



## **Calapooia Watershed Council Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, April 14th, 2021**

The Calapooia Watershed Council held their monthly Board meeting on Wednesday April 14th 2021 via Zoom teleconferencing.

The following members were present:

Dee Swayze	Mark Running	Aimee Addison	Matt Mellenthin	Rick Jones
Jim Merzenich	Jim Wagner	David Lawlor	John Joiner	

Not Present: Nate Meehan

Also in attendance was:

Collin McCandless, Executive Director

Fiona Julian, Operations Coordinator

Peter James, WeyCo representative and prospective new Board member

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

### **AGENDA ITEM: Approval of March Board Meeting Minutes**

David moved to approve the March minutes as presented. Matt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 9:0

### **AGENDA ITEM: Financials**

Collin explained that as discussed at the last meeting, Aimee is in the process of getting access to the companies QuickBooks files with the goal of providing a Treasurer's Report at

future meetings to provide a more digestible overview of our financials. Aimee shared information regarding current fund requests in process, and a delay with receiving a TNC fund request due to transitions at TNC. Fiona stated that the TNC fund request should be finalized by TNC as of today and estimates that the funds will be received by the end of the week.

#### AGENDA ITEM: **Board Member Election Results**

Collin shared that the recent elections were unanimous and that all the reelected members have agreed to continue their roles with the CWC for another term.

Mark Running - Co-Chair

Matt Mellenthin - Co-Chair

Aimee Addison - Treasurer

Rick Jones - Member

#### Discussion: **Peter James, Potential BOD Recruit from WEYCO**

Peter James and the Board of Directors shared introductions. Peter shared his work experience in Forest Hydrology of the past 20 years, including 15 with WeyCo in the Research and Development department. Peter explained that he has surveyed extensively in the watershed and on the Calapooia in particular and has good knowledge of the work that has been done there. Peter stated that he is involved in collaborative research with several agencies that will be resulting in policy changes. Peter shared that he also provides technical support to various hydrological operations and that he loves his work. Peter also explained that he has previous ties to CWC having worked as an industry rep on a Technical Advisory Committee with a former ED, for 3 or 4 years. Peter shared that when Nate approached him to fill his spot on the board after his move, he was happy to. Peter invited members to reach out to him with questions at any time. David thanked him for volunteering to join and welcomed him.

#### Restoration Update: **OWEB FIP Albany Oxbows**

Collin provided some history and an explanation of the Focused Investment Partnership (FIP) program with OWEB, and how it consists of a funding pool from multiple agencies (BPA, OWEB, MMT). Collin explained that the Oxbows Lakes

site review began five years ago and what set it apart were the ecological uplift opportunities shown in the slices framework (segments of the Willamette broken up to measure uplift/area impact) that highlighted the areas which were optimal for restoration. Collin continued that two years ago, CWC secured funding to perform surveys on the lakes, and the site poses many different challenges. RDG's design identified crossings that could be removed, berms to be graded, channels to be connected, etc.. Collin reviewed a series of maps/lidar of the site. Collin explained that initially it was thought the land was owned by up to ten different parties, due to no one seeming to want to claim ownership, but it has been determined that there are just five within the project area but that the land has been used for different purposes, including the dumping of radioactive waste. Collin reviewed the listed landowners, and stated he was working with DEQ to navigate some of the presented challenges. Collin provided some history regarding the land use and the reasons CWC have pulled back from restoration projects on the site at this particular time and are developing a TA project. Collin shared that the TA grant application is due Friday. Dee asked about the radioactive waste and if it was buried or not and what we might be getting into. Collin responded that he didn't know but is working with Mike Kazynsky at DEQ to learn more about the waste being capped and what mitigation measures have been put in place. Collin stated that DEQ has to perform any soil testing on the site which would be a lengthy process.

## **Other**

David asked if there was a plan for staff to return to the office. Collin reviewed staff vaccine timelines and continued measures that staff are electing to take. There was discussion of hopefully meeting up as a Board if not next month then hopefully in June. Collin suggested Pioneer Park could be a possible location but that it would also be great to meet at a project site and suggested Scott Erion's Tub Run as it is in full bloom.

The meeting adjourned at 5:56pm