

MINUTES
WISE PAC MEETING

May 4, 2005

Medford City Hall

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

Attendance

Bob Hunter, WaterWatch	Jim Hill, City of Medford
Lu Anthony, Little Butte Watershed Council	Norma Fascilla, City of Medford
Charlie Boyer, Jackson SWCD	Tom Suttle, City of Medford
Bob Jones, Medford Water Commission	Dave Nelson, US Bureau of Reclamation
Steve Mason, WISE Coordinator	Terry Buchholz, HDR Engineering
Carol Bradford, Medford Irrigation District	Larry Menteer, OWRD
Keith Emerson, Bear Creek Orchards	Eric Dittmer, SOU
Rose Marie Davis, RBCC	Chuck Root, Rogue Valley Sewer Services
Barbara MacMillan, SOU	Marilyn Rice, SWCD
Linda Meyers, Interested Citizen	Valerie Holcomb, Jones & Stokes via telephone

1) Introductions

2) Approval of March 2, 2005 Minutes

Lu Anthony made a motion to approve the 3/2/05 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

3) HDR FS/EIS Update

- **Purpose and Need Statement** - Terry Buchholz of HDR Engineering distributed the latest Purpose and Need Statement. The major change was to move the wording between the two areas (purpose and need).
- **Alignment Strategy** - Terry distributed three alternatives for the alignment strategy.
 - Alternative #1 – Pipe all canals. Includes pressurized system. Eliminates moss problem. Potential hydropower.
 - Alternative #2 – Line and pipe leaky canals throughout the watershed.
 - Alternative #3 – Pipe outer canals and laterals to serve irrigation.

These options will all be screened on the same criteria. Also, these maps are merely working copies and will be refined as time goes on.

- **Options for Increasing Storage and Reliability in the Rogue Basin** - Terry distributed the Options for Increasing Storage statement. There are four options listed. These will be developed further. Comments on these options are due back to Terry by May 18, 2005.

4) Outreach Update

Steve Mason reported that he has been making presentations. Phase III will begin July 1, 2005. Jones & Stokes will be focusing more on the products rather than management in

Phase III. Jones and Stokes have updated the website and will continue to do so. GIS Maps have been received from HDR and will be updated by the GIS staff at Jones & Stokes.

5) Updates

BOR Authorization – Jim Hill reported that in order to proceed with the formal EIS process, a notice of intent must be filed. Filing a notice of intent requires a federal lead agency, which means BOR will need to get congressional authorization. Legislation was first submitted in 2003 by Congressman Walden. Since then, an MOU was created between BOR and Medford. In terms of funding, the City of Medford has received a grant for \$896,000 from EPA for the contract with HDR. Earlier this year, the legislation was passed in the house, however when it went to the senate, they had concerns with the language. Last week, Jim Hill traveled to Washington DC to introduce this to the senate. This time instead of there being questions about the language, the senate said we need to provide a fifty-percent match of funds for the project. Jim Hill noted to the senate that this was the first time the BOR required a match as criteria for accepting this bill; it was not mentioned in 2003. Dave Nelson clarified that back when this project was still IPOD, he had instructed the group to be tracking their time spent on the project. What has changed is where the funding was coming from. We will now have to demonstrate by May 11, 2005 that we can match their funds.

6) Other Business

Bob Jones has received an application for the Ashland Fourth of July Parade. He asked the group if participation is warranted. Discussion followed on what parades, events, etc. to take part in and which would be the most beneficial for the group. Bob will get the registration information to Steve Mason and he will email everyone with a sign up list.

Purpose and Need statement: Dave Nelson expressed concern about the on-farm irrigation improvements being made public. Dave believes the on-farm portion may raise some concern. It was his understanding that opportunities for on-farm irrigation would simply be identified. Steve Mason and Terry Buchholz clarified that sprinklers will not be provided. We are providing an educational opportunity for on-farm irrigation by having the pressurized system.

The next meeting will be June 1, 2005 at 9:30 AM, Medford City Hall, Rm. 340.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Fascilla
City of Medford-RWRF