

Joint General Member and Steering Committee Meeting

Location: Stayton Community Center

Date: February 9, 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), Suzette Boudreaux (Little North Fork), Mike Kroon (Natural Resources), Lawrence Schwabe (Grand Ronde Tribe), Deb Paul (Linn SWCD)

General: Ken Hetsel, Tom Pedersen, Heather Anderson, Kim Dowe, Jeremy Mitchell, Paige Evans, Brandin Krempasky

Council Coordinator: Rebecca McCoun

Santiam Shared Staff: Tyler Pedersen

6:00 PM Steering Committee Meeting Called to Order

Council Mission Read

Roll Call for Quorum: Quorum Confirmed

Introductions

6:05 PM Brad brought the November 2016 General/Steering meeting minutes to the floor. Suzette motioned to approve the November 2016 minutes. Brent moved to second. No discussion. All were in favor. The November Minutes were adopted.

6:10 PM Presentation

Paige Evans, Natural Resource Specialist with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) provided the council with an overview of the ODEQ Willamette Valley ground water study. The ODEQ is offering free well testing in the Mid-Willamette Valley as part of a statewide groundwater resource study. Ms. Evans highlighted that in February of 2017 they will begin sampling volunteer landowner wells. An additional forty wells will be sampled in the summer of 2017. Ms. Paige went over their study design and answered questions. Members on the council asked if she would be willing to come back after the study was complete and present on the overall results. Ms. Paige agreed.

7:35 PM Announcements & Public Comment

Rebecca introduced Heather Anderson and noted Heather was an OSU student who will be volunteering for the council this summer. Heather recently applied for a grant through OSU which would cover her wages to intern with the council. She is looking to intern 30 hours a week June through August or September. Heather will be working alongside Joe Deardorff the shared Santiam Project Technician.

Operations Update:

Brad noted the Operations Committee met just before tonight's meeting. The FSA CREP program was the topic of conversation. Brad noted there are inconsistencies in the way the Marion and Linn County FSA offices run their programs. Brad noted the Operations Committee will be reaching out to someone with the state FSA office to get clarification on the following questions: How should CREP be run? What are the state policies? Are the two counties fulfilling their requirements? Is the council asking too much from the FSA offices? Do they need more staff? Also, we need clarification on if it is okay to use CREP as match on OWEB Restoration grants. In addition, Rebecca is spending a lot of time assisting landowners with CREP and maybe it is not cost effective for the council to take on this landowner supportive role.

Brad noted he reviewed the council member attendance list and made efforts to reach out to Bill and Jon Tucker. Brad noted that he was not able to get a hold of Bill Sanderson. The number we have for Bill is no longer in service. Rebecca noted she would try to get a hold of Bob Lusk to see if he had heard from Bill. Brad noted he was able to get a hold of Jon Tucker. Jon is working again (came out of retirement) and has been very busy. Jon plans to attend the March council meeting. Rebecca noted we have one vacant council position open. We reached out to the forest/timber industry last fall with help from Joe Arbow with ODF. Rebecca noted we did not get a single response.

Secretary/Treasurer Update:

John noted the profit/loss reports for December looked good. John noted he just received the January reports and had not had time to review them. John also noted we will need to get additional funding since several of the grants ended in December. John also noted the financial reports are not up to date and according to Rebecca were about a month behind. The delay is associated with the shared staff time sheet and mileage approval process. It takes a much longer time to run the shared staff monthly time and mileage sheets through both council coordinators before getting the documents signed by the NSWC Operations Committee and submitted to CPRCD for processing.

Shared Santiam Project Technician Update:

Project Technician; Joe Deardorff. Joe provided the council with a brief PowerPoint presentation. Joe Deardorff stated that over 65,000 plants have been planted and about 4,500 are left to go. Sites planted include: Bear Branch Beitel, South Valentine Beitel, Bird Haven and Dieckman.

Joe noted he has several new landowner site visits coming up. He will be meeting with a landowner just up from Camp Taloali on March 6th. He will also be going out to Heather Anderson's property on the North Santiam near Lyons/Mehama with Josh Togstad to see if it is CREP eligible.

Shared Santiam Project Manager Update: Tyler Pedersen:

Tyler discussed the Sandner-Bear Branch Oak, Wet Prairie and Riparian restoration proposal that we submitted back in the fall of 2016. Tyler noted we had the OWEB Review team come out to visit the site in December. He has heard from several individuals that the project was looked on favorably by the OWEB review team. The overall grant ask was high so he is not sure if will be fully funded. Tyler noted the OWEB review team will be meeting later in February and that we should know by March whether the review team recommends the project for funding or not.

Council Coordinator Update: Rebecca McCoun:

Rebecca noted the NSWC 2015-2016 Annual Report was mailed out in January. Rebecca noted she received a nice email complimenting the report from a Linn County Commissioner,

the City of Salem, Network of Oregon Watershed Councils. The report was mailed to the county commissioners in both Marion and Linn County, posted on the website, Facebook and sent out in an eUpdate.

Rebecca noted Josh Kling with Western Rivers reached out to the NSWC and she will be meeting with him next week.

Rebecca also noted she and Jan Irene met with two staff members from the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) earlier in the day. Jan Irene hosted them at her farm and provided them with a tour of the project and Upper Bennett Dam. The OEC recently received a grant from Meyer Memorial Trust to gain a better understanding of landowner perspectives on watershed restoration.

Brad and Rebecca participated in a Radio Interview with KMUZ Community Radio on January 18th

Rebecca provided the council with an outreach summary as of February 2017. The eUpdate Listserv has 221 signed up with on average a 30% open rate. The NSWC Facebook page has 223 "Likes."

The North Santiam Canyon Feasibility Study Came out – Rebecca forwarded the link to everyone. The Molalla-Pudding, French Prairie, North Santiam Ag Water Quality draft plan recently was sent out by Jo Morgan. Rebecca will be sending her additional information on the council's restoration efforts to add to the revised plan.

Rebecca also noted she and Jan Irene met with Megan Zarzycki with the Siletz Tribe in January. Megan will be joining the Partners of the North Santiam planning work group.

Rebecca noted the NSWC Strategic Planning process will be beginning with a pre-meeting tomorrow from 10am to Noon in Albany. Rebecca along with Brad, Brent and John will be meeting with Allison Handler with Solid Ground Consulting to prepare for the March 4th meeting.

Rebecca noted to save the date for the 7TH Annual North Santiam Basin Summit scheduled for Monday, April 17, 2017. It will be an all day summit. They are planning to have a drought table top exercise in the morning with an afternoon of several presentations on proposed mitigation projects.

Grants that ended 12/31/16: (213-3046 Cal-San Outreach, 2013-3053 Snake Deford)

Grant submitted: GEOS Drinking Water Partners Partnership Grant 35k ask

AFS Riparian Challenge Application submitted application for Bird Haven project

Upcoming Grants:

Rebecca will be working with Brent and RDG on possibly submitting a technical assistance grant for Lower Bennett Dam. Brent and Rebecca will be meeting with Troy Brandt next Friday the 17th.

Rebecca and Tyler will possibly submit a technical assistance grant for a side channel reconnection project up in Idanha.

Clair Fiegenger with Greenbelt Land Trust will be providing the council with a presentation at the NSWC March meeting on the GBLT acquisition proposal for 400 acres along the Lower North owned by the Sandners.

7:45 PM **New Business:**

Rebecca asked the council if they would like to sign up again with the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils. She noted some of the benefits they now offer include access to Survey Monkey and Go To Meeting Pro. The cost would be \$375 for a 2017 membership. Suzette moved to join the Network. Brent seconded the motion. Discussion followed. All were in favor. Rebecca will get a check request ready for Operations to sign.

7:55 **Meeting Adjourned**