

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 April 16, 2019**

(members present will be presented in BOLD type)

Tyler Harris – Drewsey	- Guano	- Alvord
Fred Otley – Diamond	<b>Pat Sharp</b> – Landowner Gen (by phone)	Joe Witzel – H/M Lakes
<b>Angie Ketscher</b> – Silver Creek	Dustin Johnson – Education	Brandon Haslick– Paiute Tribe
<b>Brenda Smith</b> – C/C Burns/Hines	<b>John Thelen</b> - C/C at Large	<b>Diane Rapaport</b> – C/C Gen
– Environmental	<b>Ben Cate</b> – Sportsman	Jamie McCormack– 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 5:37pm We welcomed new members Tyler Harris in the Drewsey position, Ben Cate in the sportsman position and Alexz Martinez to the Environmental position as appointed by the Harney County Court over the last month.

**Additions to the Agenda:** none

**Minutes:** Minutes for the March meeting was reviewed. Diane Rapaport moved to approve the minutes with stated corrections, Angie Ketscher seconded and the motion passed.

**Bills:** The P & L was shared as well as the balance sheet, Karen had found a graph to present through Quickbooks, everyone thought that was helpful. It was requested to have some reference notes explaining what is to be reimbursed from the grants. Karen will also work with Janae to work on identifying a “carryover” in the budget development.

There was a question about the Outdoor School grant and that they are doing an event up at Idlewild Park. Can some of the funds be used to help support this event? The thought was yes, we should be able to. The event called “Health in the Natural Environment on National Forestlands”. There was discussion about the small grant on Hwy 20 and Karen explained what the grant funds covered. There was discussion on the groundwater monitoring grants.

**Correspondence:** none this evening.

**Coordinator’s Report:** The spreadsheet was reviewed, additional discussion on the items listed above were answered.

**Chairman Report:** Brenda Smith reported that she and Mark Owens had been in Salem earlier today to meet with representatives of OWEB about the development of a CREP program for Harney County. The board asked a lot of questions and had good discussion. Brenda thought the meeting went well.

### **Old Business:**

**Officer elections:** It was noted that after the discussion on officers at the last meeting that the subject needed to be revisited. Discussion kind of went awry and it was thought that not everyone was heard in the discussion. A quick review of the bylaws and the roles of officers was made. With that, nominations for the slate of :

**Chair** – Brenda Smith, **Vice Chair** – Diane Rapaport, **Secretary** – Pat Sharp was confirmed and all approved. With the change from the current officers it is noted that Diane Rapaport and Pat Sharp should be added to the bank account to be able to sign checks. Dustin Johnson and Rachel Beaubien should be removed from the account.

**Community Based Water Planning:** The last full collaborative meeting was held on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. People were able to meet the new facilitator, Jack Southworth. A good portion of the meeting was reviewing the 25-30 solutions that were presented at the “summit” in January as the critical water issues. Rianne reminded people that one pager for solutions will still be accepted throughout the process, but those regarding groundwater should be submitted by May 14<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion on how a process is needed to get newer people who just started attending “up to speed” with the rest of the group. Rianne reported that since January there have been 6 meetings with a total of 150 people attending that comes to 35 hours of meetings dedicated to Community Based Water Planning. There is still a huge hill to get over to move from the information gathering to the solutions phase. We need to have a completed plan to submit to OWRD and the Water Resources Commission. There was a short discussion on funding and what will still be needed to continue work.

**Range Camp:** College Range Camp is coming up shortly, so far there are 7 universities that have signed up to attend.

**Groundwater monitoring:** Angie Ketscher gave a short presentation on the local groundwater monitoring effort. Questions were asked if she was seeing any failures of wells. There were questions if anyone is looking into artificial recharge sites?

### **New Business**

**Strategic planning:** There was discussion on needing to update our strategic plan that is scheduled to end in 2020. Brenda will talk to the contractor that recently helped HDP and get a cost estimate. Diane volunteered to help with a grant application to the Ford Family Foundation.

**Bird Festival Booths:** Gretchen was able to set up a table in regards to Community Based Water Planning. There was some miscommunication and a second table was not available specifically for Watershed Council information so we went with Water Planning.

**Fair in the Field:** Chrissy Moon, a former ambassador for the University of Idaho, College of Animal and Life Sciences came to help Karen at the Fair in the Field day for middle school kids. Chrissy led kids through a hands on project that learned how soil can help filter contaminants out of drinking water. We also talked about how healthy water is needed for people, animals and plants.

**Policy:** This has been an agenda item for a few months, but due to lack of time only a short discussion was held. The Council is being asked to create a policy that will limit the amount of “admin” that we will pay to contractors that are sub-contracting underneath our grants. A limit of 10% admin to be allowed is what is being proposed. Angie Ketscher moved to have Karen write up the policy and present it at the May meeting. Pat Sharp seconded and the motion passed.

**Items for next agenda: Community Based Water Planning update, Policy, Range Camp update, Groundwater Study**

**Next meeting:** Our next meeting will be May 21, 2019

The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Moon, Coordinator