



**MIDDLE DESCHUTES**  
WATERSHED COUNCIL

625 SE Salmon Ave. # 6  
Redmond, Oregon 97756

Phone: (541) 923-4358 X. 132

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**October 27, 2015**

**Madras Aviation Building ~ Madras, Oregon**

**4:30 PM**

**ATTENDING:**

John Speece (MDWC)  
Debbe Chadwick (JCSWCD)  
Mark Goodwin (JCSWCD)  
Adam Haarberg (JCSWCD)  
Scott Samsel (Landowner)  
\*Jonathan Burchell (City of Madras)  
\*Lloyd Forman (Landowner)  
\*Guy Chittenden (Madras Schools)  
Bob Spateholts (PGE)  
\*Robert Marheine (PGE/Landowner)  
\*Kirk Holcomb (NUID)  
\*Tom Nelson (ODFW)  
Jennifer Mickelson (USFS)  
Heidi Hartman (DSL)  
\* - Board Member

**SUMMARY OF BOARD MOTIONS**

**Call to Order:** The October 27, 2015 Middle Deschutes Watershed Council (MDWC) was called to order by Board Chair Jonathan Burchell at 4:30 PM. A quorum was in place. Introductions were made all around.

**Approval of May 19, 2015 and August 25, 2015 Council Minutes:** The council reviewed the minutes from the May 19 and August 25, 2015 minutes and found no noted changes.

**Motion #1: Motion made by Jennifer Mickelson to approve both council minutes as submitted. Second by Kirk Holcomb.**

**Approval of Council Financials:** Debbe Chadwick presented the council financial statement. The council reviewed the statement and found no noted changes.

**Motion #2: Motion made by Lloyd Forman to approve the council financial statement. Second by Scott Samsel.**



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**Approval of MDWC adopting a section of highway through ODOT Adopt-a-Highway program:** John Speece presented to the council the Adopt-a-Highway program and commitment. The council discussed the program, the available sections, and the benefits associated with adopting a section. The council agreed that it is a good idea and is a good volunteer opportunity, but wanted to know if other sections were available.

**Motion #3: Motion made by Jon Burchell to approve that the MDWC adopt a section and commit to one year. Second made by Kirk Holcomb.**

**\* The decision of which section to adopt will be made once the other available sections are known, and will be completed over email. The council preferred a section of HWY 26 north of Madras.**

#### **Guest Presentation:**

Bob Spateholts of PGE presented P.G.E and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Spring's Fish Passage and Water Quality Monitoring for the Pelton Round Butte Hydroelectric Project. Bob presented the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's relicensing agreement that was recently signed, and the subsequent new 50-year operating license that was then granted. He discussed the measures that were included to restore fish passage and manage water quality. He also suggested that the MDWC take a tour of the facilities in 2016.

#### **Coordinator Update:**

- **Logo and Website Update:**

A new logo was designed by Pita Studios of Ashland, OR. The design was completed at no charge with agreement that an acknowledgment will be made in the footer of the new website. The website is near completion, but is in need of photos. Council members stated that they have photos or suggested other sources. The domain registered is: [middledeschuteswatershedcouncil.org](http://middledeschuteswatershedcouncil.org)

- **Volunteer Opportunity:** It was presented and the council approved to adopt a section of highway.

- **Grant Updates:**

**Willow Creek Upland and Riparian Enhancement – Update from Jenn Mickelson - Forest Service:**

OWEB Willow Creek Juniper Treatment: The agreement is done and has been signed by JCSWCD and the FS. The agreement is reimbursable, meaning that the FS complete the work and then JCSWCD/MDWC reimburses the FS for work completed. The FS is in the process of addressing the



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potential for noxious weeds associated for the project. They anticipate being able to begin work this coming winter.

#### **Culver Youth WC – Update from Jenn Mickelson - Forest Service:**

The Culver Youth WC is a huge success and all of the students of the high school will be part of it. Jenn stated there is interest from Culver a primary school and she presented to a 4<sup>th</sup> grades class. The high school will begin to grow riparian plants in the high school greenhouse for use in restoration projects. On September 23 all of the students from the high school visited Willow Creek in the Grasslands to receive environmental education. Eight stations were established and the students rotated through. The MDWC hosted a “Watershed” station and educated the students about watersheds, and specifically the Willow Creek watershed. On November 12 an additional field day will occur with more specific education stations.

#### **EPA Watershed Education Programming in Central Oregon:**

This is a project funded through an EPA Environmental Education Local Grant with a goal of delivering classroom, hands-on and place based field trips to 840 Central Oregon Students over two years. The Children’s Forest of Central Oregon (CFCO) is the grant holder, and the MDWC is a partner along with the Crooked River Watershed Council and the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council. The MDWC will have two classes each spring in 2016 and 2017 that will each receive two classroom presentations and two field trips. John and Mark recently shadowed the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council at Whychus Creek near Sisters. They observed the delivery of environmental education and of the students participating in restoration project. The next planning meeting for the Children’s Forest of Central Oregon will be in early November.

- **Workshop Topic Discussion:** The council discussed the topics of workshops to host in 2016. One topic discussed was a Spring Development and Stockwater Design Workshop. The NRCS has agreed to partially teach this if the council decides on this topic. Additional topics discussed were: Polyacrylamide (PAM), Noxious Weeds, Soil Health, and Irrigation Water Management. Debbe reminded the council to focus on topics that will benefit the community as a whole. Funding sources will be researched, partner’s outreach to, and other logistics will continue to be evaluated this fall.

#### **Partner Updates:**

Kirk Holcomb discussed the status of the Notice of Intent to litigate against the North Unit Irrigation District. He stated that litigation could happen at any time in the future. Kirk also updated the council on the status of the lateral piping project, Phase 3, and that it is almost completed.

**Next Meeting: The Next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, December 15, 4:30 PM**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.