Deschutes Basin Water Collaborative

Planning Team Meeting Agenda

Friday, February 7, 2025 | 10:30-12:30 | Hybrid
In-person: COIC Office (334 NE Hawthorne Ave, Bend, Oregon 97701) or Online Via Zoom

Attendance:

Members: Commissioner Phil Chang, Deschutes County and Craig Horrell, COID; Jeremy Austin, Central Oregon LandWatch (alternate); Owen McMurtrey, COCO; Kimberley Priestley, WaterWatch of Oregon; Mike Britton, NUID.

Others in Attendance: Jim Powell, Citizen; Jessi Talbott, COID (alternate); Yancy Lind, Citizen; Alison Toivola and Josh Newton, Best Best & Krieger (CTWS legal counsel); Lori Faha, City of Bend

Staff: Scott Aycock and Jenn Greco, COIC; Alex Ehrens and Kate Fitzpatrick, DRC; Andrew Purkey, AMP Insights

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Updates & Action Items:

- Follow up with OWRD on the following:
    - If anyone outside of WG and the OWRC needs to approve the Plan.
    - For the State to approve the plan, does it go first go through an agency review/consultation process?
- Continue the discussion of outreach at future meetings.

DRAFT NOTES

1. **Welcome & Last Meeting Recap** *Scott Aycock, COIC*
    - Review and Accept Last Meeting Notes ***Attachment A January Meeting Notes***

Scott opened the meeting by reviewing January's Meeting Notes and asking if there were any edits. Scott also reviewed the goals for the day and the importance of getting the plan done to capitalize on future opportunities like the Helms/Owens Letter. There was a suggestion to review groundwater modeling in the future.

There was also an update regarding one of the conversations in the last meeting – explaining that there is a desire to expand exempt wells to commercial gardens so farmers can sell to markets or CSAs.

Finally, Owen updated the group on some confusion/concern over the notion that there would be no commitment on water conservation from COCO/the cities. That's not what he meant. There needs to be future clarification on how to implement incentive pricing

specifically, as well as studying equity concerns around making water cheaper for using less of it.

2. <u>Outreach Updates</u> *Scott Aycock*

After the last meeting, there was more discussion about the need to start engaging more with different boards and entities not at the table. The primary purpose of this would be to educate on the process, goals, and progress of the Plan. This way people are not surprised by the Plan.

At the last Tri-Chair meeting it was decided that Kate and Scott will present to the DBBC in early March, followed by the same kind of presentation to the COID and NUID Boards. After this, and when the group has a recommendation, they would potentially meet with Tribal Council – Bobby Brunoe has previously noted that the best approach is to come to them when there is a recommendation (e.g. a Plan for their consideration) rather than providing any early updates.

Scott asked the group if anyone outside of the Working Group needs to accept/approve the Plan for it to be considered final and done. This led the group to a discussion of more questions related to the State approving the plan. Staff will follow up with OWRD on these areas. The group agreed that outreach is important so that consensus can be reached in the future.

3. <u>Chapter 5 – Reorganization</u> *Alex Ehrens, DRC*

- Review Chapter 5 Updates Resulting from the January 24 PT Meeting

The biggest change to Chapter 5 was how staff structured strategies and tools in relation to anticipated outcomes. They are now focused on the three legs of the stool. Other Benefits were split into Additional Benefits and Secondary Outcomes; Education and Outreach was recategorized as an approach, not an outcome; and Future Analysis was moved to a section outside of Outcomes. Alex also added the level of detail back into the first outcome.

4. <u>Chapter 5 – Outcome 1: Upper Deschutes Winter Flows</u> *Alex Ehrens, DRC*

- Overall Structure and Level of Detail
- "Big Issues" Deep Dive: Discuss the Big Issues as currently stated – flesh out, ID necessary details/nuance, etc.

The idea of this agenda item was to reflect on the questions and dialogue about them. Alex captured details, but these were intentionally not captured in the notes.

Staff are excited the group is wrestling with these issues, and people were encouraged to send feedback directly to Alex.

5. <u>Proposed High Level Timeline for Plan Finalization</u> *Scott Aycock, COIC*

The Following is a Proposed Timeline:

- June 2025 – Complete Draft of all 5 Chapters is Ready
- Summer 2025 – WG Reviews/Refinements/Votes
- Fall 2025 – WG Approves, Seek Other Approvals
- December 2025 – Seek OWRC Approval
- "Big Issues" Deep Dive: Discuss the Big Issues as currently stated – flesh out, ID necessary details/nuance, etc.

The group discussed this timeline briefly. No decisions were made.

6. **Roundtable Updates and Sharing**
   None.