

WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING
KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON
JUNE 2, 1994
7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS

Lorna Stickel
Cliff Bentz
Hadley Akins
Nancy Leonard
Mike Jewett
Anita Johnson

STAFF

Martha Pagel
Steve Sanders
Diane Reynolds
Cindy Smith
Steve Brown
Reed Marbut
Rick Bastasch
Bob Main
Fred Lissner
Bev Hayes
Steve Applegate
Dwight French
Kyle Gorman
Del Sparky

OTHERS

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Dennis Olson
Steve Casebeer
Frank Goodson
Walter Smith
Jim Shugrue
Don Douglas
Ty Halousek
Todd Kepple
Bruce Wirth
Dave Zepponi
Bill Wales
Wendell Wood
W D Kennedy
Stephanie Burchfield
Karen Russell
Steven Lewis
Frank Hammerich
Jim Liston
Louis Randall
Denis Babson

Gerald Garcelon
Bill Riddell
David Storey
Ken Master
John Horn
Jerry Barnes
Charles Masten
Robert Manning
Don Horsley
Helen Horsley
Betty Tyree
Carl Gibson
Dean Wells
Bradley Bennett
LaVerne Hankins
Earl Wiersma
Glenn Barrett
Kip Lombard
Scott Balin

The report presented at this meeting, is on file in the office of the Director of the Water Resources Department, 158 12th Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97310. Written information submitted at this meeting is hereby made a part of this record and is on file at the above address. Audiocassette recording tapes of the meeting are also on file in the Water Resources Department office.

STATUS REPORT: GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS AND WATER USE
APPLICATION PROCESSING IN THE BONANZA AREA, KLAMATH COUNTY

Water Resources Department staff, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, WaterWatch of Oregon, and residents, in and around the agricultural community of Bonanza, are currently struggling with how further development of the area's water resources should proceed. Area farmers have applied for groundwater rights and have invested large sums of money anticipating being able to use the resource. Residents of the town have expressed concerns for groundwater quality deterioration as groundwater levels decline in response to pumping. Some holders of prior rights to surface water perceive injury if groundwater is allowed to be further developed. The BOR, Fish and

Wildlife, and WaterWatch are concerned for various instream values if groundwater use is allowed to increase.

Department staff presented a summary of a technical study completed in the area. That study confirms the interconnection of ground and surface water. It also confirms that both drought conditions and groundwater pumping affect groundwater levels.

Staff briefly discussed plans for continuing to process the pending groundwater applications. An alternative dispute resolution process, including all local interests, will be used to resolve remaining issues.

The Commission heard comments from the residents of the area. Those comments focused both on the content of the study report and the permitting process.

Earl Wiersma, Horsefly Irrigation District, commented. Tape 1, Mark 627.

David Storey, Storey Drilling Services, commented. Tape 1, Mark 834.

Denis Babson commented. Tape 2, Mark 53.

William Wales commented. Tape 2, Mark 160.

Karen Russell, WaterWatch and Wendell Wood, Oregon Natural Resources Council, commented. Tape 2, Mark 200.

Glenn Barrett, Barrett Livestock, commented. Tape 2, Mark 296.

Kip Lombard, City of Bonanza, commented. Tape 2, Mark 422.

Bill Kennedy commented. Tape 2, Mark 495.

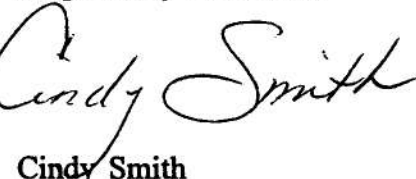
Jerry Barnes, Weyerhaeuser Company, commented. Tape 2, Mark 536.

Scott Balin, Balin Ranches, commented. Tape 2, Mark 562.

Stephanie Burchfield, ODFW, commented. Tape 2, Mark 751.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Cindy Smith
Commission Assistant