

Bakeoven / Buck Hollow Watershed Council

Deep Creek, Cottonwood Creek, Upper & Lower Bakeoven Creek, Salt Creek and Dead Dog Canyon

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Meeting Minutes

Thursday November 5, 2020

5:00pm at Carver's Shop Bakeoven Road

Maupin, OR

Attendees:

Abbie Forrest, *Coordinator*

Bob Krein, *Chair*

Blaine Carver, *Member*

Karen Lamson, *SWCD*

Jerod Warnock, *Member*

Randy Warnock

Shilah Olson, *SWCD*

Call to Order and Introductions

Bob called the meeting to order and asked if there were any additions to the agenda?

Blaine moved to accept the minutes as presented, Jerod seconded and the motion passed.

Bakeoven TA grant Final Report – Karen Lamson, Shilah Olson & Abbie Forrest

Abbie briefly explained how she drafted the final report, that she presented to the council members and Bakeoven Technical Assistance landowners, that participated in the rangeland inventories. She also reviewed the materials that were in each of the landowner's folders which included the final report, photo point summaries, and the rangeland inventory worksheets. The information that was gathered on the landowner's properties was compiled into the NRCS inventory spreadsheets, and then analyzed with written summaries to correspond with each photo point.

Karen went into more detail, providing an overview of how the inventories were gathered. There were two teams who took the inventories and gathered the data across the entire Bakeoven watershed for two days back in early June. Plant community information is gathered by throwing hoops into sections of range that provide the most accurate representation of the area. The vegetation within the hoop sample is clipped and weighed, and then percentages are determined based on plant dominance and weight. Karen proceeded to step the landowners through each of the range inventory sheet pages, explaining each component and factor, how they are evaluated, and the relevance for determining range health. The points that were used for the range inventories may be used for monitoring trends and for seeking grant dollars.

After everyone had a chance to review their individual summaries and inventory sheets, Karen directed them to the Final Report, which was drafted to correlate with an NRCS Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) that was drafted by NRCS DC, Frank Cochran back in 2017. The final report provides details on the goal of the grant, background information and problem, describes tasks and deliverables, an inventory analysis of the upland assessments that were conducted, expected ecological outcomes, proposed practices and future actions. Shilah provided more context with regards to the proposed practices, and if the practices are implemented, the expected benefits. Council members reviewed the practices, all of which were identified as priorities for each landowner. The consensus of the group was the report was well developed and provided solid documentation for need for the Bakeoven watershed. It was also agreed to elaborate on prescribed grazing in the final report and describe the benefits this practice has when managed correctly.

Next Steps

Bob asked what is out there for grant money and implementation dollars?

Shilah explained, in the beginning the goal was to get a large grant to implement these projects. OWEB recommended a holistic plan to gather the whole watershed inventory, and then come back and ask for a large grant once the Technical Assistance piece was completed. The COVID crisis has made finding funding tough. There is the potential to apply during OWEB's next grant cycle Spring of 2021, although there is concern the funding pools will be much smaller, and the competition much higher. Lottery funds are down, which has put a clamp on OWEB grant dollars. There is opportunity for landowners to seek funds on an individual scale through the OWEB Small Grant Program or the Local SWCD District Cost Share program. Discussion ensued regarding cost share and potential grants.

The consensus of the group was to pursue cost share for individual projects at their own pace, and wait to see what happens in the Spring for a large grant through OWEB, and the possibility of an NRCS CIS.

County Appointments

Abbie stated that when the Bakeoven Watershed Council was formally recognized back in February the County Clerk recommended alternating Council members appointments so all members weren't up for reappointment at the same time. Blaine Carver's term was set to expire on December 30, 2020.

Jerod moved to approve the County reappointment for Blaine Carver. Bob seconded, the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm.

Minutes prepared by Abbie Forrest.