

Major Milestones September 2022 – April 2024 Lower Umatilla Groundwater Management Area Committee Report

Salini Sasidharan, Oregon State University

Chair, LUBGWMA Committee 09/22 – 04/24

1. **Appointment of Chair Dr. Salini Sasidharan (Oregon State University) and Vice Chair Commissioner Dan Dorrn (Umatilla County) - September 2022**
2. **Formation of a Formal Committee with 11 members Representing Diverse Categories and Expertise - September 2022 - July 2023**
 - **Morrow County – Commissioner Roy Drago Jr. (Primary); Tamra Mabbott (Alternate), Morrow County**
 - **Umatilla County – Commissioner Dan Dorrn (Former Committee Vice Chair, primary); Robert (Bob) Waldher (Alternate), Umatilla County**
 - **Tribal Government – Eric Quaempts (Primary); Kate Ely (Alternate), Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR)**
 - **City Government – Aaron Palmquist, City of Irrigon (Primary); David Stockdale, City of Umatilla (Alternate)**
 - **Science and Research – Dr. Salini Sasidharan, Oregon State University (Former Committee Chair, Primary); Dr. Ruijun Qin (Ray) (Alternate)**
 - **Irrigated Agriculture – Jake Madison (Primary); TBD (Alternate), Madison Farms**
 - **Livestock/Dairy/CAFO – Greg Harris (Primary); Misty Edgecomb (Alternate), Threemile Canyon Farms**
 - **Industry and Business – Ian Toevs, Lamb Weston (Primary); Debbie Radie, Boardman Foods, Inc. (Alternate)**
 - **Environmental Nonprofit Organizations – Karen Lewotsky (Primary); Jana Gastellum (Alternate), Oregon Environmental Council**
 - **General Public (position 1) – Kristin Anderson Ostrom (Primary); Kaleb Lay (Alternate), Oregon Rural Action**
 - **General Public (position 2) – Jose Garcia, resident and community leader (Primary); Eric Ashford (Alternate)**
3. **Appoint Morrow County Soil and Water Conservation District as the Lead Agency for Implementation (Secretary for LUBGWMA Committee: Kevin D. Payne, District Manager – Natural Resource Specialist) - September 2022**
4. **Enhanced Website Interface and Communication - December 2022**
5. **Appointing a Postdoc with the Institute of Water and Watershed and Department of Biological and Ecological Engineering, Oregon State University, to Develop a Conceptual Hydrogeology Model for the LUBGWMA - December 2022**
6. **Establishment and Approval of Bylaws Providing a Structured Framework for Our Operations - February 2023**
7. **LUBGWMA Committee was Established as a Public Body with Confirmation from the Department of Justice - April 2023**

8. **Work closely with HDR to Draft a Roadmap to Implementation of the Second Action Plan - May 2023**
9. **Statue Evaluation and Defining the Roles and Responsibilities of Various Agencies - March 2023**
10. **A Comprehensive Evaluation of the Second Action Plan at the LUBGWMA Committee and Proposal for Multiday Workshop - May 2023**
11. **Conducted the Regional Pre-Workshop Survey to Identify Workshop Format, Key Second Action Priorities and Participants - July 2023**
12. **Hosting the First LUBGWMA Regional Workshop and Development an Actionable Roadmap to Success - August 2023**
 - o The outcomes included:
 - Prioritizing actionable goals, such as developing a groundwater model for the basin and dividing the GWMA into subsections.
 - Identifying funding sources.
 - Appointing a facilitator to serve as a liaison between the committee and agencies.
 - Developing a data platform.
 - Creating an inventory of best management practices.
 - Establishing a pilot study site for hotspots.
 - Forming action-oriented subcommittees.
13. **Formation of Action-Oriented Subcommittee and Appointment of Subcommittee Coordinators - December 2023**
 - o Funding - Subcommittee Coordinator/s: Dan Dorran (PM); Gregg Harris(AM)
 - o Technical - Subcommittee Coordinator/s: Salini Sasidharan (PM); Ian Toevs (AM)
 - o Liaison and Partnership - Subcommittee Coordinator/s: Jake Madison (PM); Karen Lewotsky (AM)
 - o Communication - Subcommittee Coordinator/s: Misty Edgecomb (PM); Debbie Radie (AM)
 - o Best Management Practices - Subcommittee Coordinator/s: Bob Waldher (PM); Tamra Mabbott (AM)
14. **Established a LUBGWMA Committee Operational Structure and Decision-Making (Voting) Framework - November 2023**
15. **Appointment of Facilitator Jane Hill, a Liaison between LUBGWMA Committee and State Agencies - January 2024**
16. **Recruitment of Members for various Subcommittees via General Public Recruitment Call to Ensure the Inclusion of Regionwide Experts - February 2024**
17. **Coordination of New Subcommittee Meetings and Establishment on Subcommittee Goals and Priorities - March 2024**
18. **Completion of the Tenure as Chair by Dr. Salini Sasidharan and Vice Chair by Commissioner Dan Dorran and Completion of 15th LUBGWMA Committee Meeting - April 2024**
19. **The First Visit of Directors from DEQ, ODA and OWRD at LUBGWMA Committee Meeting and Discussed the Path Forward for Resources and Agency Leadership - April 2024**

20. Transition of Committee as The LUBGWMA Advisory Committee Inspired by Walla Walla Basin Advisory Committee (WWBAC) Under the Direction of Governor's Office - April 2024