

**Grande Ronde Model Watershed
Board of Directors' Meeting
October 23, 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. Bill Howell moved to approve the September 25, 2007, meeting minutes; Larry Christman seconded, and the motion carried. The revised-proposed meeting agenda was approved. (attachments to file)

Calendar/Announcements: A calendar was provided for October and November. There were no changes or additions to the calendar. (attachment to file)

Old Business: No old business at this time.

New Business:

Annual Planning Session:

Jeff Oveson made a few suggestions for this years' Planning Session to have: 1) Tim Fisher, Fisher Fisheries, and Marc Porter, ESSA, talk about long-term monitoring; 2) review/approval/disapproval of six Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) project proposals; and 3) to have discussion topics. The Board was fine with Jeff's suggestions. The Planning Session will be held on December 5th in Cove at the Ascension Conference Building.

Jeff also suggested having Tim and Marc here on December 6th to talk about monitoring with GRMW's partners. The Board was in favor of this. Staff will contact Tim and Marc.

Project Proposals and Budget Spreadsheet:

A spreadsheet for the BPA FY 08 Budget Projection for projects was provided (attachment to file). Jeff Oveson went over the spreadsheet with the Board.

GRMW mailed off five project proposals to OWEB that were due on Monday, October 22, 2007. These proposals were: Dry Creek Fish Passage, Wallupa Bridge Replacement, Deer Creek Fish Passage, Grande Ronde Basin Stream Gauging, and Camp 9 Ranch/Mud Creek Riparian Enhancement. Budget amount for these projects comes to \$461,832.00.

GRMW received six prospective project proposals to be reviewed by GRMW's Technical Committee and Board. Approved projects will be submitted to BPA for funding. These project proposals were: Wallowa River/Six Ranch Habitat Restoration, Lostine River Spring Chinook Salmon Migratory Assessment, Wallowa Canyonlands

Weed Partnership, Fly Creek II Large Woody Debris Placement, Deer Creek Culvert Replacement, and La Grande Ranger District Range Enhancement Projects 2008. These projects total up to \$350,509.00. Jeff indicated that site visits to the Forest Service (FS) project sites are to be scheduled before the project proposals are submitted for review. As part of the BPA solicitation process, GRMW has required site visits prior to proposal submittals each of the last three years.

The Board discussed the Wallowa Canyonlands Weed Partnership project further. This project is from Wallowa Resources in Enterprise. The other partners for this project are the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, and Nez Perce Tribe. The Board would like to invite Mark Porter and Nils Christofferson with Wallowa Resources to their January Board meeting to give a presentation on this project. Coby Menton stated that some objectives of this project are to 1) create an inventory map 2) treat weed populations 3) control weed populations, 4) replace infested areas with native plants, and 5) utilize biological control and chemical control.

Ted Taylor stated since BPA folks will be at the planning session, he was wondering if they could talk about their budget process and funds and how they get them and how they distribute them.

Staff Report:

A written staff report provided (attachment to file). Jeff went over the report.

Cecilia Noyes:

Cecilia, GRMW's staff member, will be moving to Corvallis shortly. Her husband, Jim, has been offered an ODFW job in Corvallis. The final date of her employment has not been determined. She is GRMW's Database Manager/Website Manager/GIS Tech. GRMW is working on a job description and will advertise this position when her departure date is determined.

Mark Shaw & Tracy Hauser, BPA:

Mark Shaw & Tracy Hauser will join GRMW Staff and Board at the Planning Session. This will likely be Mark's last planning session with us as he will be retiring from BPA on January 1, 2008.

Beth Stewart:

Beth, GRMW's Ripples Editor, has more opportunity in the insurance world so she has indicated that she could continue to work on four more issues of the Ripples, but at a reduced level, not including any more writing. This would mean that she will be the editor for one more year unless a suitable editor could take her place earlier. She has done a great job on the Ripples in the Grande Ronde Newsletter.

Wallowa Lake Dam Project:

Jeff Oveson reported that Senator Walden's Office stated that the Legislation passed through the House regarding the Wallowa Lake Dam. The Associated Ditch Company will receive \$6 million through the Bureau of Reclamation Federal budget to rebuild the dam. They need to match federal funds 1:1 with non-federal funds. There will be a meeting on November 9th with Oregon Economic Development, Oregon State Parks, OWEB, and GRMW in Salem. Mike Hayward mentioned that the \$6 million should be in reason for the project.

Joe McCormack reported that Mary Edwards, NPT, is working on a plan to reintroduce Sockeye to Wallowa Lake. This would include a trap and lift operation at the dam to provide passage, should the reintroduction take place. Mike Hayward indicated that we could look towards Idaho Power for funds for this project.

Ladd Marsh Calendars:

Oveson stated that at the OWEB tour last month, there were several Ladd Marsh wildlife photos being displayed at the Ladd Marsh Headquarters. Renee' Coxen, an intern for ODFW and she also is a student at EOU, has volunteered with GRMW for one of her class projects. She is putting together a 2008 Ladd Marsh calendar with these beautiful wildlife photos. The calendars will be sold locally and the funds raised will go towards a restoration project in the Ladd Marsh area.

Public Participation: None.

Next Meeting:

There will be no Board meeting held in November. The next scheduled meeting will be the Annual Planning Session on December 5th at 9:00 a.m. in Cove at the Ascension Conference Building. 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 adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting Attendance:

Board Members and Alternates: Mike Hayward, Bill Howell, Pat Wortman, Larry Christman, Tim Bailey, Ted Taylor, and Joe McCormack.

Others: Barbara Van Alstine and Lyle Kuchenbecker.

Staff: Jeff Oveson, Coby Menton and Mary Estes.