

MEETING NOTES
GWMA Committee Meeting
Thursday, January 27, 2005 8:00 AM
Scandinavian Hall, Junction City, OR

PRESENT: Cliff Wooten (Linn County Commissioner), Linda Modrell (Benton County Commissioner), Mayor Judy Volta (Coburg), Dennis Boeger (Poage Engineering), Frank Wright (Citizen and Small Business Representative), George Pugh (Linn County Farmer), Karen Strohmeier (Cascade Pacific RC&D), Lanny Zoeller (Realtor), Rich Margerum (Long Tom Watershed Council), Roger Haffner (Wilbur-Ellis Farm Supplements), Tim Bunnell (City Public Water Supply Operator), Jerry Marguth (Farmer).

ABSENT: Pat Straube (Citizen and CAFO Representative), Mike Warner (Marathon Coach), Travis Williams (Willamette Riverkeepers).

OTHER ATTENDEES: See Attachment 1

Meeting started at 8:00 AM

Adjustment to Agenda, Announcements

Scott welcomed the group and started by announcing the change in the agenda. Agenda Item 7 was moved from near the end to the opening announcements. He announced the Public Drinking Water System Workshop coming up February 3. All committee members were invited to attend and there was a brief explanation about how the work will be integrated into Action Plan development. The committee then introduced themselves and the organizations/groups they represent. There was a call for other announcements, but there were none.

Public Comment

Public comment time was opened. No members of the public offered to comment.

Review of Final Draft Ground Rules

This process went exceptionally fast. Kathi began by explaining the changes that were incorporated into the most recent draft. Kathi talked about the clause that was added by staff to elect the chair and vice-chair by a simple majority vote. There were no questions about or objections to this addition. The committee agreed to this change by consensus.

Kathi also explained three other changes made in response to committee direction at the last meeting: the addition of the word 'voluntary' before strategies to clarify the purpose of this committee, consensus language which includes a provision for back-up decision-making by super majority or majority vote, and the responsibility of committee members to inform themselves of meeting happenings and decisions when they miss a meeting. The committee agreed, by consensus, to these three changes. Mayor Volta had a question about the opportunity to send a sit-in and proxy voting. Kathi explained that this group felt strongly about not allowing a proxy to ensure continuity and encourage communication when a member misses a meeting. Rich Margerum also noted the benefits of communication among the group as opposed to

sending sit-ins. There were no other questions or comments and the committee approved the Ground Rules by consensus.

Election of Officers

Kathi reviewed the provisions in the Ground Rules dealing with election of the Chair and Vice-Chair. There was clarification in response to a question self-nomination is allowed. Kathi then opened the nominations for Chair of the committee. Tim Bunnell nominated himself. Lanny Zoeller nominated himself for Vice-Chair, but was told to wait until the Chair was elected. Kathi asked for other Chair nominations. There were none and the committee was asked to vote. All members present voted for Tim Bunnell to be Chair. Nominations were opened for Vice-Chair. Lanny nominated himself, but told the group that anyone else could do it if they wanted. There were no other nominations for Vice-Chair. Members present unanimously elected Lanny Zoeller Vice-Chair.

Geographic Sketch of the GWMA

Denise Kalakay from Lane Council of Governments began a presentation on the characteristics of the GWMA. The committee and audience were impressed by a 3-D flyover introduction. The presentation acquainted committee members with some of the unique aspects of the region such as overall land use, economic data, social information, and land uses that may contribute to groundwater contamination by nitrate.

BREAK (We were about 25 minutes ahead of schedule here so we took a 10 minute break)

Item from Mayor Volta

Mayor Volta told the committee that the United Front, a voluntary coalition of local jurisdictions and agencies, is preparing materials to take to Washington DC to lobby the Oregon congressional delegation. She explained that Coburg is seeking funding to build a wastewater treatment plant which will help prevent further nitrate contamination from septic systems as Coburg grows and that will safeguard public health. She said she thought one of the roles of this group is to support worthy causes that relate to groundwater protection.

Two statements of support for the idea that this group should play that role were offered by Linda Modrell and Cliff Wooten. The committee agreed by consensus to send a letter of support from the GWMA committee. The committee agreed that the letter would be posted on the web for comments and ultimately the chair and vice-chair would approve it for the group. Mayor Volta expressed appreciation.

How to Proceed with Actions to be Incorporated in the Action Plan

Kathi briefed the group on what this portion of the meeting was intended to do. She pointed out three main decisions to be made concerning committee structure, subcommittee assignments, and the strategy template.

Denise then reviewed the organizational chart. The group agreed on how subcommittees should function. Tim Bunnell asked if we could begin subcommittee assignments now. He began by volunteering and then preferences from each member of the committee were recorded. **SEE ATTACHMENT 2** for voluntary subcommittee assignments.

Denise referred to the strategy template that she has developed. She explained the components of the template and how that information would be used in the final Action Plan. She asked for suggestions or comments on the format, but everyone liked the basic template. Rich Margerum made a point that the template should include who specifically will take the lead on implementation and where the funding will come from. There was also a point made by Mayor Volta to include provisions for dealing with conflicts as they arise.

Developing an Action Plan that Works Locally – A Case Study

Brad King, chair of the Junction City Drinking Water Protection Committee, shared information about how that committee worked. He gave pointers on how to effectively communicate to achieve common ground. Also, he emphasized the importance and challenge of maintaining enthusiasm during plan development and into implementation. He noted funding was the largest obstacle and suggested looking for creative ways, such as employing Girl Scout troops to stencil storm drains, to get things done.

Wrap-Up

Listserv and the Grant Opportunity (EPA, USDA)

Gail asked how the group thought the listserv and meeting material distribution worked. There were no complaints. The process of notifying committee members when meeting materials are posted on the website will be continued. Gail also brought up a grant opportunity and got the okay from the group to apply.

It was decided that the committee should hold off on meeting until the end of March to give subcommittees time to begin the process of identifying potential strategies. The subcommittees will report back to the full Committee on their work at the next meeting. The next committee meeting is set for March 31st at 8:00. Tim Bunnell is looking into the availability of meeting space in Harrisburg.

Meeting ended at 9:50

Note: 2 Attachments

ATTACHMENT 1: Other Attendees (From the sign-in sheet)

Ross Penhallegon (OSU Extension)
Glenn Mutti (OSU graduate student)
Jeremy Craner (OSU graduate student)
Mike Powers (ODA)
Kristina Davis (ODA)
Didi Malarkey (EQC)
Irene Rolston (OSU)
Shawn Stevenson (Oregon Association of Water Utilities)
Dan Mumford (Bergeson-Boete & Associates)
Craig Costello (Coburg Public Works)
Rick Partipillo (Staff-Linn County)
Tom Pattee (Staff-DHS)
Denise Kalakay (Staff-LCOG)
Kathi Wiederhold (Staff-LCOG)
Gail Glick-Andrews (Staff-OSU Extension)
Swati Thomas (Staff-RCAC)
Scott Shine (Staff-LCOG)

ATTACHMENT 2: Voluntary Subcommittee Assignments

Committee Member	Subcommittee
Cliff Wooten	Agriculture
Faye Stewart	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Linda Modrell Annabel Jaramillo	Commercial/Industrial Or Public Drinking Water and Wastewater
Mayor Judy Volta	Commercial/Industrial
Frank Wright	Commercial/Industrial
Pat Straube	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Tim Bunnell	Public Drinking Water and Wastewater
Lanny Zoeller	Residential
Dennis Boeger	Residential
Mike Warner	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Roger Haffner	Agriculture
Jerry Marguth	Agriculture
George Pugh	Agriculture
Travis Williams	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Karen Strohmeier	Agriculture
Rich Margerum	Residential