

Harney County Watershed Council
450 N Buena Vista Avenue #4
Burns, OR 97720

Mission and Purpose of the Harney County Watershed Council:

The Council recognizes that local ecological and economic prosperity is dependent upon the current and future availability of water; therefore, the Harney County Watershed Council is committed to this three-part goal:

- A. Determine the health of individual watersheds or watershed segments.
- B. Retain the health of high quality watersheds and,
- C. Restore and enhance those watersheds or portions thereof that can be improved.

Minutes of November 15, 2016

(members present will be presented in BOLD type)

John Sword – Drewsey	- Guano	– Alvord
Fred Otley – Diamond	– Landowner Gen	– H/M Lakes
Angie Ketscher – Silver Creek	Dustin Johnson – Education	Brandon Haslick – Paiute Tribe
Brenda Smith – C/C Burns/Hines	Mark Owens - C/C at Large	Diane Rapaport – C/C Gen
Christine Bates – Environmental	Mitch Willis – Sportsman	Matt Obradovich – BLM
Pat Sharp – SWCD	Dan Nichols – HC Court	Rachel Beaubien – Silvies

Advisory members

(members present will be presented in bold type)

Dave Banks– ODF&W	Zola Ryan – NRCS
Chad Karges--MNWR	Tony Svejcar – EOARC/ARS
- USFS	JR Johnson - OWRD

Guests present: Misty Freeman- OSU, Karen Leiendecker - OWEB

Staff : Karen Moon, coordinator, Gretchen Bates – PBP project manager

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:38pm

Additions to the Agenda: none

Minutes: Pat Sharp moved to accept the minutes as presented, Matt Obradovich seconded and the motion passed. It was noted that the OWEB review team will be meeting in Ontario on December 12th. The Council has submitted a second groundwater monitoring grant for this cycle.

Bills: Bills were reviewed.

Correspondence: There was no correspondence.

Chairman's Report: Chairman Chris Bates reported that the Community Based Planning group was meeting before this meeting and plans for the first stakeholder meeting are moving forward and will take place in January the day before the Groundwater Advisory Committee meeting.

Coordinators Report: the spreadsheet was reviewed.

Presentation by Misty Freeman on "Complicating the Rural in Oregon's Water Policy making." Misty was present to talk about her Thesis where she studied three groups from the Place Based Planning pilot projects and studied the problems in each community. Harney County was one of her study areas. She shared her Executive Summary with us.

Old Business:

Placed Based Planning- OWRD: The Coordinating committee met before the council meeting this evening. The original date for the first stakeholder meeting was December 7th, but it has been moved to January and will be held consecutively with the Groundwater Advisory Committee meeting. December 7th the planning group will meet to go through a training and exercise on collaboration. There were questions about inviting others to the training. The planning committee will be the base of the group, but all council members are welcome to attend. Harmony and Robin will both attend the December 7th meeting.

The first stakeholder meeting will be January 18th.

Groundwater Advisory Committee & Well monitoring: The next meeting of the Groundwater Advisory Committee will be Thursday, October 20, 2016 at the Community Center. The US Geological Survey will be giving a presentation for the first hour on their portion of the Groundwater Study. The public is invited to attend that presentation.

The local monitoring network group has met several times. Angie Ketscher is going to be certified by OWRD to measure groundwater for the group. Angie has been receiving phone calls from the public to measure.

There was discussion on submitting a new OWEB monitoring grant. Karen and Diane will work on putting one together. Mark Owens shared the maps the Groundwater Advisory committee is using. These show the wells that OWRD is monitoring.

The OWRD team is here for the fall Synoptic well measuring. They will be here until the first of November.

There was discussion on doing more outreach to the public about the process of groundwater studies and their purpose.

There was discussion on holding a workshop to teach members of the public how to use an e-tape. We could plan this for January or February.

Groundwater monitoring: Mark Owens led the groundwater monitoring planning group in a meeting the last week of October. They discussed what wells should be monitored by the local network. The Watershed Council has submitted a second monitoring grant to monitor another 30 wells outside the area of the first grant.

New Business

Council self-evaluation: The Council self-evaluation forms were handed out and will be emailed to council members. Karen will find a facilitator to help compile answers to the survey and guide the conversation. This will be the only business conducted at the December meeting.

Coordinator review: The executive committee still needs to meet regarding this. This will also be an agenda item at the December meeting.

It was noted that the County will be holding their water informational meeting on the same day as the Council meeting. It was agreed that we would move the council meeting up to 3pm, so that we can all support the County's meeting. Karen will find a location for the meeting. There will be no Community Based Planning sub-committee meeting in December.

Items for next agenda: Council self-evaluation, Coordinator review

Next meeting: Our next meeting will be December 20, 2016

The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm
Respectfully submitted,
Karen Moon, Coordinator