



The Calapooia Watershed Council held its regular monthly Board meeting on Wednesday, August 10th 2022 at the Kirk Room, Brownsville Public Library.

The following members of the board were in attendance:

Joe Deardorff	Mark Running	Matt Mellenthin	Dee Swayze	Jim Merzenich
Jim Wagner	David Lawlor	John Joiner	Shannon Richardson	

The following were also in attendance:

Collin McCandless, Executive Director

Fiona Julian, Operations Coordinator

Cris Salazar, Habitat Restoration Program Manager

Sharon Crowley, Community Member

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

Introduction and Discussion with Prospective Board Member, Sharon Crowley

Board and staff made their introductions, and Sharon reciprocated and stated that she met Kristen & Collin at an Urban Ecology field trip as a parent of two GAPS students. Sharon shared that she was impressed with how engaged staff members were, and that she has worked with ODFW for sixteen years, and that her interests were aligned with the CWC's mission. Sharon stated that she has also known Shannon for some time.

Approve May & June Board Meeting Minutes

Matt moved to approve the May and June board meeting minutes. Mark seconded the motion. The motion passed 9:0

General Update

Collin provided an update that this was a very busy August, with Kristen providing snorkeling trips and had been at one this day with 38 students on the South Santiam as part of the ELY program.

Collin informed that surveying for knotweed was in progress, and that the Upper Calapooia Steelhead Habitat Enhancement project was now completed. Cris reported the project went better than expected and nine large rees were felled into the river, which along with some boulder work and road improvements that were made, that reach of the river is transformed. Cris stated he is putting together a presentation. Shannon suggested a field trip to the site. John asked if there were any safety issues, which Cris responded there were not, and that the lead on the felling plan is an expert that essentially wrote the book on the process. Matt asked how large

the root wads were and Cris replied about twenty feet wide, which he explained are unlikely to dislodge or wash away.

Joe asked where the knotweed surveys were happening, and Collin explained they are short surveys close to the former Brownsville dam along to Sodom bifurcation and are OSWB-funded, in the hopes of getting on top of removal before it becomes a bigger issue. Collin explained the surveys will occur by kayak. Joe shared that he was not aware OSWB were currently funding any surveys, and Cris explained that the CWC was able to apply for funding as part of a larger group of councils that are experiencing more of an issue.

Collin informed that he is working on a NOAA fish passage and habitat grant application for Truax Crossing and Albany Oxbow project sites.

Collin also announced that himself and Kristen are putting together a two-page presentation for OCF. David offered to help facilitate the meeting with OCF.

Collin stated that himself and Cris will be snorkeling for Chinook after the results of the eDNA sampling.

John asked if anything more had been learned about the gold prospectors in Brush Creek. Collin stated he forwarded the information to the Water Master. Concern was expressed about the habitat damage and fish kill. Collin wondered if DSL would also be an agency to inform. Cris responded yes, as they oversee in-water violations. Shannon asked if the tributary was considered Essential Salmonid Habitat. David stated that he knew a lawyer who was experienced with this issue.

John stated that now with covid being over or the way we're dealing with it has changed, that we are carrying a heavy debt load with the office being unused, and asked if we should consider downsizing. Collin stated that the office is being used regularly by Kristen and intermittently by the rest of the staff. It was mentioned that the council receives a fifty percent monthly rent discount from the landlord. Collin stated that if we were to think about changing office spaces to look at Albany as a location. Collin continued that Aimee had mentioned non-profits she knows that work together and share spaces. Joe asked Shannon if the South Santiam Council were still sharing space with the Forest Service. Shannon replied they were but the space was cramped with more than two people in it at one time. Shannon stated that lots of councils were reevaluating how they work and access workspaces. David suggested that we look around Albany and present any findings at the next board meeting. Jim M asked if the board meetings would happen in Albany or Brownsville if the council moved to Albany. Collin stated that before covid there was a plan to rotate the meetings between locations which would remain.

Review and Discuss 990

Fiona presented highlights of the past fiscal year and apologized for not being able to provide July 2022 financials due to a QuickBooks syncing error and currently being out of state. Fiona offered to provide those reports when she returns home next week.

Discuss and vote: Change in financial review

Collin presented the suggestion of providing quarterly financial reports instead of monthly to sync better with the quarterly payroll reconciliations and fund requests. It was suggested that the reports would be of more value and provide for easier reporting. Mark expressed concern that three months was a long time to wait if the board were expected to catch potential problems. Fiona responded that she maintains the necessary daily oversight as part of her job duties and that she feels confident in being able to identify and address any potential issues. It was discussed that quarterly reporting is typically standard and the logic made sense. Dee moved to approve the motion to have financial reporting provided quarterly. John seconded the motion. The motion passed 8:0 (Jim W was absent from the vote due to Zoom issues.)

Other

Matt asked if the next meeting was at the office.

Collin shared that Cris and himself would be snorkeling the upper Calapooia next week.

Jim M expressed wanting the council to host something fun that could be a fundraiser. Collin suggested the Fundraising Committee meet to discuss further. Joe said that the board should pull together to organize. David mentioned the option of bars or restaurants donating a percentage of sales to the council for a day, and that depending on the venue the council could set up an info booth or presentation. David continued that auctions are very time-intensive. Calapooia Brewing and Thompson's Mills were suggested as venues to approach.

Jim M announced that on 24th September there will be a tour of his farm due to winning the Linn County Tree Farm of the Year award.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:08pm