

**South Fork John Day Watershed Council
Meeting Agenda
September 11th, 2023
1:00 pm, Izee Schoolhouse**

Called to order at 1:00 by Joanne Keerins.

Attending:

Amy Stiner, SFJDWC	Hannah Latzo, SFJDWC	*Lindsay Bullock, SFJDWC
Phil St. Clair, Vice Chair	Jeff Maben, Director	*Jim Dovenburg, Director
*Aaron Roth, NRCS	*Richard Nelson, Director	Scott Hess, Director
*John Rowell, County Commissioner	Joanne Keerins, Director/Chair	*Kyle Hensley, BLM Field Manager
MT Anderson, Director	Maria Snodgrass, USDA (ODA)	*Colleen Malaney, USFS
David Helmricks, ODF	Elena Burrett, BLM Range	Jason Brandt, USFS Deputy Forest Sup
Lindsay Davies, USFS		

*Remote attendee

Quorum was present with 7 of 7 directors in attendance.

1. Public Comment

- a. No public comment.

2. Agency Reports

- a. Aaron Roth, NRCS: Finalizing EQUIP and CSP contracts; deadline on Friday. Contractor/Landowner tour in October with partners; if interested let him know. Stock water projects: make sure to collect receipts.
- b. Kyle Hensley, BLM: A couple fish biologists have left recently, and the Central OR field office is reviewing applications and hoping to fill positions by the end of the year for field positions.
- c. MNF: Doing environmental assessments involving wild horse presence; trying to come up with a plan to keep the population at a manageable level (150-190). Bark project is being pushed out to 2028 and divided into two pieces; it's a very complex project. Scotty and Rosebud are now scheduled for 2030.
- d. John Rowell, County Commissioner: County Court will be attending another NRAC meeting with the BLM
- e. Maria Snodgrass, ODA: DEQ memo of agreement has been finalized. (MOA). Temperature TMDL New Ag Water Grant Funding Source - restoration money available in ~15k increments for implementation grants. The Water Quality Program Manager has left and they're looking for a new one.
- f. David Helmricks, ODF: office is now fully staffed, fire season is still in effect. They are working on their community wildfire defense grant and wrapping up the LSR grant project work on the Phillip Schneider Wildlife Area

3. Action Items

- a. Staff Reimbursement Request
 - i. Jeff Maben motioned to approve; Phil St. Clair seconded the motion; no discussion; motion carried.
- b. August Staff Time
 - i. Phil St. Clair motioned to approve; Jeff Maben seconded the motion; no discussion; motion carried.
- c. Schoolhouse Lease Agreement
 - i. Lease is for 7-1-2023 to 6-30-25. Cost includes discount of Starlink internet being carried at Schoolhouse for meetings. Jeff Maben motioned to approve; Richard Nelson seconded the motion; no discussion; motion carried.
- d. Recognize e-votes for July-August
 - i. June meeting minutes,
 - ii. June & July staff reimbursement – Hannah Latzo & Amy Stiner
 - iii. June & July Staff time
 - iv. Insurance Policy additions

4. Staff Report

- a. Financial Updates
 - i. 25 open projects at \$2.5M, with just over 1.2M left to spend out on open projects
- b. Project Updates
 - i. Completed multiple PISRs
 - ii. White ck riparian fence – title II complete
 - iii. Murderers ck in-stream complete, call for volunteers for planting
 - iv. ONF sunflower fencing projects are completed
 - v. Aquatic Monitoring – placed over 20 temp loggers across BLM, USFS, and private lands
 - vi. Bridge Ck forestry and LSR grant project implementation are underway
- c. Grant Applications
 - i. Spring Cycle results
 1. Council Capacity - \$166K
 2. SFJD Aquatic Monitoring – OWEB BLM - \$17K & Bella Vista Foundation - \$21K
 3. ODFW Passage & Screening – Widows Ck diversions \$167,000
 4. High Izee Uplands recommended for funding
 5. High Izee BDAs – Charlotte Martin, not recommended
 6. Battle Ck Juniper – not recommended
 7. Landscape resiliency program – pending results
 - i. fall Grant cycle plans
 - a. Battle Ck Upland Improvements
 - b. SFJD Uplands
 - c. Murderers Ck Assessment
 - d. Widows Ck Diversion Design
 - e. US Partners for Fish and Wildlife: Grouse Creek Riparian Fence, High Izee BDAs
 - f. CTWS – meeting to present wish list, and request funding

5. Discussion

- a. 22-23 Taxes complete

6. Coming Up

- a. 9/20-22: Bella Vista Foundation Board Mtg and Tour
- b. 9/27: John Day Basin Partnership full group meeting and Field Trip
- c. 10/2-4: ODA/DEQ tours

7. Adjourn. Next meeting date: **Tuesday, October 10th, 2023**