

Joint General Member and Steering Committee Meeting

Location: Stayton Community Center

Date: April 13, 2017

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 PM

Attendance:

Roll Call for Quorum: Brad Nanke (City of Salem-Chair), John Caruso (Marion County – Secretary/Treasurer), Mike Kroon (Natural Resources), Lawrence Schwabe (Grand Ronde Tribe), Bill Sanderson (Economic/Recreation), Dave Carpenter (At Large-Landowner)

General: Robert Gentry, Darrin Neff, Grady McMahan, Robert Lusk, Stanley Niemiec, Kathy Bridges, Luke Fitzpatrick

Council Coordinator: Rebecca McCoun

Santiam Shared Staff: Tyler Pedersen, Joe Deardorff

6:05 PM

Presentation

“UPRIVER” Film Directed by Jeremy Monroe & David Herasimtschuk

An “Audience Feedback” form was handed out after the film.

7:10 PM

Steering Committee Meeting Called to Order

Council Mission Read

Roll Call for Quorum: Quorum Confirmed

Introductions

7:12 PM

Brad Nanke brought the March 2017 General/Steering meeting minutes to the floor. Dave Carpenter motioned to approve the March 2017 minutes. Mike Kroon moved to second. No discussion. All were in favor. The March 2017 Minutes were adopted.

7:18 PM Announcements & Public Comment

Darrin Neff, District Fish Biologist with the Willamette National Forest –Detroit District noted they are seeking comment for 6 projects. The projects include the following: a large wood placement project on Marion Creek and on Minto Creek; a culvert replacement on Straight Creek, the placing and anchoring of large wood in Detroit Lake; subsoiling skid trails and landings inside several units in the Upper North Santiam and a forest closure order of no camping near a new fish drop site at Jefferson Bridge up in the Breitenbush subbasin. The comment period ends April 28, 2017.

Darrin Neff noted there will be a Free Fishing Day on June 3rd up in Detroit. He will have a booth set up with your educational materials and activities.

Rebecca reminded the group of the upcoming Mill Creek water quality workshop scheduled for April 19th from 4 to 6 pm at the Stayton Community Center. They will be offering free well testing. Rebecca noted she will be presenting and Joe and Tyler will have a booth at the event.

Rebecca also reminded the group of the upcoming 7th Annual North Santiam Basin Summit scheduled for April 17, 2017. In the morning, the attendees will participate in a drought tabletop exercise where several drought scenarios are presented. In the afternoon, several individuals will pitch mitigation projects to a panel of funders. The funders will then provide feedback to the group.

Operations Update:

We did not have an April Operations Meeting

Secretary/Treasurer Update:

John noted the financials are not reflecting accurate numbers since we are behind three months in inputting Joe and Tyler's time. The issue is a result of having to wait on SSWC to approve Joe and Tyler's SSWC portion of the time sheet. Rebecca will work to find a solution. John noted the CREP Revolving account has been straightened out and is now in the positive. .

Shared Santiam Staff Update:

Santiam Project Technician: Joseph Deardorff

Joe provided the council with a final summary of the 2017 planting season. We planted approximately 70,000 trees & shrubs on 77 riparian acres. The Marion County Free Tree Program provided 6,000 of the trees. Plants were distributed to 2 new project sites and used to interplant 5 sites. Joe is now working on coordinating the spring maintenance activities for all the projects sites.

Santiam Project Manager: Tyler Pedersen

Tyler noted he has been working with Steve Smith, Tom Snyder, Deb Paul, Jared J and the FSA office on the Sandner Bear Branch riparian, wet prairie and oak savanna restoration project that was recently awarded. Tyler also noted he was able to get some logs from the BLM. We will be using some of our BLM Title II funding to pay for the log hauling to the Sandner site.

Council Coordinator Update: Rebecca McCoun:

Rebecca noted she is preparing for Seventh Annual NS Basin Summit: tracking RSVP's, preparing presentation and assisting with dry runs of the tabletop exercise.

Rebecca worked with Eric Andersen on getting the Meyer Work Plan for 2017-2018 submitted

Rebecca noted the NSWC hosted the OSU Extension Citizens Science workshop on the March 22nd. Both she and Joe attended. 5 people in total participated in the training. Very informative. The OSU trainers really wished more people from the canyon participated. They would like more gauges up in the canyon.

Rebecca and Eric attended the Model Watershed Monthly Meeting with regional coordinators in Eugene. Rebecca also met with Kelly House in Salem. Kelly is the new communication/outreach person Meyer Memorial Trust hired to help the Model Watershed Councils and partners tell their WRI stories.

Eric and Rebecca met with Nancy Toth and Karl Morgenstern with EWEB to see if they can learn from EWEB's place based conservation fund development efforts.

Rebecca provided an update on how the CREP FSA meeting. Brad, Brent and John participated in the meeting with Rebecca. Several of the key state, regional FSA staff attended. Outcomes: FSA prefers the councils to stay in the outreach role and to not implement the CREP cost share part of the project for the landowners. The landowners need to "have skin in the game" and should cover the upfront costs. They do not approve of the council holding the loan for the landowner. They want to see canceled checks proving the landowner has spent funds out of pocket. When it came to some of the communication issues, the regional representative noted their contract is with the landowners and not with the councils. They do not have to communicate with us.

Rebecca noted she has looked into several loan programs for landowners such as the CRAFT3 loans to see if landowners could get loans to help them utilize the cost share program. Rebecca found these loans have closing costs and fees she does not think landowners will want to take on for the sake of restoration. Rebecca noted she and Tyler will be working with Steve Smith and Jim Sandner on the Sandner CREP project but behind the scenes. Jim and/or Steve will have to be the ones in contact with FSA. Jim Sandner will be paying all the invoices.

Rebecca noted she wants to have staff step back from directly recruiting CREP for now. We can provide the flier and/or information to the landowner and if the landowner wants to know more about it we will send them to Deb Paul in Linn County or Josh Togstad in Marion County or to the county FSA offices. We will need to find alternative sources of funding for match on OWEB restoration grants.

7:30 PM **New Business:**

Strategic Planning Update. Rebecca noted she had only received comments from on the Strategic Planning materials from Jan Irene. She encouraged others to review the documents and send her feedback. The next strategic planning meeting will be in June.

Upcoming presentations will be Greg Taylor with the USACE Update in May. Darrin Neff, will provide a USFS update in June. Someone with the City of Salem will provide an Upper Bennett Dam update in July.

7:45 PM **Meeting Adjourned**