

**Grande Ronde Model Watershed
Board of Directors' Meeting
October 29, 2013 – 5:00 p.m.
Wallowa Community Center – Wallowa OR**

Approval of Minutes and Agenda:

Mark Davidson moved to approve the August 27, 2013 meeting minutes; Daryl Hawes seconded and the motion carried (attachment to file).

Agenda: The agenda will be slightly altered because of technical difficulties and some of the items will be delayed until the annual meeting.

Calendar/Announcements: Calendars for October, November and December were provided (attachment to file).

It was noted that Nick Myatt is now officially on the Board of Directors representing ODFW in place of Bruce Eddy.

New Topics:

BiOp Priorities, Timmie Mandish could not attend this board meeting, so Jeff Oveson gave the update on BiOp Priorities. Oveson covered why the BiOp is in effect, to continue to operate the Columbia River Power System it is required to have a biological assessment and complete a biological opinion. Oveson covered how restoration projects are ranked in order of priority, which involves an association of fish populations and limiting factors, done by the expert panel. There is an overall goal to get fish populations to a 1:1 ratio, which would result in a quantifiable increase in fish populations due to restoration projects implemented. The time frame for habitat to increase was also discussed. He also talked about how reaches are ranked by the BiOp expert panel. Dave Yost asked if this process will make it easier on the GRMW or harder to pick projects. Oveson said it should make it easier on us, and we (GRMW) will be facilitating more projects and let the partner agencies be the sponsors. Larry Nall asked if there was some type of monitoring system in place to help know the productivity of a project and know if this system is working.

Jesse Steele said, yes there is CHaMPS monitoring that occurs throughout the Grande Ronde Basin. Ted Taylor mentioned this gives sponsors a reference on our investments. CHaMP's and some of the monitoring techniques were discussed.

Continuing Discussions:

OWEB Council Support Work Plan Approval:

GRWM has to submit a work plan to OWEB and now they are doing an online work plan process. It was very simple and allowed us to put a new work plan together quickly. Because we don't have the projector this evening approval will be delayed until the annual planning session.

Project Approval Terms and Conditions:

Lyle Kuchenbecker went through a process of terms and conditions the GRMW would like to set in place for future projects being funded by BPA (see Attached). The project review process was clarified. One of the GRMW goals is to monitor projects. There are several projects that funds were not applied in the steps outlined in the project proposal. Kuchenbecker asked the Board to make an action to approve some terms/conditions placed on the way funds are used and spent for each project. In the past the sponsor has worked directly with BPA after a project is awarded funding, but we would like to change this to assure that when the Board approves a project it is implanted the way it was written in the proposal. The new terms and conditions are as follows; GRMW would like to see who was awarded the bid, bid tabs of the successful bidder, the total bid amount of all the bidders, and if there are any change orders/ added work GRMW would like to see those. These terms/conditions may not be applied to every project, or may just be partially implemented. Oveson cited some of the projects in the past that are influencing the decision in implementing the terms and conditions. Daryl Hawes made the motion to approve the staff recommend terms and conditions for approved projects, Dave Yost seconded and the motion carried.

Mike Hayward voiced some concerns about whether this would actually be supported by BPA, referencing past instances when BPA and the GRMW Board have had difference perspectives on project review and selection. Hayward was stating that he was not sure if the Board had enough power to really enforce these terms and conditions, but he thought they were a good step in monitoring sponsor's use of BPA funding.

Staff Report: A written staff report was provided (attachment to file). Oveson mentioned the Network Gathering and the upcoming presentation by Mason, Lacey and Leigh about the GRMW Mobile App. Also, Leigh Collins will be taking Oveson's spot of the Board of the Network Gathering. Lacey Moore then explained some of the aspects of GRMW Mobile and how it will benefit GRMW project monitoring. Menton talked about his participation in designing an online format for OWEB's grant proposals and what that will mean for recipients in the future.

Project Update: (see attached) Coby Menton mentioned an article about Alpine Meadows Golf Course on the Observer website. The rest of the projects can be seen in the project update handout. Kuchenbecker talked about an upcoming project on Medicine Creek for which he is receiving OWEB funding.

Stepwise Update:

Project Reviews: Kuchenbecker talked about the project site visits and how they were delayed due to the federal shutdown. Both because there are some federal employees on the review team and that some of the sponsors are federal employees. Only two of the projects were reviewed by a small group of the tech team. There is going to be a rescheduling of the FS projects for review. The projects will get the full review at the annual planning session in December.

OWEB Update:

Karen Leiendecker gave an overview of OWEB projects for the upcoming year. The solicitation occurred the second week of October and there were 47 applications from the OWEB Region 5. Karen broke down the application types that were submitted. There will be about a month to review the applications and then a meeting will be held December 4-5 at Wallowa Lake by OWEB.

Meta Loftsgaarden will be attending the annual planning session; GRMW hopes to demonstrate to OWEB the partnerships it maintains with many other organizations within the basin.

Public Participation: None.

Next Board Meeting: Will be the annual planning session scheduled for December 10, 2013 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Cove Ascension-Kimsey Commons.

Meeting Attendance:

Board Members and Alternates: Ted Taylor, Dave Yost, Daryl Hawes, Katie Frenyea, Laura Mahrt, Mike Hayward, Mark Davidson, Allen Childs and Nic Myatt.

Others: Karen Leiendecker.

Staff: Jeff Oveson, Coby Menton, Lacey Moore, Leigh Collins, Jesse Steele and Lyle Kuchenbecker.