Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership
Coordinating Committee
Meeting Minutes

April 14th, 2022, 10:00am – 11:00am

**Coordinating Committee Meeting Attendance:**

**Adam Denlinger** - Seal Rock Water District

**David Rupp** - Oregon State University

**Alan Fujishin** - Gibson Farms

**Steve Parrett** - Oregon Water Resources Department

**Clare Paul** - City of Newport

**Matt Thomas** - Oregon Department of Forestry

**Alexandria Scott** - MCWPP Local Planning Coordinator

**Welcome & Review of Agenda**

 Alexandria called the meeting to order at 10:10am. There were no additions to the agenda by the Committee.

**Discuss Proposal Address State’s Required Improvements, Incorporating Public Review Feedback & Yellow Card Solutions**

Adam and Alexandria received the Plan Review Team’s feedback on March 18th after 85-days of review. Feedback was given in 3 categories: required improvements, plan strengths and considerations for plan implementation. These documents will be shared with the Partnership on April 20th along with an updated plan that contains language to satisfy the state’s required improvements. Alexandria has had many meetings over the last couple weeks with ODFW and OWRD to find out exactly what they are looking for in improvements and if it can be pulled from in previous works (Steps 2 and 3) from the Partnership. She also followed up with a few Charter Signatories and Harmony Burright (previously co-convener of the Partnership representing OWRD) to obtain necessary information to meet the state’s improvements and any pertinent information about the planning process (process design, deliverables, participants) that the consultants may have missed.

In February and March Alexandria worked with Charter Signatories to help draft solutions to the yellow cards posed at the December 15th Charter Signatory consensus vote of the draft plan. These solutions will be included in the updated draft plan along with the required improvements from the state. This updated plan will be version that the Partnership will be voting to reach consensus on at its May 11th Partnership meeting. Once consensus is reached, the final plan will be submitted to the Water Resource Commission (before the May 16th deadline) for them to review the plan before the Partnership presents to them on either June 16th or 17th. This presentation will be for the Water Resource Commission to officially recognize the plan and ask the planning group questions. The 30-day public review did not really yield any material changes to the plan other than the Sankey diagram (figure 7) has been removed but is still in the Step 2 reports for people to use and reference if they want. The 30-day public review did show public support for the plan and gave the public an opportunity to weigh in before the plan was finalized. Keep in the mind the changes made to the plan are either a requirement by the state or address a yellow card concern posed by a Charter Signatory; these changes are necessary to receive state recognition and partner support. The updated version of the plan will be sent to the Charter Signatories on April 20th for them to have 3-weeks to review the changes before the May 11th vote.

**Discuss May 11th Partnership Webinar (Objectives, Next Steps)**

The next Partnership meeting will be on May 11th from 9am-11:30am. The link to register for this meeting is here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIqceqhqD4rH9GnabyzjkpO0pNw-zB1j_e_>. If you try to register at 9am or after 9am on the day of the meeting, you will not be let in, so please register in advance. If you cannot attend, but are an eligible charter signatory, please submit your vote between April 21st and May 6th.

The objective of this meeting is to discuss the updates to the plan and reach consensus on the final plan. The templates for the Resolution and Declaration of Cooperation are ready to go for partner organizations to adopt the finalized plan after the Partnership has adopted it. Alexandria is working on some suggestions of additional next steps for the Partnership that she will present to close out the May 11th meeting. Alexandria will also be working on the presentation for the June Commission meeting and lining up presenters before her departure. Alan volunteered to present with Adam to Commission whether it is virtual or in-person in Salem.

**Personnel/Grant Update**

Alexandria told the Committee that she successfully turned in the OCF grant application for $20,000 at the end of March. She hopes if awarded, the Partnership will receive these grant funds in mid-August. Unfortunately, despite talking to several private funders there were no grant funds that would come through in time to bridge the funding gap from June 1st – mid-August. During that time, the Partnership will need to operate without a planning coordinator. Alexandria will be doing some prep work so that the next person coming into this position will hopefully have a smooth onboarding process. After May 31st Alexandria will no longer be the point of contact for the Partnership and will be deactivating her midcoastwaterpartners email. Adam Denlinger will be the main point of contact for the Partnership until a new planning coordinator can be brought on board.

**Partner Updates**

* Steve (OWRD): OWRD is still waiting on D.A.S. to get back to them on their proposal for the $1 million of ARPA funding. The intention is to split that evenly amongst the existing 4 planning groups, but they are not sure yet what kind of strings will be attached to these funds. Hopefully the funding would be distributed to the planning groups through a new grant agreement in mid-August. Stay tuned for more information.
* Steve (OWRD): It looks like the Mid-Coast planning pilot will have 75 minutes of presentation and Q &A time on the Commission agenda for June, but the exact date and time for the presentation has not been set yet. Stay tuned for more information.