



Working Together for Watershed Health

Calapooia Watershed Council

Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes

The Calapooia Watershed Council held their regular monthly meeting on Weds, Dec 9th 2020 via Zoom Teleconferencing at 5pm.

The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

Aimee Addison	Matt Mellenthin	Mark Running	Nate Meehan	Jim Wagner
Jim Merzenich	Heather Medina Saucedo	David Lawlor	Dee Swayze	John Joiner

The following member(s) were absent:

Rick Jones

Also in attendance were:

Collin McCandless , Executive Director

Cris Salazar, Habitat Restoration Program Manager

Fiona Julian , Operations Coordinator

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

Collin began the meeting by announcing that Board member Heather Medina Saucedo will be leaving the council at the end of the year to serve on the board of Women in NRCS. Heather expressed her appreciation for working with the council, both as a Board member and volunteer.

AGENDA ITEM: **Approval of October Board Meeting Minutes**

There was no November meeting due to the date falling on a Federal holiday. Nate shared that although he had missed the October meeting, the minutes were well written and helped him feel like he had attended.

Aimee moved to approve the minutes as presented. Heather seconded the motion. The motion passed 9:0. Nate

Meehan abstained from the vote due to being absent.

AGENDA ITEM: Financials

Aimee mentioned that the Payroll liabilities on the Balance Sheet is displaying a negative balance, which should not be the case. Fiona and Aimee discussed that this appears to be due to end of year Journal Entries. Aimee requested that Fiona check with the CPA to resolve the error. Collin shared that Fiona is currently submitting several fund requests to grantors. Aimee asked if there would be unused M99 funds from this past Spring that could be rolled over to the next season. Collin said he would check with Sarah regarding the rules for M99 funding. Aimee stated that it's important to be fiscally conservative during these times, and that her organization has seen an uptick in requests for funding in addition to there being a lot of unforeseen needs for organizations during the pandemic. *Matt moved to approve the financials. Jim W seconded the motion. The motion passed 10:0.*

AGENDA ITEM/VOTE: CWC Credit Card

Collin explained that himself, Dee and Aimee had all been unsuccessful in reaching Linn Co to obtain online access to the credit card information. Collin continued that Linn Co ended up cancelling the account after they had all left messages to be contacted, without any notification or reissuance. Collin requested Board consent to shop around for a new card. Aimee stated that she likes the card to have the name of the user on it, and reviewed her organization's Credit Card Policy. Collin explained that the card application requires a main applicant to be a personal guarantor. Dee offered to be the applicant, as he had previously been. John agreed that the cardholder/user should have the person's name on it. Aimee clarified that the card holders would be Collin and Kristen. Matt asked Aimee if she had any recommendations for card providers. Aimee responded that Key Bank would be good to try, and Collin stated he has positive experience with OSU Federal Credit Union. *Aimee moved to approve the motion to apply for a new credit card. Matt seconded the motion. The motion passed 10:0.*

AGENDA ITEM: Giving Tuesday results and Discussion

Collin shared that the council had a successful Giving Tuesday, and received \$2,114.00 in donations, up from \$1,345 last year. Matt thanked the staff for their work on the campaign. Collin shared that He will be attending a preliminary meeting with John Moriarty regarding a community grant.

AGENDA ITEM: Restoration Update(s) - Close of Bowers Implementation and recent Tub Run Application

Cris shared that the program was busy as usual, but that Bowers is now complete. Cris explained that having Bowers closed, relieves a lot of weight and that the project went really well in terms of neighbors and partners. Cris explained he is working on submitting plant orders which have to be made two years in advance, but that there will be 26,000 plants for Bowers, and also using stakes and whips as a strategy to reduce maintenance over the next five years. Jim W asked when public access will resume, and Cris responded that the parks are now open but that parking is a limitation with the entrance closest to the project site. Cris announced that he would be happy to escort Board members to the project site anytime. Jim W explained that he was going to try and take a couple of OSU hydrology students while the underbrush was still relatively low. Matt asked if there was any drone footage of the project yet. Collin explained that as the project is on State Parks property, it requires a permit which then required an intergovernmental agreement which is now complete and it is hoped the filming will happen in about a week. Collin continued that RDG has some cameras installed at the inlet of the new channel so that will also provide some footage. Dee asked if the channels had activated yet. Cris responded that there is water starting to move through them, and that December to April is when they will be the most likely to activate. Collin shared that RDG predicts inundation of up to 60 days/year, but that a lot of the river flow is controlled by the Army Corp dams. Cris moved onto discussing the Phase II project at Tub Run. Cris explained that many grant deadlines were pushed back this year and resulted in a prolonged grant cycle and that there were no site visits conducted by grant reviewers which is normally the case. Cris explained that his grant application consisted of an online presentation that Jarod Jebousek from USFW conducted with him, and that he felt good with how it went. Cris explained it would be over two months before we know the decision. Cris reviewed the project pitch, that it encompasses over one hundred acres of wet and dry prairie that is now home to the ESA streaked horn lark, with the landowner Scott Erion, being the first person to implement a safe harbor agreement for this species. Cris stated another project that he is now working on is Albany Oxbows, which he shared was another challenging project but he was feeling positive about it. Cris explained that outreach had been difficult due to the pandemic but that a real issue he has run into is that the northern half of the project site was formerly owned by International Paper, but has now been sold to Linn County who are denying that they own the site. Cris requested help from the board to make progress with this issue, and Jim W suggested reaching out to the Economic Development Consortium, and Aimee provided a contact for the Albany Chamber of Commerce, and a contact with the City of Albany. Cris explained the application process for funding and that two of the Oxbow lakes were part of a superfund site so he anticipates early logistics. Jim W asked about the status of Truax, and Cris replied that funding for Truax has been

piecemealed together to complete the revegetation but that he was still waiting to hear back from Knife River who owns the gravel pit where the connection work would take place. Cris shared that he checks annually with them to determine when they may be willing to allow connection work to proceed or not. Cris shared that Plant Establishment was going great though and that he would be interplanting this spring. Collin added that another part of the greater funding challenge concerns connecting the Knife River Gravel pit. Most funders are not willing to fund the connection project unless the (sizable) crossing is replaced. Collin continued that Knife River has agreed to implement the connection work and offer in kind match of materials and supplies, so there is significant match although review teams have seen the crossing as a responsibility of Knife River.

AGENDA ITEM: Other

Collin shared that with the FIP program ending in 2021, the Anchor Habitat Working Group (AHWG), which the CWC is a leading partner of, is putting together an interactive story map to share our work and use as a fundraising and information tool. Collin explained that the Willamette River Network reached out to him to ask if he would participate and provide consulting work for the project to discuss his knowledge and experience with restoration on the mainstem Willamette. Heather shared her gratitude again for her time spent on the CWC Board and provided information about the OSU Extension fire assistance program.

The meeting was adjourned at 6pm.

ACCEPTED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS _____ SIGNED ELECTRONICALLY
1/14/2021

NAME

TITLE