



Working Together for Watershed Health

Calapooia Watershed Council Board of Directors Meeting October Minutes

The Calapooia Watershed Council held their October Board of Directors meeting on Wednesday, Oct 14th 2020 via Zoom teleconferencing.

The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

Dee Swayze	Jim Wagner	Heather Medina Saucedo	Rick Jones
Aimee Addison	Matt Mellenthin	Jim Merzenich	David Lawlor

The following members were absent:

Nate Meehan	Mark Running	John Joiner
-------------	--------------	-------------

The following people were also in attendance:

Collin McCandless, Executive Director
Fiona Julian, Operations Coordinator
Cris Salazar, Habitat Restoration Program Manager
Sarah Norton, Outdoor School Coordinator
Kristen Daly, Youth Education Program Manager

AGENDA ITEM: Welcome Back Collin & Approval of August Board Meeting Minutes

Collin returned after taking Paternity Leave to welcome the arrival of his daughter, Edith. Collin shared that October 1st marked his five year anniversary with the council, and reported feeling confident in his role, and good about what the council has accomplished in his time with us. Collin praised the staff for being so on top of everything in his absence, and in particular Cris who had stepped up and took the lead with Bowers of which he was very proud. Collin continued that the Education staff had additionally undertaken a behemoth effort with the Watershed Discovery Kits project, in order to ensure all fifth grade students without exception, can participate in watershed science in the absence of Salmon Watch this year.

Fiona screen-shared the minutes from the previous meeting for members to review if they had not done so prior. Aimee moved to approve the minutes as presented, Dee seconded the motion. The motion passed 7:0. Rick Jones abstained from the vote due to being absent at the August meeting.

AGENDA ITEM: Approval of Financials & Discovery Results

Fiona screen-shared the Profit and Loss report for this fiscal year through September 2020. Fiona explained the results of the investigation into the apparent missing funds reported in QuickBooks that had been discussed at the August Board Meeting. Fiona had developed a report that was presented to the Management Committee explaining the steps taken to resolve the confusion. Fiona explained that due to a prior bookkeeping issue back

in Oct 2018, the \$10k reporting as missing was not accurate and with supporting documentation it has been determined that no foul play has occurred. Fiona stated that Jackie had assisted in resolving the error in QuickBooks and all is now well. Fiona also stated that the 2019 990 forms had been filed last month. Heather moved to approve the financials, Matt seconded the motion. The motion passed 8:0.

AGENDA ITEM: Education Program Updates - Watershed Discovery Kits

Sarah and Kristen presented a slideshow regarding this project; it's goals, current status and plans for distribution. The slides will accompany these minutes. Kristen explained that there are plans for 7 Salmon Watch videos to be developed, including Spanish language versions to accompany the remote version of the program this fall. All students will be given a kit, with lesson options based on various accessibility needs/preferences. Kristen stated that to compile 700 of these kits will take many hands and an assembly line process is planned and invited Board members to participate if available. Heather asked when the help would be needed and Kristen replied that they were happy to work around people's schedules. Kristen stated the kits will hopefully be distributed at the beginning of November, but that this depends on the timing of the video production. Heather recommended possible distribution of the kits via the Albany Public Library's Farmer's Market Booth, if the schools decline to distribute the kits. Heather explained that the market runs through Thanksgiving. Kristen stated that they had not given up on trying to get some facetime with the students, taking Covid precautions, which Heather strongly supported, sharing that some of her education contacts are looking for ways to get students outside with so much screen time with remote learning.

David asked what the plan was for submitting a grant application to the Gray Family Foundation with the deadline approaching (Nov 13th). Kristen stated that Sarah and herself had spoken about it briefly but needed to brainstorm about it. David stated that the foundation supports general programs such as ours and a specific project is not necessary to submit an application. David sent the application link and informed us that the grants are for up to \$25k, and urged staff to brainstorm, and not pass up on the opportunity. Aimee submitted a link to another grant in the meeting comments for a STEM-related grant which she explained had a simple, 30-minute application with a Nov 20th deadline, and suggested the staff apply for \$2,000.

AGENDA ITEM: Restoration Updates - Bowers Rock Restoration

Cris presented a slideshow documenting the ground breaking and progress of the Bowers Rock Restoration project. Cris stated that he hopes to set up some site tours for the board and staff to view the accomplishments. Collin shared that one of the interesting aspects of project development is that initially, projects are based around ideas - usually due to limited accessibility, and explained how that impacts planning and execution with then making adjustments to support project progress. Heather shared that there was a NRCS e-signup for post-wildfire volunteering on Oct 30th and Dec 30th. Heather shared that she had been in meetings with the North Santiam Watershed Council, of which two Board members had lost their homes in the fires. Heather commended Executive Director Rebecca McCoun's leadership for helping everyone work together. Cris offered his services if they would be needed by any of the recovery groups, and Heather stated that the EART teams needed local science techs. Cris shared that the Upper Cal area is where the river was impacted, and although it looks like it was just understory brush that was burned, the Sweet Home Ranger District has reported needing to remove some large downed trees. Cris stated that Deb Paul with the Linn County Soil and Water Conservation District has information about weed-free seeds for landowner looking to replant any burned areas. Jim Merzenich asked what the plan was for dealing with bare ground in burned areas and Cris responded that he currently had 400lbs of grass seed to sow heavily as soon as possible, then plant shrubs densely followed by spraying as is being recommended by OPRD.

The meeting adjourned at 6:07pm.