

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 September 18, 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:

Staff : Karen Moon, coordinator

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at pm.5:31 pm, by Chairman Rachel Beaubien.

Additions to the Agenda: none

Minutes: Minutes for the May, June and August meetings were reviewed. Diame Rapaport moved to accept minutes as presented, Jamie McCormick seconded and the motion passed.

Bills: Bills were reviewed. Council members commented that it is hard to read the financial reports with no income. Karen will work on carryover amounts to the new fiscal year. There were questions about the upcoming diversion grants with HBWI and the admin that was expected.

Correspondence: none this evening.

Coordinator's Report: The spreadsheet was reviewed. There was questions about priorities and how the coordinator decides what is to be worked on. Is there a way to track things easier? Are there programs that would help?

Chairman Report: Chairman Rachel Beaubien gave a short report.

Old Business:

Community Based Water Planning

The Domestic Well group and the Ag working group will meet in the next couple of days. There was a coordinating committee cll this morning. Rianne BeCraft shared the list of upcoming meetings for water planning. She reported that through the Mail Chimp program she can see that we have a high rate of emails that are opened. She also reminded council members that a list of dates are on a calendar on the website it is kept up to date on the CBWP page.

It was noted that the Groundwater Study group will be meeting on October 16th. OWRD is planning an open house for the community to give preliminary results of the study and to answer questions the Community may have. The public is welcome at Groundwater Study Advisory meetings.

The Domestic Well work group

The Agricultural Work group will be meeting on Thursday from 1-6pm. They will be investigating voluntary agreements to help local landowners start a conversation about conserving so that OWRD will not have to resort to regulating. Regulation by priority date is unlikely to achieve the water savings that is needed to make a difference. There was discussion about mis-information that is out in the community. There is fear by landowners and water users that water rights can be taken away. Most people realize that change is coming, but they have fear not knowing what the change will be. It was noted that the Groundwater Study report will be done in 2020 and will result in a convening of another Rules Committee. There was discussion on whether there could be lessons learned from the CCAA effort that took place.

The Veg Management work group

The Ecological Workgroup i.

There was discussion about Water Resources Department and whether or not they will come in and regulate. There was discussion on the local monitoring network and several wells have caved in or gone dry. There was discussion about the wells that are still being drilled. It was explained that even though the permits are no longer being accepted for processing, there is still approximately 65,000 acres that CAN be developed due to permits already granted.

Funding: The Learning Partnership grant to the Ford Family Foundation was submitterd. The Feasibility Study with OWRD will not be pursued at this time. The OWEB Stakeholder Engagement grant is being developed and will be discussed at the October 17th Quarterly Collaborative meeting. The County Court did submit another Oregon Commuinity Foundation grant, they will know later this fall.

It is noted that we are needing dollars for facilitation through 2019. Representatives will be going to the Legislative Day at the capitol to encourage legislators to prioritize dollars for Place Based Planning.

Fair Booth review: Pat Sharp, Gretchen Bates, John Thelen and Tom Sharp all help set up the booth at the fair. Gretchen, Chris Bates and Brandon Haslick spent some time at the booth and answered questions. Council members felt the fair booth is an important outreach opportunity and should be continued in the future.

New Business

2018/19 Budget The budget was reviewed. Some council members would still like more detail and perhaps a “jobs” list would be good to include as well as the “class” list”. Karen will work on trying to make the reports easier to comprehend. A motion was made by Pat Sharp to approve the budget. Angie Ketscher seconded and the motion passed.

Council self-evaluation: The Council is required to perform a self-evaluation once per biennium. Karen will hand out and/or email forms to council members in October for review and return. The discussion about the self-evaluation will take place at the November meeting.

Items for next agenda: Sel-evaluation, CBWP meeting review

Next meeting: Our next meeting will be October 16, 2018

The meeting adjourned at 7:20pm
Respectfully submitted,
Karen Moon, Coordinator