

Elk Creek Watershed Council

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2019

Board Attendance

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

Others in Attendance

Jen Bailey, Lee Russell

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the October 2019 meeting minutes (motion by Rick Reinhart, seconded by Brad Chapman).

Treasurer's Report

The Board approved the Treasurer's Report of October 13, 2019, and the Accounts Payable (motion by Bob Rundell, seconded by Brad Chapman), with three changes: reissue the April 16th check for the Grange rental, add new check for this quarter's Grange rental, and remove Lee's invoice for his project management time.

Beginning Balance: 1 September 2019		\$49,263.86
Deposits:	\$25,715.00	
Checks:	(\$27,461.25)	
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Ending Balance: 30 September 2019		\$47,517.61
Deposits		\$152,756.12
Outstanding Checks		(\$51,329.16)
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Balance		\$148,944.57
Accounts Receivable	\$5,294.15	
Accounts Payable	(\$124,115.90)	
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Fund Balance		\$30,122.82

Executive Committee and Council Business

James Mast reported that an issue came up at this morning's Executive Meeting that needs to be addressed by the Board without Jen and Lee present.

Bureau of Land Management

Jeff McEnroe is developing a presentation for PUR on "what it takes to put together and pull off a restoration project". He'll present it to us at our February or March board meeting.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Eric Himmelreich visited Ellenburg Creek again with Jen to redesign Site 28, to improve fish passage over a 4.5' bedrock ledge.

Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District

Walt Barton reported that the weed work is complete for this season, and they are working on final reports.

Council Coordinator

Jen Bailey reviewed the Council Coordinator's report (*see attached*). The Board discussed past and potential projects for the Yoncalla Oil Spill fund.

Executive Director

Lee Russell reviewed the Executive Director's report (*see attached*). Cascade Environmental provided anecdotal summaries of the Big Tom Folley survey, which indicate that more instream work has been done than previously documented. The Focused Investment Partnership is meeting in a month, with participation from the Wild Salmon Center.

Old Business

The Board determined that it is not necessary to update the Bylaws at this time.

Strategic Planning – pending.

New Business

None

Adjournment

Elk Creek Watershed Council

Council Coordinator Report

October 15, 2019

Restoration

1. Jack and Hardscrabble Creeks Restoration

- Upper Jack Creek fencing and herbicide treatment are complete. The cattle have off-channel water, but formal development of the watering facilities will happen next year.
- Lower Jack Creek fencing scheduled for this month.
- Tree, shrub and willow planting this winter.
- No news yet on using ODOT mitigation money on Johney Creek culvert replacement.

2. Clover Creek Livestock Water Improvement

- Finishing up project completion reporting and fund request. The landowner is planning next year's Small Grant project.

3. Turkey Crick Livestock Water

- The rancher has completed this project. Working on project completion reporting and final fund request.

4. Kennerly Stream Protection

- In progress.

5. Lower Jack Creek Livestock Water

- This project has been delayed till next year, as the landowners have been swamped with Snowmageddon clean-up and fencing off the Lower Jack Creek instream work.

6. Ellenburg Creek Habitat Improvement

- Revamping OWEB grant application and budget (due October 28th), based on the Regional Review Team's feedback.
- Eric Himmelreich re-designed Site 28 to improve fish passage over the bedrock ledge. Jim Muck (NOAA) signed off on fish passage.
- Landowner committed to installing water bars to reduce potential sediment run-off.

7. Buck Creek Fish Passage

- Eric Himmelreich and I electroshocked above the bedrock channel, and did not find any coho. We will try again in March.

8. Big Tom Folley Instream Restoration

- Potential future restoration project based on upcoming OWEB technical assistance grant.

9. Elk Creek Off-Channel Habitat

- Potential restoration project to create seasonal flooding on Elk Creek above Susan Applegate's property. Assessing costs.

10. Yoncalla Oil Spill Funds

- Douglas County Natural Resources proposed an amphibian habitat restoration project on my property that would have used up the bulk of the remaining funds. As the landowner, I have decided not to pursue this.
- Investigating a potential project on Susan Applegate's, to drain the pond to remove invasive species.

11. OWEB Small Grant Program

- I'm up to five potential small grants to help agricultural landowners.

Council Support

1. Bylaws

- I've dropped the idea of updating our bylaws to include the new Oregon Revised Statutes numbering
- I want to sell the equipment used for the DNA study.

Communications and Outreach

2. Landowner Free Lunch

- Need to line up speaker(s) for the Landowner Free Lunch program on Saturday, March 14th.

3. Brochure

- No progress this month.

Executive Director Report

15 October 2019

OWEB Restoration Grants:

I.) Jack and Hardscrabble Creeks Restoration: (#219-2029)

- The second fund request was submitted [See Accounts Receivable].

Watershed Council Assessment & Planning Projects:

II.) Cascade Environmental Data Evaluation & Restoration Plan:

- A draft of the Restoration Action Plan for the Elk Creek Watershed was presented at the last council meeting. The Council should approve the draft.
- The Plan can be used to guide the Council's annual Action Plan.

III.) Landowner Outreach and Education Grant (BLM):

- Cascade has used some of this grant to develop the presentation materials that we presented to Seneca for restoration in Ellenburg Creek.
- This format can be used in the development of landowner outreach materials for any subwatershed.

IV.) Watershed Assessment/Bioassessment (BLM):

- The bioassessment survey in Big Tom Folley Creek was completed.
- Cascade Environmental is reviewing and entering the data into the GIS database.
- Ecosystems NW has provided anecdotal summaries of the survey.
- When the data analysis is complete, we will give Seneca land managers an overview of the fish use and distribution, habitat conditions, and past restoration projects and their effectiveness.

Watershed Council Partnerships & Fiscal Management:

V.) OWEB Council Support Grants:

- The final fund request for the 2017-2019 biennium was received. This grant is now closed.
- The grant agreement for the 2019-2021 biennium has been signed and returned.

VI.) Douglas County CREP:

- Applications for the 2020-2021 biennium were submitted on September 13th. This grant will fund the Douglas County CREP Technician.

VII.) Oregon Weed Board Grants:

- The 2019 Woolly Distaff - Patterson's Curse application was approved - \$48,576.
- The first payment (50%) has been received.
- Interim reports were submitted on September 30th. The next 25% of the grant was invoiced. [See Accounts Receivable]

VIII.) NRCS Farm Bill Assistance:

- The second quarterly report and fund request were completed [See Accounts Receivable].

IX.) Umpqua Basin Focused Investment Partnership:

- Kevin Keller (PUR Interim Executive Director) has started to move the Umpqua FIP forward. He has submitted an application to OWEB or a capacity-building grant that will fund the development of a “Coho Business Plan” that will focus on coho restoration in the Umpqua Basin.
- If funded, this plan could bring more money into the Umpqua for coho restoration, but how this might benefit the Council is still unclear. Typically these plans focus on a single Independent Coho Population, but there are four independent populations in the Umpqua.

Watershed Council Organizational Development:

X.) Strategic Planning:

- The Council needs to consider some long-range planning. Articulating even a rudimentary vision for what the council should look like in the future can help shape strategies to achieve council goals. Planning can also clarify obstacles, and strategies to overcome them.
- The strategic plan should also establish the Council’s priorities, and guide the expenditure of resources to achieve priority goals.
- This plan, and the process to develop it, needs to be generated by the Council Board. The Council should consider hiring a consultant to facilitate the process.

XI.) Action Plan:

- The Council’s 2018 Action Plan is obsolete and needs to be updated.
- The Action Plan should reflect the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan, and the actions should be based on the Restoration Action Plan.