

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NORTH SANTIAM WATERSHED COUNCIL**

The Board of Directors met on July 8th, 2021, via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by President Suzette Boudreaux. The NSWC mission was read, and introductions followed.

Directors Present:

- Suzette Boudreaux (Little North Fork Subbasin Representative – President)
- Brad Nanke (City of Salem Representative - Secretary)
- Brent Stevenson (Irrigation District – Vice President)
- John Caruso (Marion County Representative - Treasurer)
- Woody Jackson (Breitenbush Subbasin Representative)
- Kathy Bridges (At-Large Representative).

Absent: Jan Irene Miller (Lower North Santiam Representative, Recent Past President)

NSWC Staff Present: Rebecca McCoun, Executive Director

Technical Advisors: Darrin Neff (USFS)

NSWC Staff: Amanda Bintliff (Watershed Restoration Specialist), Marie Heuberger (Habitat Restoration Intern)

Guest: David Stone

6:06 PM Announcements - None

6:10 PM Approval of June Minutes

Suzette made the motion to approve the NSWC June 2021 board minutes. John Caruso made a second. All in favor and motion passed. The June 2021 minutes were adopted.

6:15 PM Summer Intern Introduction

Marie Heuberger is our new Habitat Restoration Summer Intern. Marie introduced herself to the board and provided a short presentation: Marie is a local resident in the North Santiam, she was born and raised in Stayton. She is currently a senior Fisheries and Wildlife student at Oregon State University. Marie is also the president of OSU's Fisheries and Wildlife Club! Her field background includes working as a Salmon Watch Volunteer, a Fish Hatchery Technician, and a Fish Fin Clipper. Marie also has experience performing forestry and farm work. Her hobbies include hiking, gardening, identifying new plants, and enjoying time with her cat named Willow.

6:25 PM Watershed Restoration Specialist Update – Amanda Bitliff

- Amanda has been working on scheduling landowner site visits and training Marie.
- Amanda and Marie researched and developed a protocol to collect data on present EDRR species within the burned area using iMapInvasives/Survey 123. So far, they have conducted surveys on 10 sites.
- Rebecca has been training Amanda in the protocols for landowner site visits. Rebecca and Amanda have conducted site visits with 6 landowners since she was hired on.

6:40 PM Executive Director Update – See attached

7:00 PM Discuss Council Budgeting Process

- The council needs to work on creating a policy for budget management.
- Kathy suggested starting a contingency fund for when the NSWC receives unrestricted donations (specific percentage of monies goes into a fund).
- Suzette expressed concern that having a monthly budget meeting might be too much since we already have an annual budget with quarterly reviews.
- The draft budget will come out the same time it did last year, in August. Rebecca will send out a draft and present the information to the board, ending with a vote by the board to move forward.
- Board notes that it is challenging to set wages without the next year's budget.
- Rebecca will put together some scenarios with the cost of living (based on 20201 rates) to wages in the budget for Board to vote on as well.
- Brent noted the need to create a new policy or amend any existing budget policy to allow for budget amendments as new funding comes in. Rebecca will research.

7:30 PM EDI Discussion – Review materials sent. The board members presented noted not everyone had reviewed the EDI materials Rebecca sent out. Suzette requested the board have all the documents reviewed before the next meeting in August.

USFS Brief Update 6:50 pm

Darrin will see if he can provide the council with a USFS update presentation in August. Any questions related to salvage logging or hazard trees can be sent to Darrin or to Rebecca.

7:45 PM Adjourn

Next NSWC Board Meeting: Thursday, September 9, 2021 (6 to 8pm) via Zoom

Signature _____ Date _____

North Santiam Watershed Council

Executive Director Update

July 8, 2021

Landowner Restoration Program

- Congressional Funding Request:
Possibly 2-hour field tour the week of the 19th or first or second week of August.
Thank you to Jan Irene and Brent for helping getting letters of support.
- Ludwigia Treatments- Week of July 20th
- Rosario has begun manual ludwigia treatments at Chahalpam and Alder Creek.
- Fuel's reduction grant completed. Working on final report. Almost 200 acres completed.
- OWEB Lionshead and Beachie Creek Grant Agreements just arrived. Will get those submitted.
Other than salvage log hauling majority of these grants will be reimbursing existing expenses.
- OWEB Council Support Grant for 2021-2023 information has come out. OWEB staff is recommending \$131,465. This last biennium we received \$122,900. Usually end date would have been 6/30/21 though with our PPP loan OWEB has allowed us to extend end date to 12/31/2021.
- Two Final Reports due by 7-30-21: Final report for Bird Haven and Transition SIP (Model WS)
- Bear Branch – Sandner: Met with Sandners. Will prepare a report for them. Steve is fully retired. We were able to get USFWS to mow last Friday. JP is the project manager for this site. JP, Amanda, and Lynda Boyer met out at site. Lynda may due some seed collection with landowner permission.

Collaborative Planning & Partnership Building

- Partners of the NS meeting on July 29th, 9 to 10:30am – Sent out online excel for folks to update projects. We will discuss prioritization path forward. Looking at various options related to keeping existing initiatives and incorporating fire into those activities.
- Marion County Parks - Weed Surveys and Coordination
- ODF has reached out and asked if the NSWC was interested in assisting with invasive weed treatments on state forest lands. Possibly have a contract with ODF and intern contract out R. Franco Restoration to complete post fire weed treatments. Rebecca asked the board if they would be in support pending additional information. The board approved Rebecca getting additional information.
- City of Albany would like to give us an additional 1500 a year on top of the 2500/year to help with post fire recovery. I need to send them a request outlining our recovery actions. We did just receive a \$5,000 check: \$2,500 for 2020 and \$2,500 for 2021.
- We received a \$350 check from Wendy Hudson in support of our EDI work. Unrestricted funds.

Community Engagement & Education

Fire Aware Fire Prepared – July 15, 2021, 6pm via zoom

Organizational Development

EDI Training scheduled for September 15 (2 to 4 pm).

Will bring draft meeting outline to the board next month for input.