

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

The Board of Directors met on May 9, 2019 6 – 8 pm at the Stayton Community Center, Stayton, Oregon.

Brad Nanke, Board President called the meeting to order at 6:02pm. The NSWC mission was read and introductions followed.

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

A Quorum Present: Seven out of eight of the Directors were present. Dave Carpenter (Aquatic Resources Representative) was absent.

Technical Advisors Present: Lawrence Schwabe - Hydrologist Grand Ronde Tribe, Debbie Paul - Linn SWCD, Darrin Neff - USFS, Tim Ernst - USACE, Dustin Bengtson - USACE.

NSWC Staff Present: Rebecca McCoun, Executive Director

General Members Present: Jeremy Mills, Jay Hennigan

## I. CORPORATE ACTIONS

**6:04 pm** Minutes of the previous meeting held on April 11th, 2019 were brought to the floor. With two minor typo corrections Suzette Boudreaux motioned to approve the April 11th, 2019 minutes. Brent Stevenson made a second. No further discussion. All were in favor. The April 11th, 2019 minutes were adopted.

## II. PRESENTATION: USACE Willamette Valley Project, Dustin Bengtson, Deputy Operations Project Manager, Willamette Valley Project, Army Corps of Engineers

**6:05 pm** Dustin Bengtson presented an historical overview of the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) function and authority in the Willamette Valley. The ACOE is reaching out to inform the public how to be involved in the Willamette Valley System Operations environmental impact statement (EIS) process began earlier this year. The overview of the operations also distinguished the upcoming EIS from other projects past and in process to meet the requirements of the 2008 Biological Opinion. Tim Ernst, Detroit Reservoir and Big Cliff Dam Manager, shared how they managed the recent flood event of March cooperating across the system to maximize storage and minimize flooding during peak flows across the system.

## 6:49 pm Q&A and Discussion

Attendees were engaged and asked good questions. Concerns and ideas were shared about the many ACOE projects requiring our community residents input and whether there are better times/seasons, locations and methods/technology for getting the word out and soliciting feedback.

### **7:09 pm Council Business**

#### **Policy Review and Approval:**

Review and approval of four NSWC Policies was brought to the Council for discussion and vote. The Finance Committee reviewed the policies beforehand and requested minor changes to the NSWC Fiscal Oversight Policy based on the fact that NSWC financial oversight will be shared between the Treasurer, Finance Committee and staff rather than an additional Budget Committee and an additional Oversight Committee as stated in the policies to be reviewed. NSWC Restricted Funds Policy, NSWC Gift Acceptance Policy and Fundraising Policy were reviewed.

Suzette moved for approval of all four policies as modified. John Caruso seconded the motion. No further discussion. All were in favor. The NSWC Fiscal Oversight Policy, NSWC Restricted Funds Policy, NSWC Gift Acceptance Policy and Fundraising Policy were adopted.

### **7:13 – 8:03 pm**

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

- USFS recognizes importance of the Breitenbush community user trails project but has limited resources at this time to drive the project. USFS would like to renew an expired cooperative agreement with the NSWC, as neutral party, to continue the conversation with a stakeholder planning charrette in October. Before moving ahead, Rebecca McCoun, Executive Director will work with the USFS to prepare a formalized request for review by the NSWC Board.
- Field Staff from Senator Merkley's office requested NSWC collaborative information including the Resiliency Action Plan and the Drought Contingency Plan based on his interest in the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program, a federal program he has promoted in the Farm Bill. There may be funding available for our collaborative efforts.

**Financial Committee:** If all goes well, by May 30, 2019 Cascade Pacific will have completed turning over the financial information needed to prepare the NSWC preliminary budget which has been in process for six months. When the preliminary budget is ready for review, we will convene the Board to assess next steps in our roadmap. It was suggested that the Board use the June and July meetings to review the budget and make a plan for next steps.

**Governance Committee:** A scope and request for quote was sent to two graphics organizations to prepare the materials needed for getting people involved as volunteers, general members, committee members and/or Board members. Graphic organizations responses were shared with the Board, including a bid to update and maintain the website. Discussions determined we will wait to update our logo and website after we have completed our transition of financials and added members to our Board. All agreed we need to make changes to our website, and we need to be able to maintain and update our material with ease. At a minimum, we immediately need a two-sided page at our meetings

for people to understand how to get involved and we need to review the Board recruiting criteria and process at the next meeting.

**8:03 pm Announcements**

Darrin Neff reminded the council the USFS and ODFW annual Free Fishing Day is scheduled for Saturday, June 6. There will be booths set up at the Detroit Flats Day Use Area.

**8:10 pm Meeting Adjourned**

Signature of Secretary  Date: 6/13/19  
Jan Irene Miller