Bob Barwin called the meeting to order at 1:30 AM. The previous minutes were reviewed, comments received, and corrected. The group approved the minutes.

The group continued with the previous transfer for Mr. and Mrs. Kollmorgen, 2005-57. Ecology stated they had met with the Kollmorgen’s since the last WTWG meeting. They had talked about the data and the operational plan, which it is not finished yet, but getting there. Paul Dempsey discussed the obstacles and hoped to tie it down shortly. Dar Crammond commented by asking that this proposal has an availability problem with a potential solution. The group continued to discuss this proposal and agreed they were not comfortable with this one yet and to continue the discussion on this one.

The group continued with the next previous transfer, 2005-64 for the Ste. Michelle Wine Estates. DC and Charlie Roe discussed this transfer. DC continued by explaining this could be worked out as a “wheeling agreement” to get the authority to spread, as an Ag to Ag transfer is a simpler solution. SC commented that the tribe is not there yet on spreading water. The group agreed to continue the discussion of this proposal.

The group then continued this discussion by looking at the contracting issues. JM discussed the issue of the contracting process with Reclamation. He said he would like to see a more comprehensive approach to this rather than piece-meal. BB stated that for those who were not in court last week, the Roslyn order had objections and agreed everyone would work together to put this together by March 2006. BB and DC had met to discuss this issue. That they would take pre-1905 rights and Reclamation would issue contracts in an exchange with Ecology. The next part would be an MOU between Reclamation and Ecology to work out the details. This would occur at high levels with a deadline. This would involve a comprehensive block of water, domestic and M&I, which contracts would be written against it. NEPA and other issues need to be worked on. The post-1905 global solution would be nice but what we will fix what we can step by step. The Ag to Ag is a separate issue and will do this separately. SI stated that CR should be happy with it, and global solution would be nice to get, but this sounds like a good first step. JM stated that Suncadia already had a monitoring management plan and would like to enter immediately into negotiations to put this into a wheeling agreement, along with the next one. JM felt a master contract would be a possible solution. We have always been supportive of a contract and interested in doing this right. SF stated that Ecology would the prime manager of the block of water and Reclamation would be the holder of the contract. Reclamation would like a single contract instead of a bunch of
little ones. BB commented about the meeting with Bill McDonald and DC commented to the group to lend support to Reclamation to keep this moving. JM asked if a Basis of Negotiation could be done before Dar leaves Reclamation. DC said to have Roberta Ries look into this. The group agreed to continue this discussion at the next meeting.

Bob Barwin stated that this is his last WTWG meeting as he is changing jobs at Ecology and will be doing policy work. His replacement will be Tom Tebb. Dar Crammond stated that this is his last meeting also as he has accepted a job at Department of Fish and Wildlife in Portland. The group thanked them for their efforts and service and wished them well.

The group agreed the next meeting will be Monday, January 9, 2006 at 1:30 PM.

The group adjourned at 2:05 PM.