

Joint General Member and Steering Committee Meeting

Location: Stayton Community Center

Date: October 13, 2016

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 PM

Council provided light dinner and desserts for those in attendance.

Attendance:

Role Call for Quorum: Brad Nanke (City of Salem–Chair), Brent Stevenson (Irrigation District – Vice Chair) John Caruso (Marion County – Secretary/Treasurer), Jan Irene Miller (Landowner/At Large), Dave Carpenter (Resident/At Large), Deb Paul (Linn SWCD)

General: Darrin Neff, Matt Knudsen, Ken Hetzel, Gary Pullman, Brandin Krempasky,

Council Coordinator: Rebecca McCoun

Santiam Shared Staff: Joseph Deardorff, Tyler Pedersen

6:05 PM **Steering Committee Meeting Called to Order**

Roll Call for Quorum: Quorum Confirmed
Council Mission Read
Introductions

6:10 PM Brad brought the June 2016 General/Steering meeting minutes to the floor. Brent Stevenson motioned to approve the June 2016 minutes. John Caruso seconded. All were in favor. The June Minutes were adopted.

6:10 PM **Public Comment and Announcements**

Rebecca noted the Fall Little North Fork Cleanup scheduled for October 15th is cancelled due to the weather service predicting high winds and stormy conditions. Given it is the first big storm of the season and given the work area is thick with trees we didn't want to put volunteers at risk of falling branches. Safety First! Rebecca sent out a notice online and to all the partners that the event has been canceled.

Rebecca also noted she heard from ODOT that the Little Rock Creek bridge project will be funded. ODOT will be contracting the mitigation work to the Linn County Roads Department. John Caruso noted the Mad Creek sub-basin, located in the Middle Reach of the North Santiam will be completely open (no fish barriers) once this project is complete. The NSWC replaced two fish blockages with bridges in the early 2000's.

Tyler Pedersen introduced himself as the new shared Santiam Project Manager. Tyler provided the council with a brief summary of his work experience and education background.

Joe Deardorff introduced himself as the new shared Santiam Project Technician. Joe provided the council with a brief summary of his work experience and education background.

6:15 PM

NSWC Self-Assessment Power Point and Polling: Rebecca McCoun, Council Coordinator provided the council with an interactive power point presentation. Each of the OWEB Self-Assessment questions was brought up on the screen and the members present, using key pads, voted on the answer they felt best applied to the question. The Self-Assessment covered four main topics:

Leadership Capacity
Adaptive Capacity
Management Capacity
Operational Capacity

For each question the members had a chance to enter in their votes and have the group results show up on a bar graph provided in the power point. The group discussed briefly the results after each question. The group generally agreed the results we were seeing looked reasonable.

Some of the questions did not quite fit given differences in how we each of us was defining the given terminology. For example, the NSWC does not have a strategic plan but we do have an action plan that outlines the council's priorities. In some of the self-assessment questions the term action plan and a strategic plan were interchanged. The group agreed that the NSWC does not currently have a Strategic Plan and that we should be scoring the questions related to a strategic plan lower.

Rebecca noted we did apply for funding through Meyer Memorial Trust to implement the development of a NSWC Strategic Plan. The strategic planning process will begin in early 2017.

Also, since we have Cascade Pacific RCD manage our fiscal paperwork so some of the questions did not fit the council's situation. The group answered these questions with this in mind.

7:10 PM

Group Discussion

Rebecca asked each member present to answer the following two questions:

QUESTIONS:

What do you care about in the watershed and what concerns, if any, do you have related to the health of the watershed?

RESPONSES:

Matt Knudson: Cares about county road system, county parks and meeting water quality requirements

Darrin Neff: Cares about all components related to watershed health. Darrin noted he is concerned about the increasing demands on water and how it is going to get all divided up. It is a limited resource with many different competing interests.

Dave Carpenter: Cares about the fish that live in the river. Given he lives in the watershed and relies on the water for both food and water he is concerned about water quality and quantity.

Brandin Krempasky: Cares about water quantity and quality and overall watershed health. Educating the public on conservation measures is important to her. She is concerned about climate variability, drought and demand, harmful algal blooms and turbidity,

Tyler Pedersen: Cares about trout/salmon habitat. Concerned there will not be enough good habitat available to sustain fish populations. He is also concerned about climate change and the system's ability to adapt to the rapid changes.

Ken Hetzel: Cares about getting the community involved and getting local volunteers to help restore and maintain urban stream ecosystems. He cares about the people of the watershed and the natural habitats.

Gary Pullman: Cares about getting people interested in caring about the natural world. We need to get them to pay attention to the natural systems.

Brent Stevenson: Cares about responsible use of water: farming/food/energy/recreation. He is concerned about not being able to feed our society given climate change and its potential impacts. Concerned there may not be enough water in the future. Brent discussed briefly the Willamette reservoir reallocation study taking place and the uncertainties related to the possible outcomes of the study.

Jan Irene Miller: Loves water...it is the blood of life. She is concerned about the blindness and lack of urgency the general public has regarding our river systems. We live as if we will always have clean and abundant water. She also noted she feels people have a fear of speaking up about river health. It concerns her how people in general have a lack of awareness of how the natural systems impact their daily lives.

Deb Paul: Cares about water quality and quantity and nutrient management. Clean water and healthy soils are important to the Linn Soil and Water Conservation District

Brad Nanke: Cares about water quality. He is concerned about youth not connecting with the natural environment. He noted it was his childhood interactions with the natural environment that made him more acutely aware of the natural systems as an adult. He also cares about water resources being controlled at the local level.

John Caruso noted water is key to life. It is a limited resource and we need to take care of what we are given.

Rebecca noted it is for all the mentioned reasons that we come to these monthly watershed council meetings.

7:20 PM New Business and Group Discussion

- Rebecca brought up the idea of not having a summer break. Instead possibly having the month of December off. Brad and Brent noted that previously it was decided to have the summer off given some of the board members were busy with logging or crops. Brent noted it would be better to continue to meet through the summer to keep up the momentum.

Rebecca noted the December meeting turnout is usually very low.

Jan Irene motioned to have the council annually meet January through November. Brent seconded the motion. No further discussion. All present were in favor and motion adopted. The council will now hold meetings January through November with December off.

- Operation Position nominations: Brad, Brent and John all noted they would still be interested in holding their current Operation Committee positions. Elections will be held in November.

8:00 PM Meeting Adjourned