



The Calapooia Watershed Council held its regular Board meeting via Zoom teleconferencing on Wednesday, Jan 12th, 2022.

In attendance were the following members of the Board of Directors:

Dee Swayze Jim Wagner David Lawlor John Joiner Aimee Addison
Matt Mellenthin

The following members were absent:

Mark Running Jim Merzenich

The following were also in attendance:

Collin McCandless
Fiona Julian
Kristen Daly
Sarah Norton

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

Approval of December 2021 Board Meeting Minutes: Aimee moved to approve the minutes. Dee seconded the motion. The motion passed 6:0.

Approval of the Financials: Aimee asked about the \$10k in liabilities and if that was the forgiven PPP loan. Fiona explained that the balance was a SBA loan, of which at least \$5k will be forgiven, but she has not heard anything further from the SBA regarding this. Aimee stated that she liked the slides with the additional graphs. Matt moved to approve the minutes. John seconded the motion. The motion passed 6:0.

Bye to Sarah and ODS Transition: Sarah informed the board that she had made the tough decision to leave CWC with her last day being tomorrow (13th), as she has accepted a position in Florida to be closer to her family. Sarah explained that she provided three weeks notice but has stayed an additional week to aid in the transition. She continued that she has worked to create detailed guides and documentation for the program and the onboarding of the next ODS Coordinator. Sarah thanked everyone for the opportunity to work at CWC and that she has learned a lot that she will take with her. Sarah continued that she has also been working on the job descriptions for ODS and has been meeting with Laura at GAPS and Gladys Ruiz and putting together next steps. Aimee asked when the position will be posted for applicants. Collin responded that he will be meeting with Gladys for a final review before posting to ensure it meets our EDI goals. Kristen added that the EDI changes started when Sarah was hired, and that previously our job description required degrees and other criteria that was potentially deterring otherwise qualified applicants. Everyone thanked Sarah for her contributions to the success of ODS.

ODS Update: Kristen shared the good news that ODS will happen this year as a day off-site program and that she is looking at possible locations. Kristen explained that one hurdle they are encountering is the shortage of bus drivers, but that she will not let that impact the program. Jim shared that he had recently heard that GAPS may be implementing 9-12 seat passenger vans. Kristen shared that some teachers are getting their Class C license to be able to drive the buses.

EDI Update: David reported that things had been a bit quiet for the past couple of months but the committee will be meeting next week. David continued that last discussion was Maria's contract and now that her contracts were finished with the other watersheds she was working with, it is hoped to have a combined meeting with everyone but there are logistical considerations which may cause virtual group meetings between two paired watershed councils. David explained that Maria's goals for each council was to create a trackable action plan with clear goals. David stated he would follow up in the next couple of weeks with everyone regarding a meeting time/place.

MVRC Beaver Partnership Update:

Collin provided an update on this BEF-funded partnership stating they are meeting once or twice a month. The project will consist of a BRAT analysis (Beaver Restoration Assessment Tool) which is designed to help researchers determine a capacity model for beavers in each of the 5 watershed councils. This project will also consist of a large scale outreach and education aspect across all 5 watersheds of the MVRC. This is designed to be right at the forefront of the rewriting of the Willamette Strategic Action Plan, putting the MVRC watershed councils in a place to have projects ready to go for beaver related restoration. Partners include: North Santiam WCI, South Santiam WC, Luckiamute WC, Marys WC, Calapooia WC, Bonneville Environmental Foundation, Confederated Tribed of the Grande Ronde and Confederated Tribes of the Siletz.

Strategic Planning

Collin apologized for not yet organizing the poll but explained he plans to start the process with reviewing the staff's aspects which can be completed first. Collin thanked Fiona for creating a strategic plan action tracker which will make progress tracking and reporting easier. He continued that he would then send it out to the board to add their comments and discuss at a future meeting. Collin requested a motion pass to approve these initial steps. Matt moved to pass the motion. David seconded the motion. Motion passed 6:0.

Other

Jim Wagner wanted to add that he had taken OSU students on a tour of the lower Calapooia with an emphasis on CWC project sites, and wondered if there might be a way to create a self-guided tour map that could do the same? Sarah shared a website that has an online application that guides visitors through tours and includes focal points with history. Dee stated this would be good for public engagement.