



Harney County Watershed Council

Meeting Minutes – August 17, 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 - Rep. Mark Owens

Sportsman –

Education – **Dustin Johnson**

Environmental – **Alexa Martinez**

County Court – **Kristen Shelman**

Harney SWCD – Susan Doverspike

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

Guests – Jason Kesling – Harney SWCD

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 healthy watersheds and thriving communities.



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The meeting was called to order at 5:40pm. Chairman Jamie McCormack welcomed everyone to the meeting, reviewed the agenda and asked each member to share who they were and how they are involved with the Council. Each member gave a short update on what is happening in their world.

Presentation by Lauren Svejcar on a project she and several representatives from other Agencies are working to put together. It is similar to a STEM program, focusing on women in Natural Resources. They are looking to provide programs for 3 Fridays this fall with 9th through 12th grade girls to promote science, math and technology. They are looking for help with funding to conduct a pilot project before submitting grant proposals for a summer program. After discussion a motion was made by Dustin Johnson to provide up to \$2000 for program support this fall. Branson Haslick seconded and the motion passed.

Continuing project updates/action items

Community Based Water Planning update:

Coordinating Committee:

Commissioner Kristen Shelman shared that the group has been working through the spreadsheet that Holly and Ken have worked on regarding the Strategies and Issues. There will be another meeting tomorrow to work through each issue.

CBWP Update

Holly Mondo had an emergency this morning, so an update was not completed. She will share the update by email and Karen will forward it on to council members at that time.

Strategic Planning

Chairman Jamie asked for help with input. All involved promised to devote time to this after field season.

Board membership:

It was thought that if we can do a radio interview we can talk about membership needs at that time. Karen will advertise.

Yearly update to County Court:

Karen attended County Court on August 4th to present the update to the court that is required as a condition of the Council Support Grant from OWEB. There was a lengthy discussion on Community Based Water Planning and the expected release of the USGS/OWRD groundwater study.

Fair Booth:

There was more discussion about the plan for the fair booth. The fair theme this year is "The Sky is the Limit". Karen has talked to Angie and they are formulating a plan for decorating the



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booth. There was discussion on having council members man the booth during peak times. Karen will develop a sign-up sheet and email to council members.

New Business

Range Camp:

Karen emailed Chad Boyd and Dustin Johnson about Range Camp. Chad Boyd responded and said the Research Center has remaining funds to provide a coordinator, however planning would be better if we waited until after budgets were finished, so planning will be tabled until this fall.

Council bank account:

Karen reported that while working with the bank to secure Jamie and Brandon as signors for the council account, it was noted that a former member was still listed. A motion was made to remove Diane Rapaport from the council checking account by Benda Smith, seconded by Brandon Haslick and the motion passed. Karen will take a copy of the minutes to the bank to have Diane removed from the account.

Small grant Team for OWEB:

Karen reported that she had received the organizational documents from OWEB to start the new biennium for small grants. The OWEB board funded the program at its August meeting. The final report is being submitted and Karen will again organize the team. Consensus was to ask Pat Sharp to remain the council's representative on the Small Grant Team. No alternate was named officially at this time. Karen is working to schedule the organizational meeting the end of August.

Meetings: There was general discussion on whether to return to holding Zoom meetings only, the consensus was to offer the Council office for those who feel comfortable meeting in person with a Zoom option.

Minutes: Minutes for the May and June meetings. A motion was made by Brenda Smith and seconded by Rachel Beaubien to approve both sets of meeting minutes. Both May and June minutes were approved. Financials were reviewed and questions answered. After discussion Brandon Haslick moved to accept the financial report, Alexa Martinez seconded and the motion passed.

Items for next agenda on July 20, 2021 include: Board member recruitment, results of fair booth, OPEN ET workshop schedule.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm

Karen Moon, Coordinator