

# Elk Creek Watershed Council

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

### July 17, 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, Lee Russell

#### Meeting Minutes

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

#### Treasurer's Report

The Board approved the Treasurer's Report of July 9, 2018 and the Accounts Payable, with the addition of ~\$15,000 to Douglas SWCD for CREP (motion by Gene Zuiches, seconded by Rick Reinhart,).

Beginning Balance: 1 June 2018		\$72,064.99
Deposits:	\$72,836.00	
Checks:	(\$2,255.78)	
Ending Balance: 30 June 2018		\$142,645.21
Deposits		\$22,774.75
Outstanding Checks		(\$480.00)
Balance		\$164,939.96
Accounts Receivable	\$0.00	
Accounts Payable	(\$26,301.32)	
Fund Balance		\$138,638.64

#### Executive Committee and Council Business

James Mast reported that the Executive Committee met twice in the past month.

## Bureau of Land Management

Jeff McEnroe reported that the North Fork Big Tom Folley Restoration will probably happen sometime in August. Bob Rundell got the contract through PUR for the work. Jeff estimates it will take 3–4 days, putting logs and some BLM trees in North Fork Big Tom Folley (0.5 miles), and Big Tom Folley Creek (0.3 miles).

BLM is putting the final touches on the Deadman's Folley timber sale that will happen mostly in the Brush Creek watershed. It will likely be sold next year. Roseburg BLM is down to only two fish biologists for the entire district. Under the current administration, the focus is on timber production, de-emphasizing restoration.

## Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Eric Himmelreich reported that he will be starting in-stream work with PUR and Mark Villers this at Fortune Branch Creek. He has been doing permitting reviews and pond visits.

## Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District

Walt Barton reported that the weed eradication crew found additional sites of distaff thistle. He has been helping Jen with OWEB small grant projects.

## Executive Director and Council Coordinator

Jen Bailey reviewed the Council Coordinator report (*see attached*). Highlights include:

- Buck Creek – We will proceed with making adjustments to the bedrock channel.
- Ellenburg Creek – The restoration action plan and instream habitat designs were sent to Seneca for review.
- The Umpqua Small Grants program is on hold until all its members have caught up on their outstanding OWEB project completion reports. The Jack Creek tree revetment project is unlikely to happen this year at this point.

Lee Russell reviewed the Executive Director report (*see attached*). Highlights include:

- We need Seneca's permission to survey Big Tom Folley. This may be delayed because of fire season.
- Lee is working on analysis and presentation of the bioassessment data. James Mast explained that we are renegotiating with the consultant to get something that laymen can understand.
- Susan Applegate asked about identifying areas that need rehabilitation. There may be potential for off-channel winter habitat upstream of her property on Elk Creek.
- Susan asked about working with OWEB, PUR and other groups to develop regional plans. Lee explained that this is the intent of the Umpqua Basin Collaborative.

Old Business

None

New Business

The Board elected Marvin Akins as the Board Member representing the City of Yoncalla (motion by Gene Zuiches, seconded by Brad Chapman)

Adjournment

# Elk Creek Watershed Council

## Council Coordinator Report

July 17, 2018

### Restoration Projects

#### Fitch Creek Culvert Removal

Lee secured permission from landowner to do more work. Lining up contractor for a couple hours to reconfigure the lower weir, which was installed for grade control, but may be a partial fish barrier. Coordinating with DFPA re fire season. Planning willow planting in November.

#### Buck Creek Fish Passage

Visited site with Lee to evaluate whether to fine-tune the bedrock channel to reduce velocity – recommending no action.

#### Jack and Hardscrabble Creeks Restoration

Awaiting OWEB's prioritization of our grant application in late August. The landowner will be installing one or two railcars as livestock crossings. Walt Barton (DSCWD) will design the bridge(s), and Jen will secure ODFW/NMFS fish passage sign-off.

#### Ellenburg Creek Habitat Improvement

Assisted Eric Himmelreich (ODFW) with design of instream fish habitat restoration plan for one mile of creek, encompassing 27 sites with 205 logs and 70 boulders. Working with landowner to improve fish passage above bedrock ledge upstream, by removing two logs wedged above the ledge. The rapid bioassessment survey crew did not find any juvenile coho upstream of the ledge.

#### Jack Creek Erosion Control

This project probably won't happen this summer, given that the OWEB small grant funds are not available. Landowner is proceeding with fencing. Will request permission from ODFW to install tree revetments past the in-stream work session, but that's a long shot.

#### Rice Creek Mud Management

Visited site with Walt Barton to re-design livestock feeding area to minimize run-off, by installing barn gutters, culvert, berms and some fencing. An OWEB small grant would pay for materials, which the landowner will install.

#### Turkey Crick Livestock Water

OWEB small grant to extend off-channel livestock watering system,

#### Tucker Creek Culvert Replacement

Potential OWEB small grant to replace culvert. Walt Barton is contacting landowner.

## Headwaters Elk Creek Culvert Removal

Contacting landowner again to assess their support for removal of failing culverts.

## Yoncalla Oil Spill Funded Projects

Beginning to explore opportunities for appropriate projects. There is \$180,000 remaining in this fund.

## Communications & Outreach

### Coho-ho Christmas Trees

I am taking over this program for the upcoming year, using \$1,500 remaining in last year's Umpqua Derby grant to deliver 600 Christmas trees to Big Tom Folley Creek, and coordinating with the Yoncalla, Elkton and North Douglas schools.

### Cities

Marvin Akins is replacing Gene Vroman as the representative from the City of Yoncalla. Our board meetings are being announced on the new reader board at Yoncalla City Hall. The monthly meeting announcement on the Drain reader board now includes our web site.

# Executive Director Report

17 July 2018

## Outstanding OWEB Small Grants: (Lee Russell)

- I.) **Bills Creek Habitat Improvement: (#07-14-005)**
- A monitoring report will be submitted in 2019.
- II.) **Zuiches Riparian Improvement: (#07-14-006)**
- A monitoring report will be submitted in 2019.
- III.) **Yoncalla Creek Livestock Crossing: (#07-16-007)(Lee Russell)**
- A monitoring report will be submitted in 2020.

## Current Watershed Council Monitoring Projects:

- IV.) **Watershed Assessment/Bioassessment (BLM): (Lee Russell)**
- We have funding to complete another 10-15 miles next summer.
  - Jen is working on getting permission from Seneca to survey Big Tom Folley.
  - We also need to develop a template for presenting the bioassessment data to landowners.

## Watershed Council Capacity Grant:

- V.) **OWEB Council Support Grant: (Lee Russell)**
- Self-evaluations have been completed.
  - OWEB Work Plans have been updated.

## Watershed Action Planning:

- VI.) **Umpqua Focused Investment Partnership: (Lee Russell)**
- The Umpqua Basin Partnership is now the “Umpqua Basin Collaborative.”
  - At the May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, we worked on a Memorandum of Understanding that the signing agencies will work together to develop a regional watershed restoration plan.
  - The next step will be to begin developing the governance documents that will guide *how* the organizations will work together and make decisions.
  - PUR has submitted an application to the Bureau of Reclamation on behalf of the Collaborative for funds to hire a facilitator for two years. The goal will be the development of the governance documents to define the organizational structure, and the responsibilities of the members, in implementing restoration strategies at a basin-wide scale.
  - I have submitted budget estimates for projects for Jack Creek, Hardscrabble Creek, Ellenburg Creek, and Sand Creek. Hopefully, Jack Creek and Hardscrabble Creek will be completed before the “Collaborative” is in a position to get funding for any of its projects, but the Council needs to work on a long-range plan to be able to take full advantage of the potential funding opportunities of the FIP

**Fiscal Agent Programs:**

**VII.) Douglas County CREP: (Lee Russell)**

- The quarterly report for Jan-Mar 2018 has been submitted.

**VIII.) Oregon Weed Board Grants: (Lee Russell)**

- The Douglas County Weed Program 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.
- Funds from the first payment request (\$46,260) have been received. This is 50% of the grant total and is paid in advance. These funds will be released to Douglas SWCD upon submittal of invoices for work performed.

**Administrative:**

**IX.) BLM RAC grants:**

- I'm working on closing out the remaining grants that will expire this fall. The main one is the DNA Study.
- The other assistance agreement, which includes Bioassessments and Jack Creek Habitat Improvement, expires in 2021.