

Calapooia Watershed Council

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Mission: Providing opportunities for membership to cooperate in promoting the health of the watershed and its communities.

Calapooia Watershed Council Board Meeting Minutes

Calapooia Watershed Council (CWC) Board of Directors and Council members held their monthly meeting at the Brownsville Community Room, Brownsville, Oregon on November 18, 2009 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting were the following members of the Board of Directors:

Bud Baumgartner	Mark Running
Connie Burdick	Roger Ruckert
Lance Gatchell	Dave Furtwangler
Matthew Fiorito	Dee Swayze

Absent from the meetings were the following steering committee members and initial directors:

Frank Lamb	John Perry
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A sufficient number of directors were present to constitute a quorum.

Also present at the meeting were:

Tara Davis
Denise Hoffert-Hay
Pamela Archer

On behalf of the CWC Secretary, contractor Pamela Archer, recorded the minutes.

AGENDA ITEM: Meeting called to order. Introductions

DISCUSSION:

Lance Gatchell will be abstaining by default on any fiscal decisions or financial matters concerning the Council.

AGENDA ITEM: Board of directors updates/comments

Bud:

In November, several members attended the Klamath Falls biennial watershed council gathering with Bud, Mark, Tara, Sarah, and Erika. Other board members should consider attending in future years to get different perspectives on projects and watershed issues. Budget session was good and it was great to observe panel facilitation.

Bill Marshall from CTC hosted experimental plot tour on site preparation, vegetation control on Douglas fir plantations. He pointed out the significance of controlling vegetation & how controlling vegetation affects growth and survival of trees. Bud, Mark, Sarah, and Bill were there. Plot types were shockingly different; visible results from study; there was direct competition from weeds/trees. Also, they studied the soil seed banks and wind borne seed transport. Bill was also just on the governor's tour and saw how our plantings weren't succeeding. We could potentially use this as a method for Council plantings. Scott Wright pointed out on the October tour that log jams are only a temporary solution; eventually there will be a need for native vegetation to take over that area and do the work the log jams are doing.

DISCUSSION: A discussion ensued on the successes and failures of the council's plantings.

Future projects may need to use fertilizer. Soil types are different, but plants may be planted in dredged areas. Another suggestion was not to fertilize or water because then plants wouldn't toughen up. There is a newer product out there (Zyba) granules that hold water. Mike Nehls may have used this at the park plantings. The Council could also look at biodegradable groundcover or mats.

Council members recognized we have problem with native plant survival and that something needs to be done about this. We'd like more localized knowledge. Marion SWCD may be a possibility. Erika and Sarah could coordinate this in the future.

Tara: Projects committee on December 1st from 7:00-9:00 pm in Kirk Room at the Library. We will discuss Pamela Archer's work plan with respect to educational opportunities, and potential project partners like the City of Albany and how the council will be partnering for outreach and technical assistance for the mainstem tributaries using MMT funding.

Next Projects Committee Meeting: December 1st 7pm location TBD

AGENDA ITEM: Approve October 2009 meeting minutes

DISCUSSION: none

DECISION: Minutes are approved as prepared

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion and Decision for Work Plans

Denise Hoffert-Hay: Project management/permitting assistance update

Denise will be attending management committee meetings to provide streamlined communication for group and to get feedback. Denise won't be attending other meetings to save time. The CWC webpage will be used for technical team updates, under the Projects/Sodom Dam section. She was not sure what is the best method to communicate with the management committee is and how much detail they want. Please check the website to see if that information is adequate.

We are moving forward for Sodom dam removal in summer 2010. In September, the team got consensus decision for Sodom and Shear dam removals, with multiple grade control structures in Sodom Ditch so water will be maintained in both channels. We will shoot for a 50/50 split in flow between the Sodom and Calapooia channels in the future, rather than the 80/20 flow which occurs now. This has been happening because the sediment deposition in Calapooia results in reduced flows to the channel or even cut off. Vegetation has further encroached the Calapooia banks, leading to decreasing channel width. Eventually, the carrying capacity of Calapooia will increase over time and we will let the river do that over time (no excavation).

In Sodom, two to three grade control structures will be installed. They will most likely be fixed weirs constructed of boulders, with a low flow, narrow channel in center (not a mini waterfall). They may have other boulder structures installed in the channel as well. The total height of the structures combined will be higher than Sodom is now, each rock weir will be 2-3 feet. This is to increase flow to the Calapooia. These are still rough ideas, will need to be approved. Funded by OWEB and NOAA healthy rivers. The bifurcation itself will be changed and will be cleaned out of sediment and logs, and we will change the shape to avoid gravel deposition.

In 2011, the Shear Dam will be removed on Calapooia, minimal regarding in Calapooia. Originally wanted both in 2010, but with permitting and schedule, needs to be split. Chose to do Sodom because funding expires at the end of 2010. Shear Dam removal will be stand alone project for permitting processes. Shear Dam will be OWEB and more grant sources. We need more match/outside funding.

Will meet with federal permitting partners this Friday, November 20. Will also discuss reach 3 projects.

Sodom permitting will be simpler than Brownsville, as we've done it before. The differences are the use of grade control structures and using softer approach with boulders.

The project is on track and on schedule. The LiDAR, survey, geomorphic assessments are done. Biggest concerns are the archaeology/cultural resources and wetlands surveys. We are trying to get SOW out the door for signature.

Outreach: some landowners have been involved in technical team meetings. Landowner meetings only happen with big events. It should be discuss how arrived at the chosen alternative, and have landowners share with fellow landowners.

Tara and Denise met with OPRD to discuss the future MOU for the ORI budget and historic preservation options. OPRD is happy to pass money along to the council and consulting firm. OPRD will not be ready to pull Mills operations offline by summer 2010, as they want more hydraulic modeling to demonstrate that they need to pull their operation offline, specifically water elevations. They are wondering if it is necessary to take spillway out and what downstream impacts could occur. They want to know what their options are. State Parks needs to maintain a pool full of water for fire suppression. The council would like OPRD to help with National Register of Historic Places designation of both dams and Sodom ditch itself. We will need a historic preservationist document and report on these places. OPRD is hesitant regarding their ability to complete their assessments in a timely fashion. OWEB may be a resource to encourage Parks move forward. Also, the Council is waiting for OPRD to complete FERC paperwork. Council members were reassured that both the Sodom and Shear Dam Removals are certain to move forward regardless.

AGENDA ITEM: Formal Approval of Work Plans

Technical Assistance (Denise Hoffert-Hay) with R3 permits
Program Assistant (Pamela) R3 permits, Sodom, Weeds, Operations, Outreach

DISCUSSION:

Recommended to go ahead and want approval of full board.

DECISION: The board approved both contracts by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM: Terms of agreement for office space in Brownsville City Hall

City of Brownsville City Council will donate \$300 space, we would pay \$200 space for two medium sized office spaces (one is our current storage room). This lease is for a year. Amenities include use of City Community Room, library Kirk room, and Fischer room.

DISCUSSION:

Need to determine how payment will be taken care of, not specified in lease. Quarterly would be best.

The Council likes the office located in central area of watershed, located where grassroots action in the watershed began.

The Council's needs may change and may want to revisit location of office in two or so years.

DECISION: The board unanimously agreed to approve the lease.

AGENDA ITEM:

Office move

DISCUSSION:

Move-in date expected December 3.

AGENDA ITEM: Budget(s)

The budget shows project funding totals, not total detail. However, Tara works with total budget details. We have been using a biennial budget but we needed an annual budget. The annual budget is organized according to major programs. The Director manages project budgets and main council budget because of contractors working on project activities with little time for budget management. Other councils have project managers (who are employees) who manage their own individual budgets.

DISCUSSION:

The board will need to compare the annual budget with potential expenditures. This could potentially be done via a quarterly financial report assessing the budget/expenditures by project/program area. It will be helpful to have bookkeeper doing this. Once the bookkeeper starts working with multiple grants administered by Calapooia Watershed Council, then reports will actually contain more.

DECISION: Revisit this topic at January management committee meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m. The next board meeting will be held on December 9, 2009 at the Brownsville Library.

READ AND APPROVED by the Board of Directors on _____, 2009

Secretary