

**Minutes of the meeting for the  
South Fork John Day River Watershed Council**

The South Fork John Day River Watershed Council met on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019.

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 pm, by Joanne Keerins at the Izee Schoolhouse in Izee, Oregon.

In attendance for regular session:

Phil St. Clair, Vice Chair	Joanne Keerins, Chair	Jeff Maben, Director	Richard Nelson, Director	Hannah Latzto, SFJDWC	Amy Stiner, SFJDWC
Jack Vaughn, ODFW PWSWA	M.T. Anderson, Director				

Quorum was present because there are currently 8 directors on the board and 5 were represented at this meeting.

**I. Agency Reports**

- a. **Jack Vaughn, ODFW Phillip W. Schneider Wildlife Area Manager,** Getting acquainted with his new position managing the Phillip W. Schneider Wildlife Area, Bridge Creek, and some small parcels on the Columbia River. He has been in the position for a little over a month, getting up to speed on everything. He will be facing personnel changes, whole new staff within couple months. There are several projects in planning phase, Flat creek/Aldrich ponds project, Tex Creek Design, Site visit for Murderers Creek project with permittee, Juniper removal on Johnson and Tunnel Creek. Brandon Thompson resigned, Chuck Moore retiring, will look to re-fill these positions.

**II. Action Items**

- a. May Meeting Minutes: Phil moved to approve, Richard 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed
- b. May Staff Time: Phil moved to approve, Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed
- c. Tetra Tech Invoice – This is for completion of the 15% design: Phil moved to approve, Richard 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed
- d. OWEB Grant Agreement: Focused Investment Partnership Implementation – in order for the John Day Basin Partnership to receive funds and begin project implementation the JDBP needs to have all partners sign on the OWEB Focused Investment Partnership Grant Agreement. Phil moved to approve, Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.
- e. Landowner Agreement: Keerins’ and SFJDWC for Big Flat Juniper Removal. Joanne abstained. Phil moved to approve, Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup>, all present voted in favor, electronic vote will be requested

**III. Staff Report**

- a. Introduction to Hannah Latzo: From Pennsylvania, went to school in South Carolina, has a marine science degree. She worked in Alaska as a fisheries observer, then for ODFW in John

Day, and now for SFJDWC. She has a work history in fisheries biology. We'll have Hannah starting on BRAT, and Bark work, then helping with Wind Ck Assessment, and Small Grants.

b. Project updates:

- i. Musk/Scotch program – 7, landowners signed up, 2 new
- ii. Sunflower Cultural Surveys – Katie Boula from Inland Northwest Cultural Resources started surveys the first week of June
- iii. Bark – working on getting Hannah oriented and started. Forest Service open house June 12<sup>th</sup>, and Blue Mtn Forest Partners Field trip June 19<sup>th</sup>
- iv. PWSWA range monitoring – Amy will complete this in June
- v. Magic Lantern – Clint Walzyck has finished about 100 acres of Juniper cutting
- vi. Wind Creek Assessment is scheduled to do the field work starting June 24<sup>th</sup>
- vii. Finishing up BRAT ground truthing
- viii. OWRD Flat Ck kickoff meeting with ODFW
- ix. We will be seeking a contractor for the 7 upland water developments on the Murderers Creek Allotment
- x. Releasing a Request for Bids on the Keerins' Big Flat Juniper Removal
- xi. ODFW meeting and site visit with Pete Hettinga – June 13<sup>th</sup>
- xii. OWEB site tour for PWSWA Juniper removal grant
- xiii. Unsuccessful with Wildlife Conservation Society grant for the Big Flat Well Watering System

c. New Requests:

- i. Chet Hettinga, ridge fence between BLM and PWSWA, to keep cattle from dropping into Murderers Creek
- ii. Kurt Spencer, riparian fence for Venator Creek
- iii. Izee Ranch, fence along Corral Creek and improved irrigation, dam in dis-repair
- iv. Possibility of working in Caribou using NRCS as match

d. Education/Outreach/Partnerships

- i. Working on John Day Basin Partnership (JDBP) Capacity Application
- ii. JDBP project reviews
- iii. Elise is tying up the Farm to School program for the year.
  1. Dayville School Garden

2. Field's Grassfed Beef
3. Kimberly Orchards
4. In-class lessons
5. Morning Hill Forest and Gardens
6. Humbolt days
7. Community Garden

iv. Hannah and I will assist in the OYCC orientation and training on June 14th

**IV. Discussion**

- a. BLM Response Letter: Phil said that it sounds like we need to go back to Justin Rodgers to continue pursuing desired projects.
- b. M.T. asked about the NRCS RCPP application. We still have not seen a release of an application, but, Amy thought we would be ready to get one submitted as soon as one is released.

**V. Coming Up**

- a. June 12<sup>th</sup>: BARK Open House. Juniper Hall of the U.S. Forest Service Blue Mountain Ranger District, 431 Patterson Bridge Road, John Day, Oregon. The meeting will include an open house from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. and a group discussion from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m.
- b. June 19<sup>th</sup>: Blue Mountain Forest Partners, Bark Field Trip
- c. July 4<sup>th</sup> – Independence Day, SFJDWC offices closed

**VI. Joanne adjourned the meeting at 2:40 pm, Next meeting date: Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**