

LUBGWMA HYBRID Committee Meeting – 4*

01/06/2023 – 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Meeting Location
2 Marine Dr NE, Boardman, OR 97818

MEETING Link: 

<https://oregonstate.zoom.us/j/97987438960?pwd=RXMvQmFzSmVMNTYyUXZGajZZaTJmZz09>

Click [here](#) or copy and paste the link below to your browser (Google)

Enter Meeting the Passcode – 234764

Please find the [instruction](#) on how to join a Zoom meeting

Agenda:

Time	Action Item
11:00 am -11:05 am	Welcome and present the meeting agenda
11:05 – 11:10 am	Salini Sasidharan Minutes and recap
11:10 am– 11:15 am	Salini Sasidharan Updates from Chair
11:15 am – 11:30 am	Salini Sasidharn Update on Website and feedback and introduction of Survey
11:30 am – 11:45 am	Update and Introduction of Postdoc Dr. Suraj Jena, OSU
11:45 am – 12:10 pm	Assessment of droughts in Umatilla River Basin for projected mid-century (2030 – 2059) IPCC AR5 scenarios Sudip Gautam and Dr. Meghna Babbar-Sebens, OSU
12:10 – 12:20 pm	Break
12:20 – 12:40 pm	Update from State Agency Delegate DEQ, ODA, OWRD, OHA
12:40 pm – 12:55 pm	Alternate Member Nomination Executive Committee Members
12:55– 1:10 pm	Update and Adoption of Bylaw Version 1 Executive Committee Members
1:10 pm – 1:20 pm	11th member nomination for public category Executive Committee Members and open for discussion
1:20 pm – 1:55 pm	Second Action Plan and Subcommittee Formation Executive Committee Members and open discussion
1:55 pm – 2:00 pm	Schedule the Next Meeting Date and Time
2:00 pm	Adjourn

Alternate meeting information:

Phone Dial-In Information

+1 971 247 1195 US (Portland)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 979 8743 8960

Join by Polycom/Cisco/Other Room System 97987438960@zoomcrc.com

*Meetings will be numbered, starting on August 30th, 2022 (1), for data archiving purposes.

LOWER UMATILLA BASIN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA
LUBGWMA meeting #4
MINUTES-1/6/2023
Port of Morrow Riverfront Center (Boardman) & Zoom video

Attendance:

Kate Ely	Brian Crawford	Courtney Warner
Kevin Payne	Salini Sasidharan	Crowell
Tom Straughan	Aravinth Ekamparam	Laura Gleim
Dawson Quinton	Paul Measeles	Byron Smith
Kelly Doherty	Jared Huddleston	Karen Lewotsky
Curtis Cude	Stephen Machado	Aaron Palmquist
Alexis Weisend	Elizabeth Schultz	Bob Waldher
Randy Jones	Sumant Kumar	JR Cook
Kristin Ostrom	Isaak Stapleton	Justin Green
Tamra Mabbott	Marganne Allen	Russ Kazmierczak
Karmen Carlson	Jeff Wenholz	Jessica Keys
Lisa Mittelsdorf	Stefany Bales	Wym Matthews
Carla McLane	Trevor Beltz	
Suraj Jena	Debbie Radie	

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by Chair Salini Sasidharan.

Salini discussed updated agenda with some time changes.

Kristin Ostrom expressed concern with having action items at the bottom of the agenda.

Kate Ely suggested that we do a short introduction of all present and online.

Aaron Palmquist wants to add how to interact with Zoom in the bylaws and that everyone needs to be aware that these meetings are being recorded.

Salini gave a recap of LUBGWMA meeting #3.

Salini gave a Chair update that included attending three conferences where she introduced the GWMA in hopes of collaborating with others.

Salini mentioned the website updates with help from Laura Gleim.

Aaron Palmquist suggested posting the website address far and wide for public consumption.

Salini asked about a physical address for the GWMA for potential mailings and Kevin Payne offered the Morrow SWCD address.

Aaron Palmquist requested that information posted on the GWMA should be peer-reviewed.

Curtis Cude with OHA stated that the OHA information provided was peer-reviewed.

Salini hopes to send out a survey soon to the general population and members on potential topics and/or resources that can be posted on the website.

Tamra Mabbott suggested potentially forming an outreach subcommittee to talk about this topic.

Salini mentioned that OSU has a survey center that may be useful to the committee.

Laura Gleim mentioned that OHA and County Health departments should review all public health information before posting on the GWMA website.

Dr. Suraj Jena was introduced by Salini and is the Postdoctoral Scholar that will be focusing on the LUBGWMA. He briefly introduced and outlined his proposed GWMA modelling work in the area. He hopes to identify the spatial distribution of nitrogen through mass-balance and biogeochemical models. He would also like to look at redefining the LUBGWMA into smaller sections based upon land use, hydrogeology transport and a nitrogen mass-balance model.

Carla McClane voiced her approval of potentially redefining the LUBGWMA into smaller sections using various factors/models.

Paul Measles stated that these models should help in differentiating data from past land use to current conditions because parts of the GWMA act as a “bathtub” holding waters that could be affected by historical practices.

Aaron Palmquist stated his desire to see OHA at the table regarding data sharing of well-monitoring information between various agencies/groups.

Brian Crawford asked what any potential barriers may exist to Dr. Suraj Jena for collecting needed data, and conversely, are there things the committee could do to accelerate the process.

Aaron Palmquist mentioned a lack of dedicated funding could be a barrier.

Karen Lewotsky wondered if different methodologies and analytics used to collect data over the years could be a potential problem/barrier.

Ph.D. Student Sudip Gautam presented Analyses of droughts in the Umatilla River basin for mid-century. He has concluded that Hydrological drought is projected to become more frequent, severe, and longer in duration. On the other hand, agricultural drought is projected to be more frequent but shorter in duration and less severe.

Randy Jones gave a DEQ update. He mentioned that he is officially retired but will mentor a replacement. He stated that DEQ hopes the committee will bring 3-5 strategies to the table in 2023 to be evaluated for potential implementation. DEQ also would like the second LUBGWMA Action Plan evaluated for successes and failures.

Tamra Mabbott asked Randy if he knew of any funds available to hire dedicated staff to tackle LUBGWMA tasks.

Randy suggested the committee form a subcommittee to explore funding options for the GWMA.

Justin Green suggested going through the action plan statutes as a grounding exercise at the next meeting.

Kristin Ostrom asked why DEQ couldn't find funds for a dedicated staff person for the LUBGWMA.

Randy explained that DEQ's role by statute is to provide technical support.

Kate Ely said she thinks it would be a good idea for DEQ to review the committee's work in their role as a regulatory agency, so that the members aren't reviewing their own work.

Randy stated the DEQ, along with ODA and OHA, are here to assist with review of action plan.

Tamra Mabbott asked Courtney Warner Crowell if would be appropriate to run a request for LUBGWMA staff up the regional solutions team for a legislative package. Courtney Warner Crowell suggested waiting for the Governor's budget first, then look for potential staff support.

Bob Waldher mentioned that Dan Dorrان has had some preliminary discussions with several consulting firms about potentially assisting the LUBGWMA and what that may cost. It would be asking technical experts for assistance on appropriate strategies for the GWMA.

Marganne Allen gave an ODA update. She stated that ODA Regional Water Quality Specialist Tom Demianew has moved on and the agency is transitioning in the area. Paul Measles will be the interim LUBGWMA ODA representative.

Isaak Stapleton gave an update on CAFO program and the work with EPA and other partners on a filed petition for a moratorium on CAFO's in the LUBGWMA. Petition was filed by Food and Water Watch and a coalition of NGO's in January of 2020.

Curtis Cude gave an OHA update. They have been working on public health intervention, including various water testing, education, and outreach activities. Working with labs and water treatment providers. Hopes to develop a list of folks to provide water treatment systems to.

Kristin Ostrom mentioned that the water emergency declaration in Morrow County has expired, and it seems there is a bit of a gap. The 700-800 residents being provided water will stop receiving it mid-February when funds run out. She stated that the last few months have demonstrated what it takes to install treatment systems and whether or not they will handle the high nitrate levels.

Curtis Cude mentioned that he needs lab reports and screening of households to adequately service residents. ORA has collected a great amount of data and is working with OHA on sharing that data.

Salini opened the floor for alternate member nomination discussions. It was decided to address alternates at the next meeting after more discussions between Executive Committee members and prospective candidates.

Salini gave an update on the Bylaw Action Committee. They were sent out for edits, and no comments were submitted. Salini hoped to approve version 1.1 of the bylaws. It was decided to review the draft bylaws again.

Aaron Palmquist made a motion to review the draft bylaws and have edits to the bylaw subcommittee by 2/1/2023 for approval via zoom meeting on February 17, 2023, at 3:00 pm by the Executive Members. Salini Sasidharan seconded the motion. A vote on the motion was taken by Executive Members present and online. Motion passed.

Salini gave an update on the selection of the 11th Executive Committee member nominations. She asked for nominations to her by January 25, 2023. The Executive Members will vote for candidates to be recommended at the next regular bimonthly meeting in March, and DEQ will make the appointment.

Randy Jones reminded the committee that the position description for this 11th member states to represent the community/cultural, underserved/underrepresented, and environmental justice communities as stated in the draft bylaws.

Kristin Ostrom introduced Karmen Carlson as a community member who is interested in serving as the 11th member for the general public. Karmen mentioned that she would like to be part of the solution in the GWMA. Kristin also mentioned Luis Monge, who lives in rural Boardman and is interested in serving as the 11th committee member.

Tamra Mabbott introduced Kelly Doherty as a local well owner who would like to serve as the 11th committee member.

Salini opened the floor for discussion on new subcommittees and proposed a funding subcommittee to look into potential funding sources and avenues for LUBGWMA endeavors. Possible subcommittees were discussed, and feedback was encouraged for consideration at future meetings.

The next meeting will be a zoom meeting on Friday, February 17, 2023, at 3:00 pm. The next regular bimonthly meeting will be in-person with a Zoom option, Friday, March 3, 2023, from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. Location TBD.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 pm.

Submitted by

Kevin Payne

Secretary, Morrow County Soil Water Conservation District

Reviewed By

Salini Sasidharan, LUBGWMA Committee Chair, Oregon State University