



Harney County Watershed Council

Meeting Minutes – January 19, 2021

meeting by Zoom

Hines, Oregon

Membership & Attendance:

(those in attendance will be highlighted)

Landowner positions:

Alvord –

Donner und Blitzen – Fred Otley

Guano –

Harney/Malheur Lakes –

Silvies – **Rachel Beaubien**

Silver Creek – Angie Ketscher

Drewsey –

Landowner General – Pat Sharp

Burns Paiute Tribe – **Brandon Haslick**

Concerned Citizen positions:

Burns/Hines – **Brenda Smith**

At Large –

General - Mark Owens

Sportsman – **Ben Cate**

Education – **Dustin Johnson**

Environmental – **Alexa Martinez**

County Court – **Kristen Shelman**

Harney SWCD – **Shannon Brubacker**

BLM – **Jamie McCormack**

Advisory Positions

ODF & W – Dave Banks

Malheur National Wildlife – **Jeff Mackay**

NRCS – Zola Ryan

EOARC – Chad Boyd

OWRD – JR Johnson

USFS -

Staff

Coordinator – Karen Moon, Holly Mondo – CBWP project manager

Guests – Gary Marshall – OWEB board member

Mission of the Harney County Watershed Council

Harney County Watershed Council works to improve watershed health for the benefit of our communities and the environment!

Vision of the Harney County Watershed Council

People in Harney County are working together to ensure health watersheds and thriving communities.



Harney County Watershed Council

The meeting was called to order at 5:32pm. Chairman Brenda Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting, reviewed the agenda and asked each member to share an update from their area. Each member gave a short update.

OWEB update by Gary Marshall – OWEB board member: Gary Marshall gave a presentation on the history of OWEB for board members. He talked about the makeup of the OWEB board and the areas that were represented. Gary also talked about the current situation with Covid & staff members as well as expected funding for the upcoming biennium. The Ag Heritage Program and the Governor's 100 year water vision are still projects but are not funded as of this time.

Continuing project updates/action items

Community Based Water Planning update:

Update from Holly Mondo was shared by Holly

CBWP: 2020 Achievements & 2021 Plans

2020 Achievements:

New Project Manager started

Domestic Well Questionnaire results shared and analyzed Second Summit held
Results of the Alternative Water Delivery Feasibility Study by Anderson Perry & Associates presented Irrigator group formed to develop outreach materials for those irrigators not involved in the Collaborative

Shifted Phase 1 workflow and completed strategy-building phase (with the exception of 1 strategy) Contracted with Good Gallagher and successfully launched

Harneyswaterfuture.com which aims to reach the broader Harney County community
Participated in a Portland State University study to capture perspectives from Oregon residents who might not have been part of the State's 100 Year Water Vision listening sessions

Achieved consensus on and submitted a legislative concept (LC) dedicated to developing a fund for domestic well users

Ecological Working Group and Vegetation Management Working Group completed their Step 2 and 3 reports

Process designed for wrapping up Step 2 and Step 3

Selected Aspect Consulting to conduct the Water Market Feasibility Study

Partnered with University of Oregon cartography students who developed a storymap that illuminated historic groundwater and surface water allocations in the basin (for free)



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Collaborative discussions on topics related to defining *reasonably stable* began.

Holly also shared a Gant sheet with plans for the 2021 year.

Holly shared that the next Water Planning meeting is set for next week, January 26th from 4:00 to 7:30 and shared the agenda. Information for Community Based Water planning can be found on the Council's website on the CBWP page, and also on the new Harneys Water Planning website.

Brandon Haslick gave a short update on what the Coordinating Committee has been working on. The Committee is also working to make sure that there is representation from all areas of the basin within the collaborative. They feel that it will be important to have each area represented when we move to surface water discussions in the next phase.

Strategic Planning - was tabled until the February meeting

New Business

Membership terms:

Officer nominations for 2021/22 were reviewed.

The slate of officers to include:

Chairman: Jamie McCormack

Vice-Chairman: Brandon Haslick

Secretary/Treasurer: Pat Sharp

After discussion Shannon Brubacker moved to elect the slate of officers for the 2021/2022 period. Ben Cate seconded and the motion passed. Karen will work with the bank to add Jamie McCormack and Brandon Haslick to the Council account.

Bureau of Reclamation – WaterSMART grant application

The grant application was submitted today as required by the Bureau of Reclamation. All documents were completed except for a resolution that is needed by the Council to authorize the Coordinator to enter into a grant agreement if the project is funded. Karen had prepared the resolution and read it for Council members as well as sharing it on the screen over Zoom. After discussion Ben Cate moved to accept the resolution as presented. Rachel Beaubien seconded and the motion was approved. Karen will work at gathering signatures on the Resolution and will send to Holly for forwarding on to Bureau of Reclamation.

Minutes: Minutes for the December meeting were reviewed. Financials for the Council were reviewed. Shannon Brubacker moved to approve the December minutes and the financial report, Rachel Beaubien seconded and the motion passed..



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Items for next agenda on February 16, 2021 include: Approval of the Strategic Plan.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14pm

Karen Moon, Coordinator