

Joint General Member and Steering Committee Meeting

Location: Stayton Community Center

Date: February 12, 2015

Time: 7:00 to 9:30 PM

Attendance:

Role Call for Quorum: Brad Nanke (City of Salem-Chair), John Caruso (Marion County – Secretary/Treasurer), Suzette Boudreaux (Little North Santiam), Debbie Paul (Linn SWCD), Jon Tucker (Lower Sub-Basin), Bill Sanderson (Recreation -Economic 1), Mike Kroon (Natural Resources), Lawrence Schwabe (Grand Ronde Tribe), Jan Irene Miller (At Large –Landowner)

General: Ken Hetsel, Gary Pullman and Justin Boyington

Council Coordinator: Rebecca McCoun

Regional Coordinators: Lance Wyss, Sarah Dyrdaahl

7:00 PM Steering Committee Meeting Called to Order

Roll Call for Quorum: Quorum confirmed.

Council Mission Read

Introductions

7:05 PM Public Comment and Announcements

Lawrence Schwabe announced the tribe is working with Western Rivers Conservancy to obtain ODFW Mitigation funding to acquire a small parcel of land across from Chahalpam Property on the Linn County side of the North Santiam. Lawrence asked if the NSWC would provide Western Rivers a letter of support for the acquisition. Rebecca pulled up a Google Earth image of the property for the council to view on the overhead screen. Jon Tucker made the motion to the council provide a letter of support. Bill Sanderson 2nd the motion. No discussion followed. All were in favor. Rebecca will put together a letter of support for the project and send it to Josh Kling with Western Rivers.

7:10 PM Brad Nanke brought the January 2015 meeting minutes to the floor for approval. Debbie Paul motioned for the Council to accept and approve the January 2015 minutes. Suzette Boudreaux 2nd the motion. There was no further discussion. Motion passed and the January 2015 minutes were adopted.

7:15 PM Presentation: City of Salem’s Regional Stream and Rainfall Monitoring Website: Justin Boyington, Flow Monitoring Analyst, with the City of Salem Public Works Department provided the council with a presentation on their new website, the Mid-Willamette Valley High Water Watch (<https://hww.onerain.com/home.php>).

The new website displays near real-time stream and rainfall information of City and local U.S. Geological Survey stream and rain gages, in addition to regional National Weather Service forecasts and Doppler weather radar imaging.

8:55 PM Progress Reports

Treasurer: John Caruso noted he just received the January 2015 financials and has not yet had a chance to review them. A fiscal sponsorship discussion followed. Jon Tucker noted the NSWC needs to have an active member on the CPRCD board. Rebecca stated she had a discussion with Kirk regarding the NSWC concerns. Rebecca is working with CPRCD to try to improve the process.

Operations: Brad Nanke provided a brief summary of the topics covered at the January 22, 2015 Operation's Meeting. The Operations Committee approved Rebecca sending out the draft 2015-2017 Work Plan to the Steering Committee for review. Rebecca provided Operations a brief summary of the NSWC Education Program discussion she had with Jan Irene Miller. Operations approved having Rebecca provide a letter of support on behalf of the NSWC to the USFS for a grant application. The USFS is seeking funds to improve their restroom facilities located at Detroit Lake. Brad noted the additional items discussed at the Ops meeting will be covered under "New Business."

Regional Coordinator Update:

Lance Wyss's Regional Update:

Lance recently received the fish information from the Rapid Biological Assessment (RBA) Trask conducted last summer. Lance has also received fish data from Brian Bang's Oregon Chub surveys from 2014. Lance noted he will be working with Rebecca on putting together a Stout Creek flyer to go out to Stout Creek streamside landowners summarizing the fish results.

Sarah Dyr Dahl's Regional Update:

January 2015 OWEB Board Meeting

On January 27-28, Sarah attended the OWEB Board Meeting in Astoria, where she provided testimony. The first day, she testified on OWEB's \$1 million investment to date for revegetation in the Cal-San Model Watersheds (2011-current). With OWEB's investment, Cal-San was able to leverage CREP and other funding to fully restore 288 acres of riparian/floodplain areas in the Model Watersheds.

Governor's Task Force/Willamette Riparian Initiative/Clean Water Partnership

Several months ago, Sarah was invited by Meta Loftsgarden (current OWEB Executive Director) to participate on a Governor's Task Force on scaling up riparian restoration in the Willamette Valley. To date, Sarah has been an active participant, sharing the lessons learned from the Cal-San reveg program. Recently, as part of the Governor's budget, a Willamette Riparian Initiative and Governor's Clean Water Partnership was announced. This would use the lessons learned in the Willamette to create a statewide riparian restoration model. On day 2 of the OWEB meeting, Sarah's testimony was in support of this initiative.

OWEB Focused Investments/Model Watershed "Bridge" Funding

Sarah noted that on February 10th, she and Rebecca attended a meeting with OWEB, Meyer, and BEF to strategize "bridge" funding for the Model Watershed Program while OWEB decides on Focused Investments (decision at April 2015 Board Meeting). The gap funding will primarily be used for maintenance of existing investments. Once this funding is approved at the OWEB Board Meeting in April, Sarah will work with Wendy Hudson's replacement (she's retiring effective April 1st) on writing the grant, etc. for the Cal-San.

Council Coordinator Update:

1. Rebecca noted the NSWC had received the riparian restoration donation from the City of Salem in the amount of \$10,000 to be spent on riparian projects in the watershed above the City of Salem's water intake.
2. The City of Salem Watershed Grant agreement had arrived and John Caruso just signed it. Grant is for \$7,500.
3. Rebecca noted she has been working on the NSWC Online Work Plan for the 2015-2017 Council Support Grant application. The council will be voting on it later in the meeting.
4. Rebecca reminded the council of the upcoming North Santiam Forest Collaborative meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 2nd. She also reminded the group of the upcoming Fifth Annual NS Basin Summit scheduled for Thursday, May 7th. Rebecca reminded the council to RSVP if they plan to attend.
5. Rebecca handed out the NSWC Steering Committee Binders and briefly went through the content.

8:30 PM **New Business:**

1. 2015-2017 Coordinator Work Plan.

Rebecca had sent out to Steering the draft 2015-2017 Work Plan. She incorporated edits from those who provided comment. Suzette moved to accept the 2015-2017 Work Plan. Brad Nanke 2nd the motion. No further discussion occurred. All were in favor. The coordinator 2015-2017 work plan was approved.

2. Extended Service Area Discussion

Rebecca handed out two extended service area maps. A large map was also displayed on the overhead. Rebecca pointed out the areas currently not covered by an organization receiving OWEB Council Support funding. These areas include Mill Creek, Pringle Creek, Bashaw Creek, Wilkerson Creek McKinney Creek and the stretch of the Willamette mainstem from just south of the Santiam Confluence to just north of where Mill Creek flows into the Willamette at Salem. Brad noted he had spoken with folks from Pringle Creek and the Mid-Willamette Watershed Alliance and they seemed supportive of the idea. Rebecca noted she had spoken with staff from the Marion SWCD and City of Salem and they also seemed supportive. A discussion followed.

Suzette Boudreaux motioned that in the next 2015-2017 biennium the NSWC extend the watershed council boundary to include Mill Creek, Pringle Creek, Bashaw Creek, Wilkerson Creek McKinney Creek and the stretch of the Willamette mainstem from just south of the Santiam confluence to just north of where Mill Creek flows into the Willamette at Salem. Jon Tucker 2nd the motion. No further discussion occurred. All were in favor. The NSWC approved the boundary extension. Rebecca will contact Courtney Shaff with OWEB to inform her of the vote. Rebecca will also send out an email and map to agencies/organizations already working in those areas to seek support. Rebecca will then contact both the both the Marion and Linn County Commissioners office to set up a time to present the boundary extension proposal to the county commissioners.

3. Santiam-Calapooia MOU & Shared Project Manager Discussion

Background: Rebecca shared with Steering a letter written by Tara Davis, Executive Director with the Calapooia WC addressed to her and Nancy Gilmore (SSWC Treasurer). In the letter Tara Davis states the CWC will be charging a fee for service for Lance & Sarah's time at a new increased rate retroactive February 1st 2015. Rebecca notified the NSWC Operations Committee and the Operations Committee put a stop work notice for project management work on grants housed at the NSWC until the Operations Committee had a chance to bring the matter to the Steering Committee.

Rebecca had spoken to Mark Running (Calapooia Watershed Council Chair) earlier in the day 2/12/15. Through their discussion it became clear that a fee for service may not be the best approach for the partnership. Rebecca had informed Mark that with the new rates the NSWC would not be able to afford the regional project managers. With the higher rates the NSWC would go through their unrestricted funds quickly since the extra project manager costs had not been budgeted into the current open grants. Mark Running informed Rebecca that the CWC was incurring costs for housing the Regional Staff they needed help covering. The increased hourly fee Tara was implementing was meant to cover those costs.

Rebecca pointed out to Mark that the current three council MOU states each council would give the other councils a 30 day notice to change or renegotiate terms of the MOU. Rebecca asked Mark if he would honor the 30 days and rescind the new fee structure and allow the council's to address the issue at hand. Rebecca noted the MOU does expire 6-30-15 and now would be a good time to revisit the document. Mark Running asked Rebecca to bring to her board the following question "What alternative fiscal/employee management structure would work that would benefit all organizations?" Mark had noted to Rebecca that he did not have the answer. Rebecca stated it would be good for all three councils (NSWC, SSWC and CWC) to open up their regional shared grant financials to each other.

After Rebecca presented the background, Brad noted we need to determine what each organization can afford without having to dip into their reserves. Suzette suggested we dedicate the March Steering meeting to this discussion. Sarah stated she would be able to assist Rebecca with reviewing the grants the regional staff were working off of to help determine what each council could afford. Rebecca and Sarah will present this information to the NSWC in March. Jon Tucker noted we should start thinking of possible solutions to the issue and discuss them at the March meeting. The hope would be that each of the partner councils evaluate their situation and discuss the topic and convene a three council meeting in April to discuss what each came up with.

Suzette noted she would like something formal in writing rescinding CWC hourly wage increase for shared project managers. She also stated we should get something in writing outlining a clear timeline of tasks moving forward. Rebecca will request something in writing from Mark Running.

9:25PM **Meeting Adjourned**