

MINUTES
WISE PAC MEETING
July 27, 2005

Medford City Hall
411 W. 8th St., Rm. 340, Medford, OR 97501

Attendance

Steve Mason, WISE Coordinator	Jim Hill, City of Medford
Lu Anthony, Little Butte Watershed Council	Norma Fascilla, City of Medford
Jeff Eicher, RRVID	Tom Suttle, City of Medford
Bob Jones, Medford Water Commission	Dave Nelson, US Bureau of Reclamation
Jim Pendleton, Talent Irrigation District	Terry Buchholz, HDR Engineering
Carol Bradford, Medford Irrigation District	Larry Menteer, OWRD
Chuck Root, Rogue Valley Sewer Services	Eric Dittmer, SOU
Rose Marie Davis, RBCC	

1) Introductions

2) Approval of May 4, 2005 Minutes

Approval of the May, 4, 2005 minutes were tabled until the next meeting to allow everyone to review them again.

3) HDR FS/EIS Update

- **Water delivery layout status** - Terry Buchholz of HDR Engineering informed the group of HDR's latest work. HDR has been identifying the stormwater issues that currently exist with maintaining the current system, and also looking at what the issues would be with decommissioning existing canals associated with different alternatives. Additionally, delineating the regional drainage basins that currently discharge into the existing irrigation canals themselves and quantifying that. The next step of that would be in the next phase, which would include coming up with exact alternatives of how you would resolve all those issues. This is primarily identification and knowing where the water is going right now.
- **Other** - Terry reported that the next set of studies HDR is looking at are the conveyance pipes and pump systems. Right now they are looking at more detailed grades and where pumps, if necessary, should be located. HDR met with the Ag Committee the end of June to get better details on where the alignments would be, etc. Water rights studies have been completed. Also, the Sacramento group is working on more detail regarding the dam raise potential. HDR has met with Leslie Stillwater in Boise regarding the hydrologic simulations. Baseline info and alternatives are being looked at. Groundwater investigations are nearly complete. Technical memo should be out the first of September.

4) Updates

Authorization – Jim Hill reported that the senate sub-committee has not had a business meeting recently to consider markups. They will meet again in September. So, nothing has happened since the issue was first introduced. Valerie suggested to Jim that this be introduced to the house. Dave Nelson stated that this was passed by the house already, but that was the previous congress, so that might be the problem and perhaps it needs to be reintroduced. Jim Hill will visit Walden’s office to see if it needs to be introduced again. The biggest funding issue is finding a way for HDR to do their work and be in compliance with the EIS.

5) Outreach Update

Steve Mason reported that discussions have taken place regarding WISE outreach options. One option is to ask WISE PAC members to contribute funds. Another option is to create an outreach sub-committee to focus on outreach opportunities such as parades, fairs, etc. Jim Hill commented that we should determine the target audience and he would like to see Jones & Stokes help determine the target audience. Discussion followed and the following members agreed to form an Outreach Sub-committee: Steve Mason, Bob Jones, Steve Parrett, Eric Dittmer, and Rose Marie Davis (available after Sept).

6) Other Business

Steve Mason commented that he would like everyone to understand that although not much activity is taking place at the PAC level, there is still a lot of work being done by HDR. He wants to make sure the group doesn’t lose momentum and discussed the importance of reassuring the stakeholders and everyone involved that work is continuing. Jim Hill suggested having a meeting involving other entities and interested parties, including the Ag Committee. Bob Jones concurred and suggested there be an outreach meeting in October dealing with the economic benefits of Ag using pressure systems. This will be a follow-up presentation to the one that Steve will already have given to the Ag Committee. Bob also felt that the group needs to meet to refocus and hash out the direction of this project. He suggested a possible retreat for this. Jim agreed and would like to make a presentation at that time since the modeling will be done then.

The next meeting will be August 17, 2005 at 9:30 AM, Medford City Hall, Rm. 340.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Fascilla
City of Medford-RWRF