

**Grande Ronde Model Watershed
Board of Directors' Meeting
July 24, 2007 – 6:30 p.m.
Wallowa Community Center - Wallowa, OR**

Approval of Minutes and Agenda:

Mike Hayward brought the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Pat Wortman moved to approve the May 22, 2007, meeting minutes, Anna Cavinato seconded and the motion carried. The proposed meeting agenda was amended to add discussions on the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils and the Wallowa Lake Dam under New Business. The amended agenda was approved. (attachments to file)

Calendar/Announcements:

July and August calendars were provided. There were no additions to the calendars. (attachment to file)

Old Business:

Bonneville Power Administration Budget (BPA):

Jeff Oveson stated that BPA asked for an update in early July on capital spending. Capital projects have to be high priority fish passage projects. Mostly culvert projects were added to the list. It is too late in 2007 to get any capital projects on the ground, but some project planning may be done this year for 2008 and 2009.

Recovery Planning Update:

Jeff passed out the new edition of “*Ripples in the Grande Ronde*,” which contains an article on recovery planning. (attachment to file) Jeff stated at the last recovery meeting, it was pointed out that the language in the recovery plan has not been cleaned up and that they are re-visiting the manner in which the priorities are being set.

Staff Report:

Jeff passed out copies of the staff report. Highlights of report follow. (attachment to file)

Ripples Editor/Writer/Publisher: Beth Stewart is going to be reducing her work load on the newsletter after the fall edition in order to take on more insurance work. She has agreed to continue editing and doing the layout as well as providing headings for any articles in the future. We're lucky to be able to retain her services, but it does mean that GRMW staff will have to write more articles, as well as relying on some of our partners to submit articles about their work.

Tracy Hauser, BPA:

Tracy is replacing Dorie Welch as our new Contracting Officer while Dorie is on maternity leave. Tracy has already visited our office as well as a couple of project sites.

BPA Tour:

GRMW has been asked to host a group of BPA officials on a one-day tour in August.

Project Review/Updates:

Ladd Rechannel project planning and design is behind schedule. GRMW will be making a request to reschedule the money in hopes of carrying it into the next fiscal year.

Tim Fisher, Fisher Fisheries:

Tim is a private contractor working for BPA on project data. Jeff has invited Tim to come to a future Board meeting and share what he is doing.

ISRP Response:

Lyle and Cecilia submitted a response to the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP). The ISRP wanted to know the overall effectiveness of the projects. Cecilia was able to pull out a summary on each of the 208 projects done between 1994-2006 from the database. Lyle then wrote a summary for each topic, i.e., in-channel work, riparian, fish passage, etc. ISRP wants us to monitor on a landscape scale. We have general monitoring and photo point data for each project.

Oregon State Fair Advisory Board:

Jeff is coordinating a tour of the fair, along with a meeting of Dave Koellermeier, Fair Manager; Julia Doermann, OSU Institute for Water and Watersheds, Gail Achterman, OSU Institute of Natural Resources, and Allison Hensey, Sustainable Agriculture Program Director for Oregon Environmental Council. The idea behind the meeting is to show Julia, Gail, and Allison the new infrastructure, operating plans, and new partners of the Fair; and to have those three provide input to Koellermeier about how and where these three and their programs might interact with and/or participate in the Fair.

OWEB Meeting/Tour:

The OWEB Directors will be meeting in La Grande September 18th and 19th. They have asked us to host a tour the afternoon of the 18th and a reception the evening of the 18th. GRMW staff will also attend the majority of the OWEB meeting.

Oregon State University, Institute for Water and Watersheds:

Six graduate students and three instructors from the "Water Governance and Conflict Resolution" class spent the week of June 18-22 with GRMW Board, staff, and partners. Thursday of that week was spent with Wallowa Resources staff and Board. There is an article in the latest issue of "Ripples on the Grande Ronde." Board Members that participated included Mike Hayward, Bill Howell, Bruce Eddy, Norm Cimon, Ted Taylor, and Allen Childs. Partners included Gary Miller, USFW; Shad Hattan, OWRD, Rick Christian and Jim Harbeck, NPT; Nils Christoffersen, WR; David Pilz, OWT; Tom Smith, NRCS; Brad Smith, ODFW, Cathy Nowak, ODFW; Laurie Hewitt, CTUIR, Vance McGowan, ODFW; Eric Murray, NOAA and others.

Network of Oregon Watershed Councils

Jeff will be attending a Network of Oregon Watershed Councils meeting this week in Salem. The Network Board has agreed to develop an Advisory Council, consisting of people from around the state who are supportive of watershed councils and are involved in some related field. There is also some interest in adding three or four positions to the Network Board, providing opportunity for representatives that do not currently sit on council staffs or boards. The function of the Network of Oregon Watershed Council is to be a support for watershed councils and new directors. The average turnover for council coordinators is 18 months.

Wallowa Lake Dam

Legislation was passed this week for funding for Wallowa Lake Dam. Senator Walden's legislation requires 50% non-federal cost-sharing. This is very important for Wallowa County. Jeff and Coby will be meeting with Tom Butterfield of the Associated Ditch Company to discuss how we can help them get funding.

Public Participation:

None

Next Meeting:

Mike Hayward suggested that due to busy summer schedules we do not have an August Board meeting unless something critical comes up for the agenda. Everyone was in agreement.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m. The next tentatively scheduled meeting will be on August 28, 2007, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Elgin at 6:30 p.m. If you have any questions or comments, please call (541) 663-0570 or write GRMW, 1114 "J" Avenue, La Grande OR 97850. To reach us on our website, go to <http://www.grmw.org>. The mission of the Board of Directors' of the Grande Ronde Model Watershed is "to develop and oversee the implementation, maintenance, and monitoring of coordinated resource management that will enhance the natural resources of the Grande Ronde River Basin."

Meeting Attendance:

Board Members/Alternates:

Mike Hayward, Steve McClure, Anna Cavinato, Daryl Hawes, Larry Christman, Pat Wortman, Joe McCormack.

Others:

Lyle Kuchenbecker, Karen Leiendecker

Staff:

Jeff Oveson, Heather Hall