

Moab Area Watershed Partnership

Draft Meeting Minutes March 18, 2020
Virtual meeting using adobeconnect

Stakeholders Present	Affiliation	Others
Dave Erley	Moab Solutions	Arne Hultquist, Watershed Coordinator
Kara Dohrenwend	Grand Conservation District	
Dana Van Horn	GWSSA	
Daniel Lay	USFS	
Rebecca Weissinger	Herself	
Scott Hacking	UDEQ	
Jeff Adams	CWC	
Mila Dunbar Irwin	Grand County	
Janae Wallace	UDNR/UGS	
Ryan Jones	UDAF	
Marc Stilson	UDWRi	
Lucy Parham	UDWQ	
Chris Wilkowske	USGS	
Sarah Stock	Living Rivers	
Bob O'Brien	Town of Castle Valley	
Ben Musselman	San Juan County	
Ann Marie Aubry	BLM	
Denver Perkins	City of Moab	
Gabriel Woytek	Grand County	
Gerrish Willis	Grand County	
John Weisheit	Living Rivers	
Jorge Gonzalez	BLM	
Laura Margolies		
Nicole Nielson	UDWR	
Robin Straub		
Travis Newman	Himself	

ACTIVITY	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Introductions, Review Agenda and accept January Minutes	Introductions were not made as the audio portion of the meeting application software was not functioning properly. The Agenda and January minutes were accepted.	January's minutes and today's agenda were approved.
Watershed Coordinators Report	There weren't any questions on the Watershed Coordinators report.	Arne will continue submitting WC reports
MAWP Officers	Arne reminded everyone that we spoke about the need for a new chair at our last meeting because our current Chair was stepping down. Mila stepped up (Thank you Mila!) and accepted the position of Vice Chair with the caveat that if her Supervisor Zacharia, felt she didn't have the time she would have to resign the position. Arne informed her it would take about 10 hours a year.	Arne thanked Mila for accepting the position of Vice-Chair and Jeff will move to Chair.
Project Presentation and Ranking	Arne reminded the group that all NPS grant applications that are inside the MAWP watersheds need ranking by the MAWP. A discussion followed about the ranking sheets inability to capture the value of some projects because it is weighted toward stream restoration projects. Arne reminded the group that we have	

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never really appreciated the whole ranking system paradigm and we can change our ranking sheet at any time. We haven't changed it for 5 or 6 years now. The group proceeded to rank the following grant applications:

Mill Ck Phase IV supplemental grant app: BLM Moab Field Office: Ann Marie Aubry. The sponsor was having difficulty speaking using the meeting software and Arne stepped in to explain a few things about this project. He informed the group that this is a continuation of projects on Mill Creek intended to eliminate several invasive species and replant with native species. The projects also consist of trail maintenance and gully improvements to protect the riparian area. This project, Phase IV was submitted last year and UDWQ partially funded the project and asked the sponsor to re-apply this year. Arne suggested we don't re-rank the project since it was ranked last year and the scope of the project hadn't changed. The attendees agreed and last year's ranking sheet will be re-titled to represent this year's application

Southeastern Utah Health Department Digitization of On Site Water disposal Sites Supplemental application: SEUHD: Jonathan Dutrow. The SEUHD has been occupied handling the Covid-19 issue and wasn't able to be present at this meeting. Arne knows about this application and proceeded to explain to the attendees that this is another supplemental application. However, this one isn't because it wasn't fully funded the first time. This one is for more assistance because they determined the amount of assistance they asked for last year was insufficient. The scope of the application has not changed but the cost of the project is more than was originally expected. Arne suggested we re-title last year's ranking like we had for the BLM. The attendees agreed.

Grand County Dog Waste Initiative: BLM Moab Field Office: Sharon Brussell. Sharon wasn't able to attend the meeting, probably because of an invitation oversight and the latest version of the project had not been delivered. Arne informed the group that he had been to several meetings on this project and knew enough about the project to explain it to the attendees with their permission. The attendees agreed and after the discussion the project was ranked. Arne told the group that the exact obligations by certain agencies was still being discussed but the project intends to purchase 14 dog waste stations for deployment at the public trailheads throughout Grand County. The placement of waste stations would mostly be local around the more urban trailheads because that's where there appears to be the greatest impact of dog waste. The project would also purchase and deploy over 28 signs reminding people that they need to clean up after their pet. A sign will be deployed with each waste station. The project also intends to install signs without waste stations at trailheads farther from city of Moab by Grand County Trail Mix.

Arne will retitle last year's ranking sheet to reflect this year's title and submit it with the grant application

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There are still continuing discussions on what agency will be responsible for making sure the waste bags end up being disposed of properly. At this time it appears it will be a joint effort between SEUHD, the BLM, Sand Flats, and the Mill Creek Partnership. The project also calls for purchasing over 8,000 bags! The project was ranked by the attendees.

SEUHD Human Waste Education and information project:

SEUHD: Jonathan Dutrow. SEUHD wasn't able to attend this meeting as stated previously. Although Arne didn't know as much about this project as the others and hasn't seen any paperwork on it, the attendees were very supportive of the project and wanted to rank it so it could be submitted if SEUHD managed to complete the application. Arne agreed and did his best to explain the project. SEUHD intends to hire a seasonal information and education individual for three "summers". That person might help with the dog waste initiative, but their primary task would be to educate people recreating on public lands that they can't indiscriminately defecate on public lands and leave it. Like dog waste, their waste needs to be appropriately disposed of also. The project includes production of pamphlets for distribution with "wag bags" at certain selected trailheads throughout the "tourist" season. There may also be some signage posted at certain trailheads and dispersed camping areas. The seasonal employee would visit various trailheads and dispersed camping areas with the pamphlets and "wag bags" during the season. The attendees ranked this project.

Pack Creek Phase I Stream Restoration: Rim to Rim (also scheduling with partners) Kara Dohrenwend. Kara was in attendance and was able to use her microphone to describe the project while Arne was able to show the attendees a few pictures of what the project will repair. The project is a stream reach of about .5 miles and extends from the northwest side of the Holland property to the southeast side of the Cinema Court property. The major goal of this project is the restoration of the reach to a properly functioning condition. Properly functioning condition is a term used to describe a stream that is resilient to flooding events. The stream has been incising lately and is starting to erode areas essential to the property owners. The property owner engaged the NRCS to perform a stream survey to determine what engineering could be performed to restore the stream. The NRCS's engineer returned a spreadsheet for the property he surveyed that contained 7 drop structures, 200 feet of rip rap and 100 ft of bank knockdown. The engineer did not include an estimate for revegetation that would be required because that is not his area of expertise and local experts in our area could provide a better estimate. Rim to Rim has provided a detailed estimate of the revegetation cost and the total cost of the project is about \$150,000. Direct benefits of a properly functioning stream include biological and habitat integrity, High water benefits as opposed to flood water destruction, and

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	<p>riparian areas that are fire resistant. There is a right of way between the two properties that is intended to be a pedestrian pathway that connects the Holyoak subdivision with Mill Creek Drive. Completion of that pathway is a secondary goal of the project and should also ease trespass issues in the area. The attendees ranked the project.</p>	
<p>Grazing Trespass issues in North Fork Mill Creek.</p>	<p>Arne informed the group that while sampling the spring at the upper reaches of North Fk Mill Creek with Jorge they encountered between 5 or 10 horses that have been left to graze the area. We were aware that grazing is not a permitted use in the Mill Creek watershed on BLM property. The attendees discussed the situation including whether these were horses left there since the parcel was traded from School and Institutional Trust Lands to the Bureau of Land Management. After discussions the attendees agreed to write a soft worded letter inquiring on the agencies knowledge of the grazing issue and what the BLM's intention is on this matter is.</p>	<p>Arne will pen a first cut letter. Arne will forward that letter to Bob O'Brien who will revise the letter. That letter will be sent to the Chair and Vice Chair for their review. The letter will then be sent to the BLM and all attendees will receive a copy of the letter via email.</p>
<p>Other Business Future meetings for the development of a Spanish Valley Groundwater Management Plan and other groundwater matters.</p> <p>Vision Committee update.</p> <p>Manti-La Sal National Forest Management Plan Revision Schedule</p>	<p>Arne previously informed the attendees that the next meeting that was scheduled for directly after this meeting was cancelled.</p> <p>These items were not discussed because of difficulties associated with the virtual conference call.</p>	
<p>Poll on the MAWP's effectiveness.</p>	<p>While Arne was learning how to operate the adobeconnect meeting application he realized there was an opportunity to use its polling function to garner some measure and ideas on how the MAWP and its facilitator are "doing" and if there are things we could improve on. Arne offered two polls for attendees to consider answering.</p>	<p>Several of the attendees completed the poll and Arne will consider options to integrate their suggestions.</p>
<p>Adjourn</p>	<p>The next meeting will be at 1:00pm May 20, 2020 location to be determined. It will focus on the Watershed Management Plan.</p>	<p>Adjournment</p>