

## Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership Coordinating Committee Meeting Notes

**Date:** Wednesday, January 24, 2024, 10:00-11:30 AM

**Location:** Zoom

### **Coordinating Committee Meeting Attendees**

*Coordinating Committee Members Present:*

Adam Denlinger – Seal Rock Water District

Alan Fujishin – Gibson Farms

Steve Parrett – Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Alyssa Mucken – Oregon Water Resources Department

David Rupp – Oregon State University

Billie Jo Smith – Lincoln County Water Systems Alliance

*Coordinating Committee Members Absent:*

Mike Broili (MidCoast Watersheds Council)

*Facilitators:*

Suzanne de Szoeko – GSI Water Solutions, Inc.

Leah Cogan – GSI Water Solutions, Inc.

*Guests:*

Henry Pitts

### **Meeting Agenda**

- Coordinating Committee potential new member
- Co-convenor search update
- Partnership email sharing
- Partnership participant roles table
- Information sharing among Partnership participants
- February 13 Work Group meeting agenda
- Next Partnership meeting planning
- Financial report

### **Summary of Major Points of Discussion**

- Committee members provided comments on the minutes from last meeting
  - Meeting notes should state which members are absent
  - Steve and Alyssa provided corrections to the minutes
- A potential new Coordinating Committee member, Henry Pitts, attended the meeting to learn about the committee, share his background, and give committee members a chance to ask questions
  - Henry is a master's student at Oregon State University, defending this year and planning to stay in Oregon; he has been working on community engagement for a collaborative project to address water issues around Lake Abert

- The committee discussed Convener search updates
  - Billie Jo contacted Stan van de Wetering (Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians) and is meeting with him this afternoon to discuss the Convener role
  - Suzanne sent the Convener description to Tyler Clouse at Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District; someone recently hired there may be interested
- The committee discussed the Partnership participant list and email sharing
  - Currently, all Work Group emails are sent to the full Partnership (BCC) to keep members informed about progress and encourage attendance if interested
  - During summer 2023, members were asked if they were willing to have their emails shared on a Partnership list upon request, and a small number declined
    - Those who wanted their emails to remain private were on the mailing list but had not attended meetings
  - The full Partnership email list includes nearly 250 individuals
  - Alan suggested that commitment level could dictate whether emails are shared or BCC'd; small work groups or committees need to be able to communicate with members, while leaving the full Partnership list on BCC
  - Billie Jo agreed that it is better to BCC the large group, but would like to be able to see the Partnership list to be able to contact specific people
  - Suzanne noted that the Partnership email list has been available upon request since September, but no one has requested it so far
  - Alyssa encouraged transparency around who is being invited to meetings or which group/subset is included on emails
  - Committee members agreed that BCC should be used for the full Partnership list to avoid “reply all” issues
  - Steve suggested periodically attaching a list of Partnership participants in different categories (committee membership, work group membership, charter signatories, etc.) to emails without contact information
  - David recommended against posting emails on the Partnership website to limit access to non-members
  - **Decision:** a spreadsheet will be added to the Partnership website showing charter signatories, Coordinating Committee members, and Work Group members; names and affiliations only without email addresses; the email list will continue to be available upon request
  - **Decision:** emails to the full Partnership will use BCC; Work Group emails will use CC for those who have participated in Work Group meetings and the rest of the full Partnership will be BCC'd
- The committee discussed the Prioritization Work Group meeting for February 13
  - The main focus will be the work plan approach and the virtual database
  - Alan suggested making it clear that the Work Group's objective is to make a recommendation to the Coordinating Committee and then the Partnership
    - The database is a great idea but potentially a large cost, so the group needs to understand the impact on the budget
  - Alyssa suggested describing the work plan approach as “new” rather than “updated” since it includes new ideas and is not just a revised approach

- The committee discussed the next full Partnership meeting
  - Suzanne discussed potential tours with Evan Hayduk (MidCoast Watersheds Council) and Tyler Clouse (Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District)
  - Proposed tour in spring is a large woody debris project in Rock Creek in the Upper Siletz watershed that has included Tribal involvement
    - 4-hour tour including driving to see other monitoring projects
    - Potential meeting venues include Logsdon Community Center, Toledo Fire Hall, Siletz Tribal Cultural Center
    - Potential start times would be late morning (bring lunch) or afternoon and have an evening meeting after
    - Suggestion to see if vans could be donated by OSU Extension, Starker Forests, or City of Newport (these entities have done so in the past)
    - Proposed meeting would be sometime in mid-late May
  - Proposed fall tour would be a riparian planting project at Salmon River Hatchery
- Alan shared that Rep. Gomberg is sponsoring a water infrastructure bill in the next short session and several projects proposed are relevant to the MidCoast, so the Partnership may want to engage or comment
  - Adam suggested that the Partnership could support a bill if it goes to committee
  - Billie Jo suggested encouraging Rep. Gomberg to mention how projects in the bill relate to the Water Action Plan
- Suzanne sent information to the Partnership about a drinking water protection workshop, a funding list, and an open invitation for Partnership meeting topics and speakers
- The next Coordinating Committee meeting will be February 1 and will cover agenda topics that the committee did not get to at this meeting, plus the work plan concept
  - There will be an additional Coordinating Committee meeting in February to discuss the charter