

# MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NORTH SANTIAM WATERSHED COUNCIL

The Board of Directors met on **June 13, 2019 6pm to 8:15 pm** at the Stayton Community Center, Stayton, Oregon.

Brad Nanke, Board President called the meeting to order at 6:05pm. The NSWC mission was read and introductions followed.

**Directors Present:** Brad Nanke - President (City of Salem), John Caruso - Treasurer (Marion County Representative), Jan Irene Miller - Secretary (Lower North Santiam Landowner Representative), Suzette Boudreaux (Little North Fork Santiam Subbasin Representative), Woody Jackson (Breitenbush Subbasin Representative), Bill Sanderson (Economic & Recreation Representative)

A Quorum Present: Six out of eight of the Directors were present. Dave Carpenter (Aquatic Resources Representative), Brent Stevenson-Vice President (Irrigation District Representative), were absent.

**Technical Advisors Present:** NA

**NSWC Staff Present:** Rebecca McCoun, Executive Director

**General Members Present:** Jay Hennigan, Beth Myers-Shenai, ODA, Maya Shenai

## I. CORPORATE ACTIONS

**6:07 pm** Minutes of the previous meeting held on May 9th, 2019 were brought to the floor. John Caruso motioned to approve the May 9th, 2019 minutes. Jan Irene made a second. No further discussion. All were in favor. The May 9, 2019 minutes were adopted.

## II. PRESENTATION: Beth Myers-Shenai, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Invasive Water Primrose

**6:10 – 6:50pm** Beth Myers-Shenai has been with ODA's Noxious Weed Program for five years. She covers the NW Oregon territory working with counties, watershed councils and other organizations to support surveys and control programs addressing noxious weeds. ODA focuses on early identification and rapid response suppression of listed noxious weeds as the preferred methodology in order to save time and money. Once noxious weeds are well established the costs of treatments increase. Priority listing of weeds is determined by the Oregon State Weed Board. Beth's presentation focused on Invasive Water Primrose (Ludwigia) an aquatic weed which was discovered in the North Santiam Basin last year by an ODFW fish expert. It has been in the Willamette Basin since the 1950s and originated from Uruguay. With the warming climate, the aquatic weed growth has been triggered and natural resource managers are working to alleviate its expansion in the Willamette Basin. Ludwigia creates a mass of biomass at it dies, takes oxygen from the water, endangers aquatic life and is a nuisance to water system infrastructure. It also closes open water columns and can affect river transportation for other critters and humans.

### **Q&A and Discussion**

Attendees were engaged and asked good questions about how the plant grows and spreads, what kind of habitat it thrives in and where it is found in the current surveys. All were curious about how it impacts the Willamette Basin, what is currently being done to control the weed and what the process is to control it.

### **6:50 – 8:10 pm Council Business**

#### **Executive Director Update:**

- Budget review and update on layout, tools, possible QuickBooks report organization. This is our first look at the budget and balance statement layout since we have become a non-profit. Rebecca continues to look at best tools with other councils to manage the budget and multiple year grants. QuickBooks does not manage multiple year grant budgets, but we are able to manually allocate grant funds across several years' budgets. Budget plan and budget actual reporting can be done with macros that Rebecca is evaluating.
- Ascension Accounting has our beginning balances and making entry adjustments. We are complete with Cascade Pacific.
- The Partners of the North Santiam Watershed Council and the NSWC relationship will be strengthened by a collaboration on winning funding for the prioritized projects. We will meet soon and discuss how Partners and NSWC will strategize to win the funding and work together and fiscally take care of all involved. Depending on the chosen projects and their leads, some NSWC key members can act as ambassadors with the Partners of the project to build the relationships and grant funding narrative as needed. This could feasibly take on the responsibility of what we had imagined as a "projects committee". Projects will come from the Drought Contingency Plan and the Resiliency Action Plan of the Partners. What is also needed is an overall tracking of grant funding, and outcomes of each project so that we can tell the stories of our projects.

#### **Executive Director Recent Activities:**

- May 15 – Annual NSWC Basin Summit, well attended and growing. Topics USACE projects and Algal Blooms.
- May 21 – EWEB, McKenzie River WC and Lane Soil and Water Conservation District meeting to review McKenzie River Conservation fund framework and whether this model is replicable to other parts of the Willamette.
- May 28 – allocated \$2,500 Marion County Stream Side Restoration match to the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde's OWEB Small Grant floodplain forest restoration proposal. Grant was awarded and project planting to occur at the Chahalpam site in 2020.
- May 29 – The previous mid-Willamette MMT Model Watershed groups formed a new collaborative called the Mid Valley River Connections. The collaborative is made up of the Luckiamute WC, Mary's River WC, Calapooia WC and the North and South Santiam WC. With funds provided by MMT the groups will work together to further peer to peer and DEI learning.
- May 31 – Participated in the OWEB review team call for the resubmitted Upper North Santiam Side Channel reconnection restoration grant proposal.

- June 4 – Chemeketa Horticulture Class presentation on NSWC R3 vegetation method.
- June 9 – Submitted letter of intent for a Spirit Mountain Community Fund Grant for match to Upper North Santiam Side Channel Reconnection Grant
- June 12 – USFS and Willamette forest collaborative discussion on proposed changes to district stewardship contracting funds due to recent USFS budget cuts. Dialogue and recommendations of the conversation to be shared with Partners of NSWC for feedback. If changes take place stewardship funds may be available from outside the watershed to assist with restoration projects locally.
- June 13 – Oregon Water Resources Department tour presentation on the North Santiam Drought Plan efforts in the basin.

**8:10 pm Announcements**

**8:14 pm Meeting Adjourned**

Signature of Secretary

  
Jan Irene Miller

Date:

