sustainable Water management in the Semi-Arid Southwest: a Pilot Study in the Verde River Watershed, Arizona". The goal would be to work with partner agencies and watershed groups, develop data and predictive models to integrate human water demands and environmental water needs. It would take our initial work with AWI and give it the peer-reviewed "gold standard". It might very well serve as the foundation of a mitigation plan. I have been working with the USGS principal investigators on the proposal and budget for nearly two months and it's almost ready for public airing. (Dan and Ed)
8. **Consideration of accepting resignations from the Coordinating Committee by one of more members.** (Doug)
9. **Nominations and possible appointment of new member(s) to the Coordinating Committee.** (Doug)
10. **Set Future meeting times and date(s).**
11. **Future agenda items .**

M E M B E R S

Dan Campbell, Dick Ellis, Karen Fann, Dee Hines, Diane Joens,
Bob Luzius, Dorothy O'Brien, Doug Von Gausig, Ed Wolfe



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12. Adjournment

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Supporting Information, Item 5:

ARS, article 38-504, defines "Conflict of Interest" by defining the prohibited acts, as follows:

A. A public officer or employee shall not represent another person for compensation before a public agency by which the officer or employee is or was employed within the preceding twelve months or on which the officer or employee serves or served within the preceding twelve months concerning any matter with which the officer or employee was directly concerned and in which the officer or employee personally participated during the officer's or employee's employment or service by a substantial and material exercise of administrative discretion.

B. During the period of a public officer's or employee's employment or service and for two years thereafter, a public officer or employee shall not disclose or use for the officer's or employee's personal profit, without appropriate authorization, any information acquired by the officer or employee in the course of the officer's or employee's official duties which has been clearly designated to the officer or employee as confidential when such confidential designation is warranted because of the status of the proceedings or the circumstances under which the information was received and preserving its confidentiality is necessary for the proper conduct of government business. A public officer or employee shall not disclose or use, without appropriate authorization, any information that is acquired by the officer or employee in the course of the officer's or employee's official duties and that is declared confidential by law.

C. A public officer or employee shall not use or attempt to use the officer's or employee's official position to secure any valuable thing or valuable benefit for the officer or employee that would not ordinarily accrue to the officer or employee in the performance of the officer's or employee's official duties if the thing or benefit is of such character as to manifest a substantial and improper influence on the officer or employee with respect to the officer's or employee's duties.

This is a legal definition for public officers and employees in Arizona, however in common usage, the term "conflict of interest" can be construed in a much broader sense.

For instance, Princeton University's "Word Net" defines it as "a situation in which a public official's decisions are influenced by the official's personal interests."

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Wikipedia's discussion includes the following: "A conflict of interest occurs when an [individual](#) or [organization](#) (such as a [lawyer](#), [insurance adjuster](#), [politician](#), [engineer](#), executive, director of a [corporation](#), [medical research](#) scientist, [physician](#), writer, editor, or an individual or organization cited as a source) has an interest that might compromise their reliability. A conflict of interest exists even if no improper act results from it, and can create an appearance of impropriety that can undermine confidence in the conflicted individual or organization. A conflict can be mitigated by [third party verification](#) or third party evaluation noted below – but it still exists.

Conflicts of interest are not limited to professionals. For example, a purchasing manager of an organization has a duty to perform their work with loyalty to that employer, thus choosing sellers who offer the best products at the lowest prices, but might be tempted to have the organization buy, from the manager's sibling, products that are not as good or as cheap."

MEMBERS

Dan Campbell, Dick Ellis, Karen Fann, Dee Hines, Diane Joens,
Bob Luzius, Dorothy O'Brien, Doug Von Gausig, Ed Wolfe