

**Grande Ronde Model Watershed
Board of Directors' Meeting
April 24, 2012 – 5:00 p.m.
Elgin Community Center – Elgin OR**

Mike Hayward brought the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda: Dave Yost moved to approve the February 28, 2012, meeting minutes; Bruce Eddy seconded and the motion carried. The proposed April 24, 2012, meeting agenda was amended by adding an update on a budget modification to the Catherine Creek Baum Wetland and Rearing Habitat project under Old Business. Daryl Hawes moved to approve the amended meeting agenda, Bruce Eddy seconded and the motion carried (attachments to file).

Calendar/Announcements: Calendars for April, May and June were provided (attachments to file). On May 7, 2012, there will be an Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) Listening Session in Baker City, OR.

Old Business:

New Board Members:

New Board Member, Laura Mahrt, Eastern Oregon University Representative, mentioned that she has been an Associate Professor of Biology at EOU for 16 years.

New Board Member, Larry Nall, Private Forest and Landowner Representative, stated that he is a consulting forester from Wallowa County. He has lived in Wallowa County for 22 years. He is also a Board Member of Wallowa Resources.

Introductions followed.

Student Board Members: Leigh Collins provided information on proposed duties of the GRMW Board Members and the FFA Student Board Members (attachment to file). The FFA advisors selected two students, Mikayla Frei and Emily Spang, to serve as the GRMW Student Board Members. FFA will take the responsibility of transporting the Student Board Members to meetings, etc. Dave Yost moved to accept the FFA positions on GRMW Board, Larry Cribbs seconded and the motion carried. Wallowa County Court will appoint the FFA students to GRMW Board.

Leigh has spoken with a couple of EOU professors about having EOU/OSU students serve as a GRMW Board Member. The professors were very supportive of the idea. There has been interest shown by students as well. She indicated that the EOU/OSU Student Board Member would have the same duties and responsibilities as a regular Board Member. Dave Yost wanted to know who at EOU would be helping staff put this together. Laura Mahrt stated that she would work with Leigh at the EOU level. Leigh,

Laura and Jeff Oveson will work together on the structure of the selection process and bring the information back at the June Board meeting. Ted Taylor stated that this could be approved and that he would like to ask that Jeff Oveson write a statement for the EOU/OSU Student similar to the one for the FFA student but with some word changes such as the EOU/OSU student would have voting rights and to indicate EOU/OSU Professors not FFA. Bruce Eddy moved to approve the EOU/OSU Student Board Member representation and that a statement would be written by Jeff Oveson as Ted Taylor mentioned. Union County Commission would appoint the EOU/OSU Student to GRMW Board. This will be open to all students doesn't have to be residential. It is open to discontinue this position at the end of any term if it doesn't work out. Daryl Hawes seconded and the motion carried

Catherine Creek Baum Wetland and Rearing Habitat Budget Modification: Jesse Steele provided information on the project budget (attachment to file). Since the Board approved this project, there have been several changes to the project design. The original approved budget for this project was \$89,900. The awarded contractor's bid (lowest bidder) came in at \$106,753 and \$10,000 for construction engineering and inspection needed to be added. Larry Cribbs moved to approve the increase in the project budget totaling \$116,753; Bruce Eddy seconded and the motion carried.

New Business:

Restoration Atlas: Jeff Oveson reported that Timmie Mandish and Sean Welch with BPA are developing a restoration atlas process. The atlas would be a series of GIS map layers of stream reaches in GRMW's service area, starting with Catherine Creek and Upper Grande Ronde. GRMW staff and their partners will be working on the GIS mapping and spreadsheet information. Timmie, Sean and others from BPA are working on the funding aspects and other information tied with this before it is deliverable to GRMW. More information is in the written staff report (attachment to file).

Summer GIS/Outreach Intern: GRMW hired Lacey Moore as a summer intern working with GIS and Educational Outreach. Lacey attends Oregon State University and is from Cove, Oregon.

Upper Grande Ronde Tributary Assessment: Jeff Oveson sent a letter to the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) requesting that BOR provides technical assistance on the Upper Grande Ronde Tributary Assessment. GRMW agreed to serve as the local coordinating body.

Staff Report: A written staff report was provided (attachment to file).

Step Wise Process: For the April 15th project solicitation, there were two project proposals submitted, a revised Devil's Run & Chesnimnus Watergap (Wallowa Valley Ranger District) and CC37, and channel relocation project (Union Soil & Water Conservation District). Site visits for these will be conducted on May 9th with the

Technical Committee. The project proposals will be on the June Board meeting agenda. More information was provided in the written staff report.

Project Update: Coby Menton provided a review of completed and ongoing projects in Wallowa County: Wallowa River Cross Country Canal, Trout Creek Alpine Meadows, Summit Creek Diversion, Lostine River/City of Lostine Diversion and Wallowa River 6-Ranch Phase II that are mentioned in the written staff report. Jesse Steele covered a couple of projects in Union County: Catherine Creek Baum Wetland and the Ladd Creek Highway 203 that are also mentioned in the written staff report.

River Restoration Certificate Program: Jesse Steele and Coby Menton are enrolled in Portland State Universities (PSU) River Restoration Certificate Program. BPA gave GRMW a scholarship for one staff person to attend this program.

Public Participation: Karen Leiendecker, OWEB, reported that OWEB received 145 project applications last week. Region 5 which is Union, Wallowa, Baker, Harney and Malheur Counties submitted 32 restoration applications and 6 technical assistant applications. She indicated that the applications will be on the OWEB website soon. OWEB is working on an online project application process.

Next Board Meeting: The next scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, June 26, 2012, at 5:00 p.m. at the Wallowa Community Center in Wallowa. 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 6:15 p.m.

Mark your calendars for August 28, 2012, GRMW will be celebrating their 20th year at the Riverside Park Pavilion in La Grande.

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.”

Board Meeting Attendance:

Board Members/Alternates: Mike Hayward, Bruce Eddy, Bill Howell, Joe McCormack, Larry Cribbs, Ted Taylor, Daryl Hawes, Larry Nall, Laura Mahrt and Dave Yost.

Others: Karen Leiendecker.

Staff: Jeff Oveson, Coby Menton, Jesse Steele, Mason Bailie, Leigh Collins and Mary Estes