

Joint General Member and Steering Committee Meeting

Location: Stayton Community Center

Date: February 13, 2014

Time: 7:00 to 9:00 PM

Attendance:

Role Call for Quorum: Brad Nanke (City of Salem-Chair), John Caruso (Marion County-Secretary/Treasurer), Jim Crawford (Economic 2-Vice Chair), Suzette Boudreaux (North Fork), Mike Kroon (Natural Resources), Bill Sanderson (Economic 1), Lawrence Schwabe (Grande Ronde Tribe), Tom Fencl (Middle Sub-Basin)

General: Grady McMahan, Chris Wagner, Dani Pavoni, Amy Crawford, Debbie Paul, Jim Bayou, Jan Irene Miller, Jamie Statezny, Matt Peterson, Gregg Walker, Robert Lusk, Peter Moore

Council Coordinator: Rebecca McCoun-Travers

Regional Coordinators: Kelly Foley, Lance Wyss

7:00 PM Steering Committee Meeting Called to Order

Roll Call for Quorum: Quorum confirmed.

Introductions

Brad Nanke read the Council's Mission

7:05 PM Public Comment and Announcements

Rebecca announced the Council had received the BLM Evans Mountain Timber Thinning Sale notice stating the sale was going to move forward (the BLM notice was passed around).

Rebecca also announced the Oregon State Weed Board will be meeting February 19 & 20th in Salem. The State Weed Board will be reviewing and awarding the 2013 ODA Weed Grants (OSWB draft meeting agenda was passed around).

7:05 PM Brad brought the January Minutes Approval to the floor. Several corrections need to be made on the spelling of names. Rebecca took note. Suzette moved to approve the minutes. John Caruso 2nd the move. All were in favor – January Meeting Minutes Adopted.

7:15 PM Presentation: US Forest Service Road Management.

Presented by Matt Peterson, Assistant Recreation Staff Officer, Willamette National Forest

The Willamette National Forest is working on developing a transportation investment strategy that will be used to guide road management decisions in the future. Matt is in the early process of reaching out to local groups to share information about their road management effort, how the community can get involved, and to provide opportunities for initial feedback and suggestions on their process. The presentation focused on three areas:

1. The history and current situation of road management
2. The planning process
3. When and how the public can be involved

After presenting a PowerPoint presentation, Matt handed out a Transportation Investment Strategy questionnaire to everyone at the meeting. He also informed the Council that in several weeks they will have a web-based mapping application “Special Placement Mapping” that will allow the public to highlight roads in the Willamette National Forest they use and feel are important to maintain. Matt will provide the Council information on the link once it is up and running. The US Forest Service will be doing both a landscape level analysis as well as a road by road analysis involving identifying risks and access values.

7:50 PM

Progress Reports

Treasurer: John Caruso noted he received the January Financial Reports from Cascade Pacific RC&D earlier that day and that he found several issues with the Council Support Grant reporting. Rebecca will check with Cascade Pacific.

Operations: Jim Crawford provided update on the January Operations Meeting. Watershed Council Service Area/Boundary Expansion topic was discussed. Also, we received word from the Spirit Mountain Community Fund that we were not awarded the grant we submitted for the Lower North Santiam Floodplain Alternatives Analysis project but we were gifted \$5000.

Project Updates:

Updates from Kelly Foley, Regional Partnership Coordinator:

Kelly noted that the Bear Branch Community Meeting was tentatively scheduled for April 12th, and that she is also working on a newsletter for Bear Branch.

Updates from Lance Wyss, Regional Project Coordinator:

Lance mentioned that he would be attending the Small Woodland Workshop to promote all 3 councils on Saturday, March 15th.

Updates from Rebecca McCoun-Travers, Council Coordinator

National Forest Foundation Grant – Breitenbush Collaborative 2nd Stakeholder Meeting

The Breitenbush Collaborative group met Wednesday Feb 12 at the Gates Fire Hall. We had 15 stakeholders attend, 13 USFS staff and 2 NSWC staff. Those in attendance broke out into three groups representing the various resource management issues (Roads & Sediment, Water Quality, Vegetative Management, Recreation, Trails, Camping, Invasives, etc.). Rebecca stated that once she gets all the notes from the facilitators she will work on putting together a thorough analysis of what was discussed.

Rebecca will also look at the list of potential projects USFS put together and incorporate existing projects geospatially to give us reference of possible low hanging fruit and to look for potential overlapping high restoration need project areas. Rebecca will start this process and possibly the USFS staff could review the map and provide further input.

The next stakeholder meeting will be scheduled for some time in April.

North Santiam Basin Summit IV Scheduled

Patricia Farrell and Rebecca have scheduled the next North Santiam Summit IV (Focusing on Emergency Management, Research and Monitoring Data). It is scheduled for April 18 (9-3pm) at Marion Public Works. Event is posted on website. Rebecca is working with Patricia Farrell on lining up presentations for the event.

Title II Weed Workshop

Scheduled for May 17th from 9-3pm at Stayton Community Center

Kelly and Rebecca are working on lunch details.

NSWC & Partners will be looking for items for drawings. Plants, gift certificates, etc.

Does anyone has any ideas or suggested donations?

ODA Weed Grant: Clematis Vitalba - 2013 ODA Grant Submission. The Oregon Weed Board will be meeting Wed & Thurs. Feb 19 & 20th at 635 Capitol St NE, Salem, 97301 (Agriculture Bldg). They will have several presentations, a legislative update and will be reviewing grants and making the grant awards.

Dieckman Creek & Mad Creek

Coordinators are in the process of putting together two OWEB grants for Little Rock Creek Culvert Replacement and Dieckman Creek Restoration Grant for April 2014 submission. Rebecca will need to seek funding to match for both projects. Frank Lumber has given us permission to put together a project for the Little Rock Creek culvert on their property.

MMT/BEF

The regional staff is working on the MMT annual reporting, updating the work plan, updating their Model Watershed Action Plan and making sure all data is entered correctly into Confluence database.

Willamette and Model Watershed OWEB SIP Upcoming Changes

A small group of practitioners have been meeting about the future of Willamette Special Investment Proposals (SIP), including the regional partners (Rebecca, Tara and Eric). OWEB will be changing their approach to funding SIP's. The OWEB board is in the process of gathering information from various entities with regards to what the priorities should be for the Willamette. There is a big push to make it a "Stakeholder" driven process vs a "Funder" driven process. The practitioners put together a short survey inquiring about what the mid-Willamette groups (watershed councils, trusts and SWCD's) have identified as their top three ecological priorities and what restoration areas they will focus on to address these ecological issues. The short survey was sent out February 11, 2014.

8:10 PM

New Business:

Watershed Council Boundary Extension/Service Area Extension Discussion

Rebecca discussed the Calapooia – Santiam Partnership's conversations of extending the partnership's service area to include areas of the mainstem Willamette and areas both to the south and potentially to the north. Rebecca presented to the board several watershed

council boundary maps. One was of the current North Santiam Watershed Council boundary showing the areas not currently being covered by any watershed council (nearby on the mainstem Willamette) and the existing council boundaries in and around the Salem area. Both Tara Davis (Calapooia Watershed Council Executive Director) and Eric Hartstein (South Santiam Watershed Council Coordinator) have brought this discussion up to their boards. Calapooia is in favor of extending their service area to the south. The South Santiam is interested in extending their service area to include the east banks of the Willamette near the confluence of the Santiam with the Willamette (both north and south).

The group discussed briefly some of the pros and cons of taking on more area. Brent Stevenson would like to provide more information on why he sees extending the service area as a good idea but was unable to come to tonight's meeting. Rebecca wanted to bring the idea to the board and for the board to start thinking about potential options along with the option of no change. Rebecca noted further discussions with more detail will be occurring in the future.

Request for a Letter of Support for Western Rivers BPA Mitigation Grant Acquisition Proposal

Josh Kling with Western Rivers sent an email requesting a letter of support for a land acquisition grant proposal he will be submitting this Friday, February 14, 2014. Josh sent a template letter. Brad asked the board what they thought of the request. All Rebecca was told was that it was upstream of the Chahalpam property and approximately 400 acres of great floodplain habitat. The board requested more information on the project (exact location/maps) and if either the Grand Ronde Tribe or Greenbelt Trust has shown interest in the land. The Council is supportive of the acquisition but before signing the letter of support they would like more information. Rebecca will send an email request to Josh Kling first thing tomorrow morning for more information.

May 8, 2014 Steering Committee Meeting

The City of Stayton has contacted Rebecca and stated they will need the Stayton Community Center the evening of the Council's May 8th Steering/General Board meeting. The City has a budget meeting and will need the facility. The Stayton Library may be available. Rebecca will get more information and keep the board posted on where we will meet in May.

8:30 PM

Meeting Adjourned