



Calapooia Watershed Council

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CWC Board of Directors February 13th, 2019 7-8:30 pm Meeting Minutes

Calapooia Watershed Council (CWC) held their monthly Council meeting in the Brownsville Community Room on February 13th, 2019 beginning at 7pm

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

Aimee Addison	Rick Jones	Jim Merzenich
John Joiner	Jim Wagner	Matt Mellenthin

Absent from the meeting were the following members of the Board of Directors:

Nate Meehan	Heather Medina Saucedo	Mark Running
Dee Swayze	George Pugh	

Also present at the meeting were:

Patrick Starnes, Community Member, Watershed Education Advocate

Lance Gatchell, USFS

Karen Hans, USFS

Nikki Swanson, USFS

David Andres, CWC Technician

Jesse Ritter, CWC Technician

Savannah Baber, CWC Education Projects Manager

Collin McCandless, CWC Executive Director

Cristopher Salazar, CWC Restoration Projects Manager

Fiona Julian, CWC Administrative Specialist

Collin McCandless presided over the meeting. Fiona Julian recorded the minutes.

AGENDA ITEM: Approval: January 2019 Minutes.

Aimee Addison moved to approve the January 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Jim Merzenich seconded the motion. The motion was approved 6:0

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion & Decision: USFS Tree Tipping

Cris provided a review of the project and benefits, and the associated comment period from community members. This discussion was tabled at the last meeting due to the government shut-down. Cris explained that further review with the USFS has occurred and resulted in some project adjustments, and reviewed the financials which includes an approximate fund match of 50%. The grant application for the project is due the first week of April. Cris then gave the floor to the USFS representatives in attendance.

Nikki Swanson provided an explanation of the potential benefits of this project which she explained to be considerable in providing habitat restoration for steelhead salmon which she stated are at serious risk of extinction

from the Willamette Valley. Nikki explained that similar projects she has worked on have resulted in very positive outcomes for steelhead survival. Nikki provided detailed explanations of the dilemmas encountered with the project and the considerate, experienced approach to those issues. Discussion ensued regarding the technical details of the project, intended and expected benefits, implementation, and the elements unique to the Calapooia that have been taken into consideration with this planning. Nikki and Karen Hans provided a brief review of the historical damage and lack of management that has led to the lack of habitat and river integrity. Karen stated that this project is a critical requirement to re-establish habitat for steelhead and would be of historical significance. Collin shared letters of support for the project from U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon State University Center for Small Farms & Community Food Systems, and South Santiam Watershed Council. Nikki stated she would be personally calling every person that submitted a comment regarding the project.

Jim Wagner moved for the Board to support the project as laid out. Matt Mellenthin seconded the motion. The motion was approved 6:0.

Representative from USFS departed the meeting after this agenda item.

AGENDA ITEM: Update & Introductions: Upper Calapooia Surveys & Technicians

Cris introduced David Andres and Jesse Ritter as returning technicians (from 2017) to work on surveying and monitoring in the Upper Calapooia. Cris expressed the benefits of having these trustworthy, knowledgeable and highly experienced technicians working for CWC. David and Jesse provided brief introductions of themselves and other agencies and projects they have worked with. Jesse shared that he has worked globally on a variety of wildlife and environmental projects and that this project is the only one he has returned to due to its significance and importance in improving the target areas and beyond. Jesse expressed appreciation for the direct involvement CWC takes with its project management and that this projects provides a lot of opportunity. Jesse shared that he is developing a method of creating standards with quantifying river gravel that he hopes to implement with other agencies. David stated that he has worked extensively with ODFW and provided his perspective on the importance of this project and is glad to be returning.

AGENDA ITEM: Introduction & Discussion: Pat Starnes

Collin introduced Patrick Starnes; a community member, local politician, and watershed education advocate. Collin explained that staff met with Pat at the Munch Night presentation CWC did last year and expressed interest in supporting the work of CWC. Pat provided a review of his involvement with the Umpqua Watershed Council and his resources and contacts within the school district. Savannah stated that Pat provides a valuable perspective with his experience in education and community fundraising and can help support with intentional program development. Pat stated that he has experience with Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) grants and interested in advocating for us with RAC and Linn-Benton ESD.

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion & Decision(s): Social Media, and Abuse and Molestation Policy, and Insurance Coverage Proposal/Amendments

Board members had been provided in advance with a copy of two proposed policies for the CWC to adopt. Fiona presented recent insurance findings that proposed increasing limits due to the expansion of the Outdoor School Program. The limit increase would cost an additional \$330 annually. Matt suggested getting additional opinions and researching "Guide Insurance" under Aquatic Coverage. Savannah explained the screening and training processes for staff and volunteers that will be working with children and that our program complies with the "Safe Schools" program and CLSD's required stringent criteria.

Aimee Addison moved to approve the Social Media policy with the caveat that employee names are removed from the "Role" section and replaced with position titles. Rick Jones seconded the motion. Motion was approved 6:0. Matt Mellenthin moved to approve the insurance coverage increase with the condition that further research occurs to ensure adequate coverage for all projects. Jim Wagner seconded the motion. The motion was approved 6:0.

AGENDA ITEM: Project Updates: Bowers and Fall Grant Cycle

Collin informed us that _____ but BPA are still needing to conduct the archeological surveys required for the project and that we have not had the chance to ask for additional funds for this survey which will require us to use Scope of Work funds to complete this. The Cultural Resource review is due June 1st. Cris was disappointed to share that neither Truax or EDNA were approved for funding by OWEB this go-around but that we will be reapplying in March. Cris speculated as to what issues may have contributed to their decision but will be holding discussions with OWEB funders to obtain their reasons for the decision. Collin explained that the environmental DNA at the project site would provide an exceptional monitoring application and that Truax is an anchor habitat which may contribute to its ability to fund. Cris explained that there will monitoring grants available in the Fall and there are plenty of other spring projects to be worked on also. Matt encouraged making a funding request asap to Andrea due to the current timing of funding cycles.

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion: Mandatory Email Survey for OWEB Capacity Funding

Collin thanked the board members for completing this survey.

AGENDA ITEM: Update: Outdoor School Temporary Assistant Interviews

Savannah stated that we have had 27 applicants for this position, up from just 10 applications last year, and that the applications have been of a much higher caliber. Savannah shared that she believes this is due in part to offering the position as a part-time, temporary hire as opposed to an internship. Savannah reviewed the timeline for the hiring and ODS program/camps. Savannah stated that she will need a board member to accompany.

AGENDA ITEM: Additional Information/Adjourn

Collin and Savannah invited members to volunteer for a student fishing trip on May 24th in a stocked pond. Collin and Savannah thanked Jim Merzenich for producing 900 wood cookies for student name tags during ODS. Savannah also welcomed board members to visit the ODS sites and camps for a tour prior to the sessions commencing.

READ AND APPROVED by the Board of Directors on _____, 2019.

Board Secretary