

**Joint General Member and Steering Committee Meeting**

Location: Stayton Community Center

Date: August 10, 2017

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 PM

**Attendance:**

**Roll Call for Quorum:** Brad Nanke (City of Salem – Chair), Brent Stevenson (Irrigation District –Vice Chair), John Caruso (Marion County – Secretary/Treasurer), Jan Irene Miller (Landowner At-Large), Mike Kroon (Natural Resources), Dave Carpenter (At Large-Landowner), Lawrence Schwabe (Grand Ronde Tribe), Suzette Boudreaux (Little North Fork)

**General:** Woody Jackson, Jay Hannigon (?), Gary Pullman, Ken Hetsel, Heather Anderson, Kent Westbrook, Scott Walker, Samantha Schwabe

**Council Coordinator:** Rebecca McCoun

**Shared Santiam Project Manager:** Not Present

**6:05 PM      Steering Committee Meeting Called to Order**

Council Mission Read

Roll Call for Quorum: Quorum Confirmed

Introductions

**6:10PM**      Brad brought the July 2017 meeting minutes to the floor. Dave Carpenter moved to approve the minutes. Jan Irene Miller seconded the motion. No further discussion. All were in favor. The July 2017 Minutes were adopted.

**6:15 PM**      Business Meeting – Reviewed draft NSWC Strategic Plan. Rebecca went over the draft document on the overhead screen. Rebecca explained how the document was structured and requested the council members take time to review the document and provide comment. Rebecca will create list of those who signed up for the work groups at the Strategic Planning sessions and bring the list to the September meeting.

**7:05 PM      Announcements & Public Comment**

Follow Up on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Discussion from July Steering/General Member meeting: Rebecca noted she reached out to Kelly House to get additional information on the Meyer Memorial Trust’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Statement. Kelly House sent her an email outlining MMT’s goals. Rebecca forwarded it to the Operations Committee.

Jan Irene Miller noted she did some research and found the Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) had a very well put together organization statement regarding why Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) was important to them and how they are incorporating these values into their mission. Jan Irene read OCF’s statement. Jane Irene felt the OCF description did a better job at explaining the purpose and reasoning

for incorporating DEI into an organizations strategic/action plan. Rebecca asked if we should incorporate something similar into the NSWC strategic plan or action plan. The group agreed we should.

Ken Hetsel noted the Pringle Creek group put in for a neighborhood partnership grant and that it came in second. Ken wanted to know if the NSWC would like to partner on the project. Ken brought up several projects on Mill Creek. Ken also discussed the possibility of getting small farmers, local schools and the smaller watershed councils together to work on restoration projects. Rebecca will reach out to Ken to get additional details.

Ken Hetsel also noted the Pringle Creek Watershed Council would be meeting in September. Victor who has been the longtime leader of the Pringle Creek group will be retiring.

Brent Stevenson announced the Santiam Water Control District was able to get 1.2 million dollars approved, through recent legislation, for a new irrigation project for the Mill Creek Corporate Center in Salem. The total cost for the project is 3.4 million. They will be seeking additional funds to cover the difference.

Rebecca noted Marion SWCD will sending their quarterly newsletters out by email now rather than by mail. Funds previously directed toward newsletter printing and mailing will now be directed toward conservation projects. You can visit their website to sign up for their electronic newsletters.

Suzette noted the Marion County's 200 plus new signs up the Little North Fork and the new fees imposed have helped reduce the summer issues along the Little North Fork corridor. So far, people have been obeying the new rules and traffic problems have been reduced.

Lawrence Schwabe noted the Willamette Mitigation Project proposal for the Little North Fork near Elk Creek did not rank out for funding this time around.

Brent noted Marion County sent out a very informative email with information on the upcoming 2017 eclipse event.

**7:20 PM Secretary/Treasurer Update:**

John Caruso just received the financials and has not yet reviewed them.

Rebecca noted she along with Brad, Brent, John and Jan Irene would be meeting with Dave Adkin, Non Profit Attorney with the Center for Nonprofit Law out of Eugene, later in the month for a free consultation on what it would take to become a non-profit. They will bring the information gained back to the group in September.

**7:30 PM Santiam Project Manager Report: Rebecca McCoun**

Rebecca noted Tyler Pedersen has been working with Steve and Graham Trask on the large wood placement out at the Sandner-Bear Branch project. Tyler and Rebecca have also been flagging the CREP and EQIP project boundaries for the Bear Branch -Sandner sites as well.

Log Placement Summary from Steve Trask: **15 log placement sites** spanning 0.6 miles & **~107 pieces placed**. Wood came from **27 Douglas fir trees felled, 21 smaller Douglas fir trees tipped with rootwads intact**, and **17 logs donated by BLM**. Three sites completed per day for 5 days from August

2nd through August 8th. Tyler will go back out to these sites before high flows and take log measurements and re-check his counts.

Tyler also has multiple instream projects taking place in the South Santiam during the month of August.

**7:40 PM Coordinator Report: Rebecca McCoun**

Rebecca noted the NSWC was awarded the 2017-2019 OWEB Council Support Grant. At the OWEB July Board meeting, the NSWC was approved for full funding \$118,425. Rebecca handed out a table showing how the \$118,425 grand funds will be allocated over the next 2 years.

Rebecca noted the OWEB Review Team met in early August to discuss spring submissions. The NSWC submitted two technical assistance applications. Upper NS (Idanha) Side Channel Technical Assistance grant ranked second. OWEB received four TA applications and the review team only recommended two for funding.

The NSWC's North Santiam Lower Bennett Dam Alternatives Analysis TA proposal was a "Do Not Fund." Rebecca noted she spoke with Liz Redon who will be putting together an official write up providing some details on why it was not recommended for funding.

Rebecca noted she recently provided a CREP Revolving Acct Summary to Bonneville Environmental Foundation showing how beneficial their 15k CREP loan has been for landowners in the watershed.

Without the BEF loan much of the recent CREP restoration work the NSWC has assisted landowners with would not have occurred. The landowners the NSWC extended the loan to did not have the cash flow to implement CREP. The cash flow was the deal breaker for these landowners. As Kelly House puts it ...we addressed the equity issue in restoration by extending this loan to landowners through FSA & OWEB assignment of payment process. In addition, the CREP enrollment provided the 25% match required by individual leveraged OWEB grants used to implement high quality restoration. BEF made 58.47 acres of riparian restoration possible and allowed the installation of 1.39 miles of livestock creek side fencing.

Rebecca noted Josh Togstad, CREP Planner representing Marion, Polk and Yamhill Counties is asking a letter of support for the next CREP TA grant. Rebecca noted she provided a letter of support.

Rebecca also brought up the Marion SWCD OWEB Grant Match funding opportunity. The NSWC has until August 29<sup>th</sup> at noon to submit proposal to Marion SWCD. Tyler and Rebecca will be resubmitting the North and South Valentine stream buffer restoration proposal in early November. They will be requesting match funds through the new Marion SWCD program.

Rebecca also noted she would be working with Tyler and Eric on submitting a landowner outreach/ stakeholder engagement grant in November as well.

Rebecca noted the fourth Annual Detroit Lake Shoreline and Riverside Cleanup is tentatively scheduled for September 30, 2017. It will be at the Upper Arm Day Use Area.

The NSWC will be hosting another OSU Extension Seasons Tracker Training on Wednesday, October 18, 2017. The training will be in Gates at the Gates Fire Hall.

**7:45 PM**      **New Business:**

Rebecca noted the Oregon Business Council Charitable Institute's (OBCCI) recently submitted a grant proposal to Meyer Memorial Trust titled North Santiam: Building "the Business Case" for investing in projects that promote watershed resiliency. They are seeking \$30k from Meyer and \$20k from watershed stakeholders to contract ECONorthwest to prepare a document similar to the one they recently produced for the Yakima River Basin. This would build off the NS Drought Contingency Planning efforts and the Partners of the North Santiam's resiliency action planning efforts. The document would help quantify the direct economic impacts drought and other water related crises would impact not only the economy of the watershed but the state and in some cases the country. ECONorthwest will be conducting a similar project for the Umatilla Basin. Rebecca noted she would be seeking matching funds from Marion SWCD, City of Salem, Marion County and other entities dependent on the resources of the watershed.

**7:50 PM**      **Meeting Adjourned**