

Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership Coordinating Committee Meeting

Date: Friday, April 7, 2023, 10 AM-11 AM

Location: Zoom

Coordinating Committee Meeting Attendees

Adam Denlinger -- Seal Rock Water District

Billie Jo Smith – Lincoln County Water Systems Alliance

David Rupp — Oregon State University

Mike Broili – MidCoast Watersheds Council Board Chair, Newport Water Supply Management and Conservation Work Group

Suzanne de Szoeki -- GSI Water Solutions, Inc.

Meeting Agenda

- Prioritization Work Group Agenda
- Charter updates
- Participation support
- Prioritization approaches

Summary of Major Points of Discussion

- Suzanne explained that more detailed Prioritization Work Group meeting notes will be provided in the future, and will identify questions that need to be answered, decisions made, GSI action items, and Partners action items
- Suzanne described that GSI has identified potential updates to the Charter to help address questions about the role of the Partnership and that the Water Action Plan has been completed. Changes are focused on adding language about Water Action Plan implementation support.
- Suzanne explained that she plans to share with the Prioritization Work Group that travel reimbursement will be available by filling out a form and that organizations meeting financial support can provide letters to the Coordinating Committee explaining why financial support is needed
- Suzanne discussed a potential prioritization approach that uses the Decision Support System that could be brought to the Prioritization Work Group. The potential approach focused on implementability for the criteria (such as eligibility for funding, availability of funding and other resources, and action/project readiness) as a starting place
- Mike stated that major goals/themes of the MidCoast Watersheds Council are conservation and watershed restoration
- Adam and Mike expressed interest in a prioritization process that focuses on overarching needs and then implementability to encourage a balanced representation of projects and to help ensure that greatest concern/needs are addressed, even those lacking a current champion
- Billie Jo proposed an approach where a project lead presents its project to the Partnership and identifies what action the project fits under, and then the Partnership figures out how to support the project. A later phase would involve identifying projects that are high priority.

- Suzanne stated that she would develop an updated, expanded prioritization process approach to share with the Prioritization Work Group that integrates criteria related to overarching needs earlier in the process
- Mike asked about longer-term support to continue Partnership efforts, and suggested reaching out to Lincoln County to help support the Partnership. Adam explained that the County did help at an early stage, provided background on the evolution of the Partnership, and said that it would be worthwhile to reach out to Lincoln County again
- Adam shared Aaron Collett from the City of Newport will attend the next Prioritization Work Group meeting to address questions about the Newport dams project and thinks the mayor of Toledo may attend

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