



# Harney County Watershed Council

Meeting Summary – Tuesday, August 20, 2024

5:30-7:30pm Burns, Oregon

**5:30-7:30pm Convene Watershed Council monthly meeting**  
**Review agenda, Introductions, appoint time-keeper**

## Continuing project updates/Action Items

1. **Strategic Plan – review updates.** (30 minutes – action item)  
Karen completed a draft and sent out to council members for review. Karen will send out again before the September meeting.
2. **Community Based Water Planning** –( 10 minutes – informational)  
Next meeting: **August 21, 2024 - ZOOM ONLY**
  - a. Full collaborative  
The next meeting will be tomorrow night by Zoom only. The July meeting was cancelled due to the wildfires in the community.
  - b. Coordinating Committee Call update- Brandon
3. **Division 512 Rules Committee update**
  - a. **Review of June 27 meeting and August 13<sup>th</sup> meeting by Zoom**
    - i. **Review of USGS Groundwater Model**  
At the last meeting of the 512 Rules committee there was a presentation by USGS on the groundwater model that they had developed. Steve Gingerich shared how the model was developed, what the model was designed to do and talked about its limitations. A preliminary run of the model by showing the stopping of all pumping does offer a preview of recovering groundwater levels within the basin over a range of 30-60 years. More runs of the model are being planned. The 512 Rules Committee will be offered input on a future run.
    - ii. **Rules committee – new format – discussion groups**  
Members of the RAC have asked for a different format and have been working to understand their role in the rule making process. The Department has been working to clarify what parts of the rules that the committee has standing to change, what parts of the process are the department informing of the changes, and what parts are required by law. There will be a new “discussion” group forming that will be meeting, facilitated by Oregon Consensus to help the group in developing options.
4. **Membership**
5. **Project updates**
  - a. **Five Mile Dam – A second water users meeting is being scheduled.**
  - b. **Silvies River Hydraulic Model – The contractors will be here the end of the month to ground-truth and measure structures to input into the model**
  - c. **Beaver habitat – request presentation – no update this month**
6. **County Court yearly update – August 7, 2024**  
Karen attended County Court and gave the update.



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## New Business

CBWP/Water Outreach Public meeting planning – **This public meeting is being put on hold for now.**

Fair planning - - **Karen will share information for the Council with Tyler at the CWMA weed trailer.**

**Approval of Minutes from April & June (no May meeting) – Financial review – reports (10 minutes – Action item)**

**Items for next agenda:**

**Scheduled meetings:**

**CBWP full collaborative meeting – Tuesday, August 21, 2023**

**Harney Basin Wetlands Collaborative – Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> - postponed**

**Division 512 rules committee meeting -October 1, 2024**

*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.*