

**Grande Ronde Model Watershed
Board of Directors' Meeting
June 24, 2014 – 5:00 p.m.
Wallowa Senior Center, Wallowa, OR**

Approval of the Minutes and Agenda: Daryl Hawes moved to approve the April 22, 2014, meeting minutes; Larry Cribbs seconded and the motion carried. Larry Cribbs moved to approve the proposed Board meeting agenda; Larry Nall seconded and the motion carried (attachments to file).

Calendar/Announcements: Calendars for June, July, August and September were provided in the Board packets (attachment to file). Laura Mahrt reported about findings of spotted frogs in Wallowa County on the Wolfe Ranch. Timmie Mandish announced that she will be leaving BPA for a position at the NRCS. Dave Cathlow is going to act as her replacement.

Project Funding Review:

CC44: (See attached) Jeff Oveson shared the staff recommendations for CC44. After some discussion the Board decided to go with the #1 staff recommendation. There were further concerns with paying for a pipeline by Larry Cribbs, Ted Taylor and Larry Nall. Tim Bailey described some of the benefits of this project and showed that it was still a noteworthy project even with modifications and that enough money has already gone into the project that it would be remiss to let it go. Taylor moved to approve the #1 staff recommendation, Joe McCormack seconded and the motion carried. Cribbs and Hawes opposed the motion.

Wallowa River/ Baker Technical Assistance: (see attached) Coby Menton reviewed this project and explained that there was a mistake in the communications about these funds were to have been obligated. 2014 Administrative budget funds will need to be transferred to this project for completion. GRMW will provide 50% of the funds (non-BPA) and BPA will add the balance to the 2014 Admin budget. Ted Taylor made a motion to use the 2014 funds for project completion, Hawes seconded and the motion carried.

Forest Plan Revision Presentation: John Laurence attended and gave a presentation on Forest Plans and specifically the Forest Plan for the Wallowa-Whitman. Mentioned the last forest plan was passed in 1982 and it is very overdue for a revision. The Forest Plan is a strategic document for the forest and the direction the forest should be taking in management. It provides guidelines on how to achieve the goals for the forest. Our forest plan has been a slow process because of rule changes and revisions. Laurence discussed the multiple steps in creating a new forest plan and which parts the public is able to provide feedback. Laurence said there will be multiple alternatives for this forest plan and the preferred alternative will be chosen by the regional forester. Cribbs asked about the new regional forester and if he will keep the preferred plan previously chosen. Laurence explained that the plan is set in motion and with new staff turn over the preferred alternative should remain the same. Mike Hayward talked about Wallowa County's consultant that has been making comments on the forest plan and helping revise and that the consultant has been involved since 2004. Cribbs asked about the travel management plan and how much affect the forest plan revision will have on it. Bill Gamble talked about the travel

management plans and some of the options that would be available to the public for access to fire wood and other goods as needed. Mike Hayward mentioned that this will not be complete before the next two years, so there is still some time for public comment and revision.

OWEB Work Plan Review: Jeff Oveson talked about the OWEB Work Plan Review and some of the changes that were made. The Board needs to have read and approved of the changes to the Work Plan and updates. Ted Taylor made the motion to approve the updated OWEB Work Plan, Daryl Hawes seconded and the motion carried.

Continuing Discussions:

Catherine Creek Atlas: Jesse Steele gave an update on the status of the Catherine Creek Atlas. At the end of July, there will be a Science TAC meeting and the Atlas is coming closer to having a completion date.

Upper Grande Ronde Atlas: Steele talked about the upcoming Upper Grande Ronde Atlas and that it will be completed faster than the Catherine Creek Atlas because the frame work and tools will already be in place and completed from the Catherine Creek Atlas.

Staff Report: (See Attached) Leigh Collins had designed an outline and time frame for the Atlas outreach. OWEB focused investment will use the restoration Atlas to gain approval (see attached).

Oveson mentioned the GRMW was chosen for the Governors Prosperity Agenda, not sure what this will all include, but it is an honor to be chosen out of the entire state (see attached).

Menton gave an update on the 6-Ranch project and OWEB.

Mason Bailie talked about aerial flights with the UAS and that during the August board meeting at the golf course the Board will have an opportunity to see the UAS in action.

Opportunity for Public Participation: Opportunity offered.

Next Board Meeting: The next scheduled Board meeting will be held on August 26, 2014, at 5:00 p.m. at the Alpine Meadows Golf Course. 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 meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The mission of the Board of Directors' of the Grande Ronde Model Watershed Program 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 and Alternates: Tim Bailie, Mike Hayward, Ted Taylor, Larry Cribbs, Daryl Hawes, Jed Hassinger, Larry Nall, Joe McCormack, and Laura Mahrt. **Others:** Lyle Kuchenbecker, Timmie Mandish, BPA; Kathleen Ackley, Wallowa Land Trust; Bill Gamble and John Laurence, USFS. **Staff:** Jeff Oveson, Jesse Steele, Coby Menton, Mason Bailie, Leigh Collins and Lacey Moore.