

**Upper Grande Ronde River Watershed Partnership  
Place Based Integrated Water Resources Planning  
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2017**

**Earl C. Misener Conference Room, 1001 Fourth Street, LaGrande, OR 97850**

**ATTENDANCE:** Donna Beverage, Jed Hassinger, Brett Moore, Nick Myatt, Dana Kurtz, Scott Hartell, Darcy Johnson Carreiro  
**Absent:** Kyle Carpenter

Convener, Donna Beverage opened the meeting at 8:05 a.m.

**I. Welcome & Administrative Items**

- A. Donna welcomed the Steering Committee and asked everyone present to introduce themselves.
- B. The February 22, 2017 Steering Committee Meeting minutes were approved.

**II. Governance Agreement signatures:**

- A. Dana shared an updated list of Stakeholders that have signed at this point. The Steering Committee will continue to follow up with potential Stakeholders, encouraging participation.

**III. Outreach Efforts:**

- A. The Steering Committee brought up multiple options for advertising and informing the public of the purpose of this group. Donna shared that there are still a lot of farmers or agriculture related individuals who do not know about the project and the objectives or possibly have misconceptions. Donna has an interview set up with Elkhorn Media for March 31st. Dana is also going to place an article in the newspaper. Donna shared that there will also be meeting notice of the April 12th Stakeholder meeting on Elkhorn Media, the County webpage, in the Observer as well as a letter to the editor. Dana will also ask Daren Walenta to send the article out to his email group through the OSU Extension office and on his webpage. Darcy will post this to the County webpage as well. The Committee made clarifications, updates and additions to the article that will be sent to the media outlets.
- B. Nick mentioned that he spoke with a professor at EOU who has natural resource students looking for local projects to be involved with for practical work. Nick suggested that this student could help the Steering Committee outreach communications. The Steering Committee all agreed that this could be an excellent opportunity for help and asked Nick to have them get in touch with Dana.
- C. Scott also mentioned that we need to make sure and follow up with Water Watch. Dana said that they are on the email communications list but have not

reached up to be involved as a signer. The Committee agreed and asked Dana to follow up with them.

#### **IV. Meeting Updates:**

A & B Feedback on February 22nd Stakeholder meeting: Brett shared that there were a lot of questions about the data presented at the meeting. He explained that DEQ went through everything that they have at the last Tech Committee meeting. He shared new graphs which he presented and explained the details of how to interpret it today. Dana said that they could also present the data on a map showing temperatures, and also ask DEQ to show the differences in each basin. Brett thinks that we should ask the Stakeholders for feedback and use it as an opportunity. Jed is concerned with perception which could imply that this is someone's interpretation of the data. He is concerned with how to explain the data and how to show it. Dana stated that DEQ is prepared to share a 25-30 minute explanation of this data and how it is recorded. Scott asked that Brett explain the data presented as he has this morning, sharing that we do have a data gap and we cannot do anything about it. Brett agreed with Jed that maybe we should not share any data that we do not have. Scott shared that he is hesitant to leave it out. He suggests stating that the data is just not available. Jed said that we need to specify the framework of why we need the information, and how to use it to support what we need it for. The next Technical Committee meeting will be 9 am April 5th. They are working towards separating the data.

Brett & Dana shared additional graphs for review, focusing on ground water & flow that they will share at the next Stakeholder meeting. Jed asked for explanation of how the numbers are calculated. Dana shared that a lot of this data was received from Shad Hattan, water master.

Dana shared that they are going to have 8 work stations at the next meeting. There are 8 basins involved in this project, so they will ask Stakeholders to participate in one of the group discussions reviewing data sets. Then they will come back together as a big group, provide an over view of each basin and ask questions. Donna suggested that we show the same map and data at each of the stations, reminding them of what we are accomplishing in Step 2 also. Nick suggested using 6 groups instead, the Steering Committee agrees. Dana and Brett will organize and set the stations up accordingly. Each group will be lead by a Technical & Steering Committee member.

The Committee agreed that the Technical & Steering Committee should meet prior to the Stakeholder meeting on April 12th.

C. Quarterly Pilot check in meeting summary: Donna shared that the main thing she realized after this last update meeting was that our group is far ahead of all other Pilot groups. She asked if we are the first state to work on a project, or is there anyone we can reach out to who has already worked a lot of this data.



**V. Bend Water Conference:**

- A. Dana shared that we have 2 Committee members (Scott and Dana) committed to attending the meeting in Bend. The Committee decided to ask Kyle, Adrienne & Darren first and if they are unable, the Committee will ask a rep from the GR Model Watershed

**VI. April 12th Stakeholder Meeting:**

- A. The next Stakeholder meeting will be at the Blue Mountain Conference Center. Donna recommends hosting a future meeting at the Cove Ascension School. Jed also recommended the Ag Extension office.

The next Steering Committee meeting will be April, 12th 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

Donna adjourned the Steering Committee meeting of March 16, 2017 at 9:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Darcy Johnson Carreiro  
Senior Department Specialist II