

# Elk Creek Watershed Council

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

### March 20, 2018

#### Board Attendance

- |                   |                  |                  |                |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| × Susan Applegate | × Joe Coons      | × John Kittelman | × Gene Vroman  |
| ✓ Nick Botner     | × Kittie Coons   | ✓ James Mast     | × Gene Zuiches |
| × Harold Burris   | ✓ Linda Galetti  | ✓ Rick Reinhart  |                |
| ✓ Brad Chapman    | ✓ Cindy Johnsrud | ✓ Bob Rundell    |                |

#### Others in Attendance

Jen Bailey, Walt Barton, Lee Russell

#### Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the February 2018 meeting minutes (motion by Rick Reinhart, seconded by Cindy Johnsrud).

#### Treasurer’s Report

The Board approved the Treasurer’s Report of March 20, 2018 and the Accounts Payable (motion by Bob Rundell, seconded by Rick Reinhart).

Beginning Balance: 1 February 2018		\$65,873.48
Deposits:	\$0.0	
Checks:	(\$5.00)	
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Ending Balance: 28 February 2018		\$65,868.48
Deposits		\$13,918.00
Outstanding Checks		\$35,177.69
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Balance		\$44,608.79
Accounts Receivable	\$15,609.99	
Accounts Payable	(\$2,397.50)	
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Fund Balance		\$57,821.28

#### Executive Committee and Council Business

James Mast reported that the executive committee has met twice in the last month, reviewing financial procedures and upcoming projects.

## Bureau of Land Management

Jeff McEnroe sent the following report:

“Christmas Tree placement was success. We didn't place as many trees as we wanted and the weather was pretty tough, but we did make some new relationships with the Yoncalla School District and the kids had a blast. We placed about 150 trees in North Fork Big Tom Folley Creek and the effects from last year's tree placement are very noticeable, so we are making a difference.

We will be having a timber sale in the Brush Creek and Big Tom Folley watershed in 2019 and 2020 named the Deadman's Folley timber sale. This is under our new Resource Management Plan which includes "tree tipping". Tree tipping is the use of riparian trees for either instream habitat or to be decked and used in another restoration project. I have started laying out tree tipping with this timber sale, why should you care? This will mean the BLM can contribute a lot of logs needed for instream restoration to partner projects, which can be used as match to make us more competitive for grant funding. I'm still exploring options, but it looks like watershed councils might be able to purchase the logs at a reduced rate (~\$100–150/log) for use on private lands. We cannot give the logs away because they are O&C logs and must be sold.”

## Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Eric Himmelreich was not present. He continues to work with the watershed councils on In-stream designs.

## Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District

Walt Barton reported that the CONNECT conference is coming up, an important opportunity for training and networking for watershed councils and conservation districts, sponsored primarily by OWEB and NRCS.

DSWCD received full funding from the Oregon weed board: treatment of Paterson's Curse will begin April 5<sup>th</sup>, and distaff thistle in early May. Yesterday, Walt saw Portuguese broom up Cox Creek that is 4–5' tall, which they are addressing.

Walt and Lee followed up on a report from the Oregon Department of Agriculture re an excavator in Curtis Creek. The landowner was removing a fallen tree from a ford crossing.

## Executive Director and Council Coordinator Report

Lee Russell and Jen Bailey reviewed the Executive Director's report (see attached). Brad Chapman asked about the long-term strategy for the rapid bioassessment. He will come to the executive committee meetings, where this is being discussed.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

# Executive Director Report

20 March 2018

## Current Watershed Council Restoration Projects:

- I.) **Fitch Creek Culvert Removal: (#07-16-008)**
- The project is complete. We may have to make some adjustments to the grade control weirs next summer.
- II.) **Yoncalla Creek Livestock Crossing: (#07-16-007)**
- The project is complete. The final report has been submitted. Working with OWEB on the final fund request.
- III.) **Buck Creek Fish Passage:**
- The project is complete. Need final costs to close out the RAC grant.
- IV.) **Jack Creek Habitat Improvement:**
- Hoping to resolve the fencing issue so that we can proceed with an OWEB grant.

## Projects in Development:

- V.) **Hardscrabble Creek Habitat Improvement:**
- Jen and Eric have added more sites to the proposed project.
- VI.) **Ellenburg Creek Habitat Improvement:**
- This project could complete restoration in Ellenburg Creek and build a working relationship with Seneca Jones Timber.
- VII.) **Sand Creek - Little Sand Creek:**
- We might consider doing some rapid bioassessment in these creeks since they are very productive coho streams.
- VIII.) **Rock Creek:**
- Rock Creek may be a future area for restoration.
- IX.) **Jack Creek Erosion Control:**
- Jan and Kevin Kelley own this property (formerly Hergert's), and we are also working with them to enroll in CREP.
- X.) **Deer Creek Culvert Project:**
- Jen is working with Walt to develop a culvert project on Deer Creek that will be submitted to the OWEB Small Grant program.
- XI.) **Rice Creek:**
- This is another possible Small Grant to address a manure management problem on Rice Creek.

### **Outstanding OWEB Small Grants:**

- XII.) **Bills Creek Habitat Improvement: (#07-14-005)**
- A monitoring report will be submitted in 2019.
- XIII.) **Zuiches Riparian Improvement: (#07-14-006)**
- A monitoring report will be submitted in 2019.

### **Current Watershed Council Monitoring Projects:**

- XIV.) **Watershed Assessment/Bioassessment (BLM):**
- I've started discussions with John Runyon (Cascade Environmental) about work for 2018. We have funding to complete another 10 miles next summer.
  - We need to select streams that will support the Council's long-term strategies and goals.
  - We also need to develop a template for presenting the bioassessment data to landowners. We will be able to use this as an outreach tool to landowners showing conditions on their properties, and what we want to do for restoration. We will also have the baseline data that can show the effectiveness of our restoration projects.

### **Watershed Council Capacity Grant:**

- XV.) **OWEB Council Support Grant:**
- A fund request was submitted in early March.

### **Watershed Action Planning:**

- XVI.) **Umpqua Focused Investment Partnership:**
- Eric Riley (PUR) and I attended a two-day retreat in Corbett for partnerships that have been awarded either a Focused Investment capacity building or an implementation grant.
  - This was an opportunity for partnerships throughout the state to share their experiences, and the challenges, in developing broad-based regional coalitions.
  - One panel discussion involved major funders (including Meier Memorial and BPA) and reinforced their move toward funding larger-scale planning efforts.
  - OWEB is in the process of allocating 25% of its restoration budget to Focused Investments.
  - The Umpqua Basin Partnership is meeting on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. We are trying to wrap up the strategic action plan that was funded by the OWEB capacity-building grant, and to begin developing the governance documents that will guide how the organizations will work together.
  - I have been developing budget estimates for the Elk Creek Watershed Council projects that have been included in the plan. These will be in the Umpqua strategic plan.
  - PUR has submitted an application to the Bureau of Reclamation on behalf of the Partnership for funds to hire a facilitator for two years. The goal will be the development of the governance documents to define the organizational structure of the UBP, and the responsibilities of the members in implementing restoration strategies at a basin-wide scale.

### **Fiscal Agent Programs:**

#### **XVII.) Douglas County CREP:**

- The final payment for the 2016-2017 CREP program has been received.
- The grant agreement for the 2018-2019 CREP program has been signed. The grant award is \$167,112.50.

#### **XVIII.) Oregon Weed Board Grant:**

- The Department of Agriculture has announced the awards for the 2018 Weed Board grants.
- The applications for Woolly Distaff Thistle (\$44,823) and Spurge Laurel, Gorse, and Portuguese Broom (\$47,697) were both fully funded.
- The grant agreements are being prepared.
- This will work roughly the same way as the CREP program.. We will be the fiscal agent, and we will contract with Douglas SWCD for implementation.

### **Administrative:**

#### **XIX.) BLM RAC grants:**

- One of our assistance agreements with the BLM (RAC grant funding) is set to expire next September. Seven (7) of the fourteen (14) projects funded by this agreement have been closed out, but the other seven need to be finished up and the accounting completed. The most significant is the Bacteria Study.
- The other assistance agreement, which includes Bioassessments and Jack Creek Habitat Improvement, expires in 2021.