

Marys River Watershed Council Board of Directors Meeting July 8, 2008

Board Members Present:

Thom Whittier, Mark Taratoot, Bud Laurent, May Dasch, Jennifer Beathe

Contractors present: Sandra Coveny, Karen Fleck Harding, Linda Easter

Others present: Amy Schoener, Bill Percy

Meeting began at 6:40 PM

Introductions, Announcements and Reports

Secretary

Minutes from June 10, 2008 approved

Treasurer

Bud- There is no financial overview at this time.

Council Coordinator

Sandra passed out a coordinators report (attached)

Did not apply for grant with Bonneville Environmental Foundation. We do not have capacity to hold on to a 10 year grant at this time.

Meyer Memorial Trust- capacity building grant, we withdrew our proposal; they suggested that we acquire training for our board. They give grants for training opportunities. Sandra looked into doing that with the Luckiamute Watershed council. Decided to not pursue training with the Luckiamute, but maybe get back together later in the year to work on the MMT capacity building grant.

Education and Outreach Coordinator

Karen sent out the Education and Outreach report (attached).

Chair

Thom attended the Greenbelt Land Trust/Noble Family conservation easement celebration. Thom noted that there are other organizations that are not aware of what the Marys River WC is doing. Luckiamute member is interested in working together for a monitoring project. Sandra and Thom are planning to meet on a regular basis.

Coordinator Contracts

Karen's contract needs to be brought up to date.

Some details to work on for Sandra's contract but we'll keep it the way it is for now.

Thom: Do we want to have a special session to put together contractor contracts? Thom would like to see most of the work done by subcommittee and Board Meeting can have the purpose of making decisions.

Bud has been working on proposed language for the two contractors. It is not ready yet. We need to work out a process so that once the committee is good with the language—then have a meeting with the contractors.

Thom needs a committee to work on the contract. Bud, Linda and Thom volunteered to work on Karen's contract.

Bud-what's expected as a project and a budget associated with that? Contract with contractor should be general and uncomplicated, and it is similar to a work order.

Greasy Creek Subbasin Update

County is expected to begin work on Gellatley Creek this month.

Rock Creek overview by Sandra: 7 grants, largest is \$418,000 (?). Sources are OWEB, City of Corvallis, ODFW, and Siuslaw Stewardship Group (USFS).

Topic of liability insurance. Rock Creek-Cooperative Agreement with the landowner is delayed with one of the landowners. Reference ORS Statute that protects the landowner from liability for habitat improvements.

Blair Creek-the board was in agreement to move forward with the project funded by the Oregon Trout Streambank grant. Karen has talked to River Design Group who estimated that they could do survey and design for the 8-9 crossings for \$15,000 and that there might be enough grant money left to do 3-5 culvert replacements.

DSL has an exemption for fish passage replacements so a DSL permit is not needed.

Karen would like recommendation from the board whether or not to go forward with Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit notification process.

Bud moved to give notification to the Corps of Engineers

May seconded

Bud withdraws first motion

Bud moved to submit the notification to the Corps, and leave it up to the discretion of the contractor to establish a start date for the culvert replacements to begin. May seconded.

During discussion, Karen suggests that she find out more information from Scott and find out how much the notification might cost.

Bud and Mark suggest that Karen write an email to the Corps asking for confirmation on their conversation about the Nationwide Permit and/or if the notification process is easy, do the notification.

Bud withdrew his second motion.

Benton County Water Supply Project:

Potential memorandum of cooperation

MRWC outreach role

Thom-want to be sure that any agreement states that watershed health as a priority is covered under the agreement.

Sandra- the MOC and the outreach role are separate.

Sandra will draft a letter of support rather than a Memorandum of Cooperation.

Bud-it will/should strongly support a policy that emphasizes ecological/watershed health.

At the Project steering committee meeting Karen said that Linda Modrell said that she would like to see the watershed councils involved on the steering committee. Karen also said that we were told by Adam Stebbins that the watershed councils will not be involved.

Karen-would anyone like to participate in the steering committee? 1-2 meetings per month for approximately 6 month. If it is not Sandra or Karen, the commission wants three recommendations for names for their review.

Mark- if we agree to do outreach, we should make sure that it is outreach that we support.

Do we have a willing volunteer to represent the Watershed Council? No one at the meeting volunteered.

Action: Karen is okay to move ahead with the outreach for this phase. Sandra will draft a letter of support and send out to the board for review.

MRWC Projects

Status Review

Support Needs

Management Procedures

Karen passed out her matrix of projects. Sandra showed what she had and said that she would merge hers with Karen's. The board needs to ask for what they want to see on the matrix.

Karen-Oregon Natural Heritage Information Center; Marys River Riparian Survey. Would there be support from the board for ORNHIC to hire an assistant for Karen to make landowner contact. What is the rate of compensation? They can pay \$12.00 per hour.

Thom- The board seems to be in agreement to go forward with the project.

Fiscal Accounts

Review current status

Bookkeeping procedures

Training needs

Bud had questions about fiscal processes- (I will include these in the notes when he sends his findings to the board.)

Does either organization offer bookkeeping training to nonprofits?

Does either organization have a list of recommended bookkeepers in the Corvallis area?

TACS (Technical Assistance for Community Services)- 1) yes, but there is not one offered soon

River Network-

Recommendation – Ann White is in Corvallis and could provide training with QuickBooks. Would the board want to spend money (if we have money to spend) on using Ann to spend some of her time working on QuickBooks training?

Thom- it would be useful to have more training. What do we want to request for training?

Linda- has been getting help with quickbooks. She would like to know what reports that the board would like to have.

Adjourn: 8:40 PM