

**OWRD GROUND WATER MITIGATION PROJECT
SUMMARY OF JULY 17, 2008
DESCHUTES GROUP MEETING
(as approved at the September 5, 2008 meeting)**

Deschutes Group Members Present: Debbie Colbert, Kyle Gorman, Tod Heisler, Steve Johnson, Rick Kepler, Michelle McSwain, Martha Pagel, Kimberley Priestley, John Short, and Adam Sussman

Deschutes Group Members Absent: Jan Wick, Robert Bruno

Guests Present: Mary Meloy (State Water Resources Commissioner), Jeremy Giffin (OWRD Water Master), Patrick Griffiths (City of Bend)

Meeting Facilitators: Paul Hoobyar and Joanne Richter, Watershed Professionals Network

After group introductions, Paul Hoobyar gave an explanation of the stakeholder process, discussed the purpose of the meeting, and what OWRD and members of the group had indicated as goals for future meetings. After approval of the agenda, Paul provided an overview and led discussions of specific meeting mechanics including suggested Meeting Agreements, the decision-making process, the “Issues Bin,” public comments, time management, and the role of the facilitators. Following are specific procedures the group agreed to.

Meeting Agreements: The group approved the following Meeting Agreements:

- Honor the agenda and only change by agreement from the group.
- Stay focused on issues, not on people or personalities.
- Listen carefully to speakers.
- Avoid interruptions of speakers.
- Monitor speaking time.
- Be recognized before speaking.
- Avoid side conversations.
- Respect differing opinions.

Decision Making: The group agreed that they would strive for consensus, but if that can't be reached they would fall back to having a vote. No decision was reached as to whether the group would employ a simple majority (51%) or a super majority (66-75%) voting process. If consensus cannot be reached on an issue, a request was made to present both the majority and minority opinions in the final report to the Legislature.

Media: The group agreed to a number of specifics in responding to media requests including:

- Kyle Gorman was nominated as the primary media spokesman for the Deschutes Group. If requested by the media, he will explain the purpose of the stakeholder review process, background information on the Deschutes Ground Water Mitigation Program, and HB 3494 requirements.
- If other members of the group are contacted by the media, they may refer the caller to Kyle, or share their own view of the issues but not represent anyone else's views.
- The group agreed to **not** discuss with the media the specific content of what is discussed in the meetings.

Public Comments: Public comments will be taken both at the beginning and end of the meeting. The time allowed for public comments may vary depending on the number of people who show up at the meetings. Generally five minutes at the beginning and end of the meeting will be reserved for public comment.

Pre-Meeting Interview Summary: Joanne Richter provided a synthesis of comments collected by the facilitators during the Pre-Meeting Interviews, including comments on the following:

- Whether the Ground Water Mitigation Program has been successful.
- What the greatest benefits provided by the Program.
- What aspects of the Program need improvement.
- What are the greatest challenges and shortcomings of the Program
- What can OWRD do to enhance the success of the Program.
- Other issues of concern with the Program.
- Other “big picture” water issues in the Basin.

Group members identified issues discussed with the facilitators but not captured in the Summary document. Otherwise the group thought the Summary of Pre-Meeting Interviews handout, with the noted amendments, adequately reflected the comments made to the facilitators during the interviews.

OWRD Staff Role: Debbie Colbert and Kyle Gorman identified their role as providing technical support and being advocates for completing the required five-year evaluation of the Program. They showed a brief Power Point presentation that outlined HB 3494 requirements and the goals of the Ground Water Mitigation Program, and provided summary data related to implementation of the Program. Issues of concern related to the Program, and other “big picture” water management issues were also discussed, and group members added a few more items to Debbie and Kyle's list of issues.

Program Successes: The facilitators led a discussion of the Mitigation Program successes (i.e. what the group perceived as working with the Program). Participants' comments clarified those recorded during the Pre-Meeting Interviews, and will be included in the draft report.

Primary Issues of Concern: The group discussed some of the issues of concern that OWRD staff had identified in their Power Point presentation, and developed an agenda of items for the next meeting based on these, as well as the additional issues identified by the group. Small work groups agreed to help define or frame the following issues by the end of August (prior to the next Deschutes Group meeting on September 5th). The next agenda will include the following:

- How applications are counted under the 200 cfs cap (Adam Sussman to frame).
- Further discussion of the Zones of Impact (Kimberley Priestley, John Short and Adam Sussman to frame).
- Issues related to the 7J Conditioned ground water rights (Kimberley Priestley and Martha Pagel to frame).
- Potential water quality impacts from the Program (Tod Heisler, Rick Kepler, Michelle McSwain and Martha Pagel to frame).
- Discussion of non-irrigation season (winter) mitigation (full group).

Issues Bin: Other issues of concern raised by the group include the following:

- Revisit 200 cfs cap and Program sunset dates.
- Need to improve analytical Program monitoring tools.
- Improve length of time to process applications.
- Need to evaluate how transferable the Program is.
- Need for monthly accounting of instream flows to be part of any report or analysis of the Program.
- Need to investigate aquifer declines in the Basin.
- Evaluate potential impacts to springs.
- Determine net consumptive use in the Basin.
- Look at exempt wells and what can / should be done with them.
- Need to evaluate sustainability of DWA Water Bank.

Future Meeting Dates: September 5th, October 10th and November 14th. The October 10th meeting date may need to be revisited because Jan Wick will be unable to attend that day.