

**Marys River Watershed Council
Board of Directors Meeting
Philomath City Hall
June 14, 2011**

The meeting began at 6:30 PM.

Board members present: Meleah Ashford, Jennifer Beathe, Holly Campbell, May Dasch, Wayne Phillips, Mark Taratoot, Thom Whittier, and Dave Zielinski

MRWC Staff present: Xanthippe Augerot, Mary Vedaa

MRWC Contractor present: Karen Fleck Harding

Others present: Marc Smiley, Allison Handler, Dean Codo

Introductions

Announcements and Guest Comments

There will be an IMST Urban and Rural-Residential Workshop at OSU on June 21st and 22nd. Xan passed around an informational notice.

Mr. Codo noted his observation of a citizen digging steps into the bank of the Marys River and thought it seemed like it could negatively affect water quality in the river. He asked who would be the appropriate contact to report this to. It was suggested that he start by calling the City of Corvallis Stormwater program.

Strategy Planning Process—Overview and Discussion

Marc Smiley and Allison Handler from Decisions Decisions joined us to discuss Strategic Planning Essentials.

They provided an explanation of framework of planning, the gathering the information that we need to understand the issues and challenges, using the information to make decisions, and finally, translating decisions to action.

Marc talked about the planning cycle and elements of the strategic plan. He said we would need engagement and participation. He asked about engagement of stakeholders and explained that there is passive engagement and proactive engagement.

Allison explained about getting information from Stakeholders and said that there are many questions to ask. The group discussed the list of stakeholders, including agriculture, landowners, partner organizations (non-profit, donors, funders, Federal and State agencies), schools (students and teachers), OSU, and environmentalists. Marc and Allison said that listening sessions can become an opportunity to connect with stakeholders and that can effect fundraising. Marc and Allison also said that panel discussions with a few critical stakeholders can be very effective. Lastly, the board separated into small groups to try and answer the question: What are the critical issues at

the heart of the planning process for the MRWC? The group continued with more discussion about the merits of a successful strategic planning process.

Reports

Secretary

Motion to approve the minutes by Director Taratoot. Motion seconded by Director Zielinski. All directors voted in favor.

Minutes from the last quarterly meeting were accepted into the record.

Treasurer

The report is accepted in to the record.

Landowner Outreach

Karen shared with the board that an additional landowner has expressed interest in being added to the Shotpouch project - Karen has arranged a site visit with them. Pacific Power, through Freshwater Trust, has provided some extra funding that will allow us to complete more work this year on Shotpouch than was expected with funding available from OWEB. Also, Willamette Habitat Restoration is providing funding to work in Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly habitat near Wren. The funding will go toward on-the-ground project work.

The report is accepted into the record.

Education

Xan complimented Kathleen on the projects that she has been working on this spring.

The report is accepted into the record.

Executive Director (Including Restoration & Monitoring)

Xan said that her main focus was getting all of the notifications/applications into the agencies for project permits. Her report also noted that we don't have the funds to support the AmeriCorps volunteer/intern.

The report is accepted into the record.

Fiscal Policy

Motion to approve the fiscal policy as amended by Director Taratoot. Motion seconded by Director Ashford. All directors voted in favor.

Conflict of interest Policy

May added feedback that the board should make the decision on the conflict of interest instead of a board committee. Motion to approve the Conflict of Interest Policy as revised with edits by Director Dasch by Director Dasch. Motion seconded by Director Beathe. All directors voted in favor.

Establish Finance Committee

Director Phillips will serve as the committee chair as the MRWC treasurer. Director Zielinski and Director Taratoot volunteered to serve on the committee.

Other topics and announcements

Strategic Planning

The Strategic Planning committee consists of Director Whittier, Director Ashford and Director Campbell. The board discussed hiring Decisions Decisions to work with the MRWC with strategic planning. Director Taratoot made a motion directing the strategic planning committee to move forward with developing a contract with Decisions Decisions and bring a contract back in August for board approval. Director Dasch seconded the motion. All directors voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45