



# Harney County Watershed Council

Monthly Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, March 19, 2024  
meeting by Zoom & HCWC office  
Hines, Oregon

Membership & Attendance:  
(those in attendance will be highlighted)

Landowner positions:

Alvord –  
Donner und Blitzen – Fred Otley  
Guano –  
Harney/Malheur Lakes –  
Silvies –  
Silver Creek – Angie Ketscher  
Drewsey –  
Landowner General – Pat Sharp  
Burns Paiute Tribe – **Brandon Haslick**

Concerned Citizen positions:

Burns/Hines –  
At Large –  
General - Rep. Mark Owens  
Sportsman – Sam Artaiz  
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 – Jess Wennick  
NRCS – Rachel Beaubien  
EOARC – Chad Boyd  
OWRD – Dally Swindlehurst  
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.*



# Harney County Watershed Council

The meeting was called to order at 5:35pm.

Chairman Jamie McCormack welcomed everyone to the meeting, reviewed the agenda and asked each member to share a short update on what is happening in their world.

Lisa Kingsley and Alexandria Scott from OWRD gave council members a presentation on the Harney Domestic Well Remediation Fund. The date to submit applications will be May 31, 2024. There is a guidance document on the OWRD website and in the packet for people to fill out. Packets need to be mailed. There was discussion about the CREP program

Members shared that the OWEB ranking for FIP applications was the Sage Grouse app ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> and the Wetlands ranked 4<sup>th</sup> out of 5 applications. Discussion was that there was enough funds to fund 4 FIP applications. BLM has had a ton of walk in's requesting information, working on agreements and that field season will start early this year. Brandon shared that the Tribe is planning a field trip to Hells Canyon this year. They should be during the Salmon return around the end of May. They are hiring for seasonal help and hopefully field season will start earlier this year.

## **Continuing project updates/action items**

### **Strategic Planning:**

Karen presented a "track changes" printed document and members present went through the document page by page. Karen took notes and will work on the budget portion for the April meeting. Hopefully we can have an updated plan by June.

### **Community Based Water Planning update:**

Brandon Haslick reported on the discussions taking place with the Coordinating Committee for CBWP. Work on the strategies is moving forward and there is some discussion on how to deal with several problems that may present themselves. Referring to how things were written with regard to similar situations within the groundwater portion seems to be a good place to start to deal with some of the conflicts.

### **Membership:**

Was not discussed this evening

## **New Business**

### **Division 512 Rulemaking**



## Harney County Watershed Council

The last meeting was held Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> from 1-5pm. There seems to be some misunderstanding between the department and some of the water users who are on the committee. Questions about data that was used to determine the Permissible Total Withdrawal numbers was brought into question and the meeting seemed to be sidetracked from the beginning.

### **Range Camp:**

Range Camp is being planned for April 25 through 28<sup>th</sup>. The Email has gone out to college groups. So far there are approximately 69 participants who would like to come. Chad Boyd will reconnect with the colleges to find out how many staff are planning to come with the students and we should have final numbers by the end of March.

### **Minutes & Financials:**

Minutes for the January and February meetings will be reviewed and approved in March.

Financials were reviewed.

**Items for next agenda:** Next meeting will be March 19, 2024. The Strategic plan and planning for Range Camp will be the main agenda items.

Meeting adjourned at 6:49pm

Karen Moon, Coordinator