

**Town of Twisp
Special Council Minutes
08/25/11 – 2:00 PM**

Mayor Ing-Moody called the meeting to order at 2:08 pm.

Council Members Present: Clint Estes, Mayor Pro-Tem
 Tom Gehring
 Traci Day
 Bob Lloyd
 Hans Smith

Also present: Dan Haller, DOE and Clerk Moriarty.

Water Rights

Dan Haller, a Water Resources Program representative from Department of Ecology talked to the Council about an opportunity for the Town to purchase 79.08 acre feet of water rights. He explained that the DOE had recently purchased these water rights downstream and wants to give the Town of Twisp the first opportunity to purchase them. The water rights come from agricultural property that is located approximately 18 miles south of Twisp. Because the water right is now irrigation and downstream, mitigation would need to take place in order to move the rights up stream and change them to year-round domestic use.

Mr. Haller could only approximate the cost per acre foot at this time because the mitigation costs are yet to be determined. The water rights are held in trust at this point and if the Town wants to pursue this opportunity with DOE we need to meet again soon and begin the process.

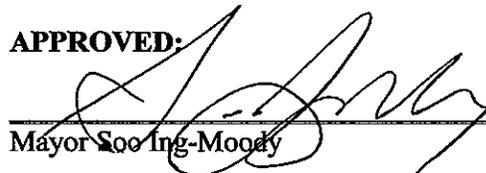
Mayor Ing-Moody agreed to discuss the water rights issue with the Council and get back to Mr. Haller. Mr. Haller will explore issues related to mitigation and contact Mayor Ing-Moody with these details. Mr. Haller felt the process could possibly be complete by late spring 2012.

As a separate issue, Council Member Smith presented Mr. Haller with a letter that was sent from the Town of Twisp to the DOE in 1998 regarding the water at the airport and the Methow Valley Irrigation District. Mr. Haller will research this issue and get back to Twisp.

Adjournment

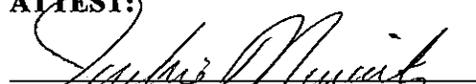
There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Ing-Moody adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor Ing-Moody

ATTEST:



Clerk/Treasurer Jackie Moriarty