

Harney County Watershed Council
242 Hwy 20 South
Hines, OR 97738

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 May 15, 2018

(members present will be presented in BOLD type)

- Drewsey	- Guano	- Alvord
Fred Otley – Diamond	Pat Sharp – Landowner Gen	Joe Witzel – H/M Lakes
Angie Ketscher – Silver Creek	Dustin Johnson – Education	Brandon Haslick– Paiute Tribe
Brenda Smith – C/C Burns/Hines	John Thelen- C/C at Large	Diane Rapaport – C/C Gen
Christine Bates – Environmental	– Sportsman	Jamie McCormick – BLM
Scott Franklin – SWCD	Mark Owens – 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	Chad Boyd – EOARC/ARS
- USFS	JR Johnson - OWRD

Guests present: Karen Leiendecker, OWEB

Staff : Karen Moon, coordinator, Gretchen Bates, CBWP local coordinator

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at pm.5:30 pm, by Chairman Rachel Beaubien

Additions to the Agenda: none

Minutes: Minutes for the March meeting were reviewed . Mark Owens moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Chris Bates and the motion passed. There was no meeting held the month of April 2018.

Bills: Bills were reviewed.

Correspondence: A thank you was received from Science in the Sagebrush Steppe, thanking the volunteers who helped to put it on. Participants felt it was a very worthwhile camp.

Coordinator's Report: The spreadsheet was reviewed.

Chairman Report:

Old Business:

Community Based Water Planning

There were questions about some of the contracts that are in place. CBWP funding was discussed. The Council may be asked to help prioritize funding for CBWP in the future. Other grant opportunities may include the Ford Family Foundation, additional DEQ funds and additional OWRD funds. There were questions regarding CBWP as to who is working on writing grants. OWRD in the plan may need to focus on projects that can come out of the planning. Chad Boyd remarked that over the years "Outcome or Project based planning" doesn't usually provide the desired outcomes.

There were questions about funding and whether or not the Coordinating Committee should have a say in what grants are applied for. Council members felt strongly that funding is the responsibility of the Council and are not open for consideration by other members of the coordinating committee.

There were more questions about the limited funding and it was noted that the Project Manager has been prioritized for funding, the grant writer/plan writer and local coordinator are funded to a certain dollar amount. Without additional funding we will start losing positions in July.

There were questions about drought designations and if people come before agriculture?

The Domestic Well work group will meet Wednesday evening 5-8pm May 16, 2018

The Agricultural Work group will meet this Thursday, May 17 from 5-8pm at the Community Center.

The Veg Management work group will meet next on June 21, 2018.

The Ecological Workgroup will meet from 1-4pm on Thursday May 17 at the Community Center.

The Full collaborative will meet again in July.

Small Grant update: The next Small grant submission date will be June 6th.

Connect Conference review: Karen reported that the Connect conference was very educational and she enjoyed the sessions that she attended. They included topics of working with difficult people, reporting for OWEB, cover crops on irrigated lands and forest projects that are taking place within the State.

Range Camp update: Brenda Smith reported that we had 27 students from four universities. Gabby will send out a copy of the reviews. The evaluations were all positive and they really like the contest regarding the management plan. High School

camp will be June 13-16, 2018. We need to keep in mind that next year we will need to seek funding for the coordinator position. Possibilities may include Outdoor school funding? Asking other agencies to contribute?

OWEB board tour review: Karen Leiendecker reported that both tours were very well received. The first day we started at the Research Center, continued on to the top of Wright's Point and ended at the Refuge. Board members were able to spend time with Dan Nicols and Chad Karges after dinner in Frenchglen. The next morning members were treated to a visit to a Lec and were able to watch sage grouse.

New Business

The Quiet Invasion: Karen showed council members the Quiet Invasion, an 18 minute film that was developed by the WC with many partners regarding juniper encroachment. It was good to inform members of the research that has taken place regarding juniper over the past 10 years or so.

Brenda shared that tomorrow at 6pm the Fire Collaborative will be meeting at the Pine Room at 6pm to hold a community discussion on managed fire. Nick Schott will be presenting on chemical spraying of 5-6ft juniper and there will be reports on projects – where are we at 10 years later.

Items for next agenda:

Upcoming events:

Next meeting: Our next meeting will be June 19, 2018

The meeting adjourned at 7:32pm
Respectfully submitted,
Karen Moon, Coordinator