

The Charter of the  
POWDER BASIN WATERSHED COUNCIL

ARTICLE I. MISSION STATEMENT

We recognize that our local prosperity is dependent upon the current and future availability and quality of our waters, therefore, the Powder Basin Watershed Council is committed to the goal of retaining, restoring and enhancing the health of our watersheds in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

ARTICLE II. WATERSHED BASIN DESCRIPTION

The Powder Basin Watershed includes the Burnt River, Powder River, Eagle Creek and Pine Creek watersheds, and the segment of the Snake River and minor tributaries thereto from rivermile 260 to 335.

ARTICLE III. FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

The Powder Basin Watershed Council, hereinafter "Council", shall assess watershed conditions and develop, implement and monitor efforts toward watershed maintenance and improvement.

ARTICLE IV. ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership. The Council will strive for a membership which reflects the broadest practicable representation of local citizenry, state and federal agencies and organizations with vested interests within the watershed.

Section 2. Appointments. The Council members, serving three (3) year terms, will be appointed from volunteers by the County Court. Initially, Council members will be appointed to one, two and three year terms in order to provide for staggered terms with approximately one-third (a) expiring each year. The Council may recommend prospective Council members and solicit applications for new membership, with the Baker County Court having sole member appointment authority.

#### Article IV. Organization and Membership (continued)

Section 3. Officers. Officers of the Council shall consist of Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer, elected from among the membership, except for paid state and federal agency representatives, for a term of two (2) years. Election of officers will be held during the regular February meeting of the Council in even years. A vacancy in any elected position may be filled by a majority vote of present Council members provided a quorum exists. The Coordinator shall serve as Secretary.

Section 4. Staff. The Council will be supported by a Coordinator and additional staff as may be necessary.

Section 5. Committees. The Council may appoint Committees or Special Work Groups to assist in achieving its objectives. Each committee chair or work leader shall be a member of the Council.

Section 6. Funds. Funding for Council activities shall be provided through the appropriate Soil and Water Conservation District organization, therefore, no provision for handling funds is required.

#### ARTICLE V. OPERATING PROCEDURES

Section 1. Quorum. Fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) of the recorded Council Voting Members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. Decision Making. The Council shall employ a consensus method. Robert's Rules of Order will be used in the election of officers. If a decision on an agenda item is time-sensitive and less than a quorum is present and those present are in consensus, an electronic vote may be taken to arrive at consensus or parliamentary vote in a timely manner.

Section 3. Removal of a Member. Removal of a Member or a Member's Voting Privileges. The Council may recommend the removal of a member by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of those present, provided that a quorum exists and that the removal action is noted on the meeting agenda and distributed to all Council members at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. Missing three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings without notification to the Chair or Coordinator will result in loss of voting privilege. Attendance of three consecutive regular meetings will re-establish the voting privilege.

Section 4. Meetings. The Council is a public agency and all meetings are open public meetings. The public is encouraged to attend. Each regular Council meeting shall be announced through the activities calendar printed in local media. Minutes of each meeting will be sent to the members for review and subsequent approval at the next meeting. A copy will be concurrently provided to the County Court.

Section 5. Special Meetings. Unscheduled Council meetings may be convened if it is deemed necessary by the Chair and the Coordinator. A teleconference or other electronic communication may be utilized for urgent decisions if deemed appropriate, a quorum being required.

## ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENTS

The Council may adopt, amend and repeal any portion of this charter with a Council quorum at any regular meeting of the Council provided the proposed changes are provided to all Council members at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

CHARTER APPROVED: March 6, 1996  
Amended 3/5/97, 11/7/01, 12/12/01, 7/6/05, 04/05/06

### **Amendment I**

[Amended at Regular meeting, March 5, 1997. Article IV. Section 3. is amended to read as follows:]

Section 3. Officers. Officers of the Council shall consist of a Chair and a Vice Chair, elected from among the membership, except for *paid* state and federal agency representatives, for a term of two (2) years. The appointed term ....

### Amendment II

[Amended at Regular meeting, November 7, 2001. Article IV. Section 3. Officers. Is amended to read as follows:]

Section 3. Officers. Officers of the Council shall consist of a Chair and a Vice Chair, elected from among the membership, except for ~~payed~~ *paid* state and federal agency representatives, for a term of two (2) years. ***Election of officers will be held during the regular February meeting of the Council in even years.*** ~~The appointed term of elected officials shall be extended to include the full term for which elected.~~ A vacancy in any ~~elective~~ *elected* position may be filled by a majority vote of present Council members provided a quorum exists. The Coordinator shall serve as Secretary. ~~The Chair shall appoint work group leaders as appropriate.~~

### Amendment III

[Amended at Regular meeting, December 12, 2001. Article V. Section 3. Removal of a Member. Is amended to read as follows:]

Section 3. Removal of a Member. The Council may recommend the removal of a member by a two-thirds (b) vote of those present, provided that a quorum exists and that the removal action is noted on the meeting agenda and distributed to all Council members at least seven (7) days prior

to the meeting. Missing three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings without approval of the Chair *or Coordinator* may be is grounds for ~~automatic~~ dismissal.

**Amendment IV.**

[Amended at Regular meeting, July 6, 2005. Article V. Section 1. Quorum. Is amended to read as follows:]

Article V. Quorum. ~~Ten (10) or more Council members~~ **Fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) of the recorded Council Voting Members shall constitute a quorum.**

**Amendment V.**

[Amended at Regular meeting, July 6, 2005. Article V. Section 3. Removal of a Member. Is amended to read as follows:]

Article V. Section 3. Removal of a Member **or a Member's Voting Privileges.** The Council may recommend the removal of a member by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of those present, provided that a quorum exists and that the removal action is noted on the meeting agenda and distributed to all Council members at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. Missing three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings without ~~approval of~~ **notification to** the Chair or Coordinator ~~may be grounds for dismissal~~ **will result in loss of voting privilege. Attendance of three consecutive regular meetings will re-establish the voting privilege.**

**Amendment VI.**

[Amended at Regular meeting, April 5, 2006. Article VI. Section 3. Officers. Is amended to read as follows:]

Section 3. Officers. Officers of the Council shall consist of Chair, ~~and~~ Vice Chair, **and Treasurer** elected from among the membership, except for paid state and federal agency representatives, for a term of two (2) years. Election of officers will be held during the regular February meeting of the Council in even years. A vacancy in any elected position may be filled by a majority vote of present Council members provided a quorum exists. The Coordinator shall serve as Secretary.

**Amendment VII.**

[Amended at Regular meeting, April 5, 2006. Article V. Section 2. Decision Making. Is amended to read as follows:]

Section 2. Decision Making. The Council shall employ a consensus method. Robert's Rules of Order will be used in the election of officers. **If a decision on an agenda item is time-sensitive and less than a quorum is present and those present are in consensus, an electronic vote may be taken to arrive at consensus or parliamentary vote in a timely manner.**