

**MINUTES**  
***WISE PAC MEETING***

**December 15, 2004 at 9:30 A.M.**

Medford City Hall, Rm. 340  
411 W. 8<sup>th</sup> St., Medford, OR 97501

**1) Introductions**

**Attendance**

Bob Hunter, WaterWatch	Larry Menteer, OWRD
Lu Anthony, Little Butte Watershed Council	Kelly Madding, Jackson Co. Economic Dev
Bill Ryan, J. C. Farm Bureau	Terry Buchholz, HDR Engineering
Keith Corp, Corp Ranch	Tom Suttle, City of Medford
Steve Mason, WISE Coordinator	Jeff Eicher, RRVID
Chuck Root, Rogue Valley Sewer Services	Jim Pendleton, Talent Irrigation District
Charlie Boyer, Jackson SWCD	Marilyn Rice, Jackson SWCD
Steve Parrett, OWT	Rose Marie Davis, RBCC
Keith Emerson, Bear Creek Orchards	Matt Lambert, Sabroso Co.
Edward Olson, Public Works Mgmt.	Mark Grenbemer, OWEB
Stephanie Brearley, Jones & Stokes	Eric Dittmer, SOU
Bob Jones, Medford Water Commission	Dave Nelson, US Bureau of Reclamation
Norma Fascilla, City of Medford	

**2) Approval of December 15, 2004 Minutes**

Jim Pendleton made a motion to approve the 11/10/04 minutes as written.

**3) HDR FS/EIS Update**

Terry Buchholz asked every member of the WISE PAC to please get comments to her regarding the fact sheets by 1/5/05. Terry reiterated the importance of having all WISE PAC members review the fact sheets before they are released to the public.

Steve Mason reported that he had talked to Valerie West of Senator Smith's office in Washington DC and that BOR authorization (approved in the House) will not be introduced in the Senate this session. It will hopefully be approved the middle of next year. There is some confusion as to why the delay. Dave Nelson commented that he feels upper BOR management in DC hasn't fully grasped the concept of the project and therefore has not been backing the project. Steve explained that the authorization allows the BOR to act as lead agency. Terry Buchholz stated that scoping was to take place in January 2005, however now with the delay it will probably not happen until this summer depending on when authorization goes through. The EPA Grant requires scoping and then baseline studies. Jim Pendleton asked Dave where the bottleneck is, since the local BOR reps seemed to be behind

the project. Dave Nelson wasn't sure where the problem lies, but most likely in DC. Keith Emerson stated that he will work with Jim Hill to draft something by February and have it resolved by April to stay on track and make our situation known.

Bob Jones commented that a strategy needs to be laid out now so we are prepared to present in April. Keith Emerson asked Stephanie to take this back to Jones & Stokes to help create a professional presentation to BOR and any others needing clarification. Steve Mason will work with the WISE Executive Committee to arrange a meeting with Mr. Keyes and also put together a presentation for BOR Regional Management so that every link in that chain is covered. This needs to be done by February 2005. Jim Pendleton would like to see all key BOR management staff at the same table.

#### 4) Outreach Update

Stephanie Brearley reported that Jones & Stokes has covered most of the scope this year. A map sub-committee has been formed. A base map will be created with layers for Steve Mason to take to presentations. Layered maps will also be available on the website. That will complete Phase II.

Steve Mason added that the executive committee will meet to finish approving a scope by the end of January for Phase III.

#### 5) Nomination of Executive Committee

Keith Emerson asked the WISE PAC for nominations for the executive committee. The executive committee has four officers and a two-year term. The executive committee reviews the scope of services for the consultants (Jones & Stokes and HDR Engineering). They also offer financial oversight and are granted authority for quick decisions. The current officers are as follows:

Chairperson	Jim Hill
Vice-Chairperson	Keith Emerson
Secretary	Bob Jones
Treasurer	Jim Pendleton

At this point, Steve Mason reported that it had been suggested Jackson County become a member of the PAC. *This item was tabled until after discussion of item 6.*

#### 6) Discussion re: adding Rogue Valley Sewer Services (RVSS) and Jackson County to the WISE PAC

**Jackson County** - Discussed whether Jackson County should become a member of the WISE PAC. Areas of possible concern - Larry Menteer works for the Water Resources Dept. but he is also the water master for Jackson County. Kelly Madding (Jackson Co.) feels the board may want to consider having another Jackson County representative on the PAC since Larry Menteer wears two hats. Bill Ryan also represents two entities. He is an ENRON

representative for Jackson County and he also represents the Farm Bureau on the WISE PAC.

Bob Jones stated that the WISE PAC by-laws say that new members may be added to the WISE PAC if all **Partners\*** agree. It also states that each person may represent one and only one member of the project advisory committee (PAC).

\*Steve Mason explained that in the beginning, the intent was for the six WISE Partners to sign an interdepartmental agreement, but that never happened.

MOTION: Steve Parrett moved that Jackson County become a member of the WISE PAC. All 14 members present voted aye.

**Rogue Valley Sewer Services** - Steve Mason explained that there was an interest in inviting Rogue Valley Sewer Services (RVS) to participate in the PAC since they will be impacted financially by this project. Chuck Root, Manager of RVS, explained their role in the valley. RVS provides sewer service to all entities other than the City of Medford. Steve Mason made a recommendation that RVS become a member of the PAC.

MOTION: Larry Mentee moved that RVS become a member of the WISE PAC. All 14 members present voted aye.

Bob Jones suggested that the by-laws be updated to reflect who the actual partners are and how they relate to the PAC members. Steve Mason will draft the by-laws and distribute to the executive committee for review, then sent to the PAC before the next meeting.

NOTE: Since the last meeting, the *absent* PAC members also voted to approve adding Jackson County and Rogue Valley Sewer Services to become members of the WISE PAC).

## 7) **Nomination of Executive Committee (Continued)**

The following Executive Committee nominations were made:

Chairperson	Jim Hill
Vice-Chairperson	Keith Emerson (Keith declined), Jim Pendleton
Secretary	Bob Jones
Treasurer	Bill Ryan

MOTION: Charlie Boyer moved to accept the above nominations. Mark Grenbemer seconded the motion. All members voted aye by voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.

## 8) **Other Business**

Eric Dittmer, in addition to helping Jones & Stokes and HDR, has SOU students involved in environmental impact research projects connecting with the WISE project. Eric Dittmer introduced an SOU student of his, Rio Prince. Rio's presentation revolved around wetlands,

particularly wetlands sourced by leaky canals. Rio discussed ways to determine the number of leaky canals, and the extent of them. This is useful information for the EIS as well as the property owner. Of particular concern is the potential impact of the WISE project's piping of canals causing hundreds of artificial wetlands formed by irrigation canal leakage.

**9) Next Meeting**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.

The next meeting will be January 5, 2005 at 9:30 AM, ~~Medford City Hall, Rm. 340.~~  
Medford Irrigation District, 1340 Myers Ln., Medford, OR 97501.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Fascilla  
City of Medford-RWRF