

Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership Coordinating Committee Meeting Notes

Date: Thursday, November 21, 2024, 9:30 AM-10:15 AM

Location: Zoom

Coordinating Committee Meeting Attendees

Coordinating Committee Members Present:

Steve Parrett – Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Adam Denlinger – Seal Rock Water District

David Rupp – Oregon State University

Billie Jo Smith – Lincoln County Water Systems Alliance

Coordinating Committee Members Absent:

Alyssa Mucken – Oregon Water Resources Department

Mike Broili – MidCoast Watersheds Council

Henry Pitts – Oregon State University student

Alan Fujishin – Gibson Farms

Facilitators:

Suzanne de Szoeko – GSI Water Solutions, Inc.

Meeting Agenda

- Financial report and remaining ARPA activities
- 2025 Water Package Request

Summary of Major Points of Discussion

- No comments on the last meeting notes
- Suzanne shared that Henry can no longer serve as a Coordinating Committee member, but offered to reach out to other OSU students about participating on the Coordinating Committee; the Coordinating Committee thought that this would not be a good time to add a student representative in the short term due to the upcoming lack of funding and anticipated reduction activities
- Suzanne shared the remaining budget for November and December, and how that budget would be used to cover the November 21 Coordinating Committee meeting, the December 10 Early Implementation Work Group meeting, notes for both meetings, finalization of the Early Implementation Work Plan, developing the quarterly and final project reports, website updating, communications, and organizing files/information to transfer to the convener at the end of the project; Suzanne estimated that there would not be remaining budget to assist with developing the response letter about the Partnership project list for the 2025 Water Package
- David asked who would be controlling the website and offered to do so after the ARPA project ends; the Coordinating Committee liked the idea of David managing the website

and Suzanne said that she would have Leah get in touch with him to transfer the needed information

- The Coordinating Committee discussed how to approach identifying projects for the 2025 Water Package project solicitation from Representatives Helm and Owens
- Suzanne reached out to Harmony Burrig for guidance about how much detail to provide about the projects, but has not heard back yet and will call her
- Steve said that he could help develop the letter with the projects list in response to the project solicitation given that GSI anticipates it would not have budget to do so
- Steve said that he would like there to be a Partnership meeting in early summer to help the Partnership stay connected
- Suzanne shared the current projects added to the potential projects list, discussed potential additional projects not currently on the list, and said that the focus of the next Early Implementation Work Group would be identifying projects for the project list; the leads for those projects could then send any additional information needed to the person managing the letter development
- The Coordinating Committee decided to hold a meeting on December 16 at 10 AM; Suzanne offered to set up the Zoom meeting, but likely would not be able to attend and take notes due to lack of budget
- Steve provided an update on his funding research. He reached out to the Oregon Community Foundation and learned that the time for submitting projects for consideration had already passed this year and that implementation and coordination are not priorities of the organization; Steve will continue to look into other sources such as the Water Foundation and the Ford Family Foundation
- Billie Jo suggested the Weyerhaeuser fund
- Steve recommended participating in the IRWS process; agency leaders would be thinking about priorities and the next opportunity to comment on updated priorities will be in January 2025; the draft IRWS would likely go to the Water Resources Commission in March 2025 and be adopted in June 2025
- Steve provided an update on the place-based planning rulemaking. The draft rules will be posted for public comment on December 2 the comment period ends January 15, and then there will be a public hearing; The important funding opportunity for the Partnership is the funding for implementation coordination
- Billie Jo asked if there was a notice list for the rulemaking and Steve responded that he would get her added
- Steve expressed some optimism about funding in the next legislative session for projects in the 2025 Water Package