

**North Santiam Watershed Council
Meeting Minutes**

Joint General Member and Steering Committee Meeting

Location: Stayton Community Center; 400 Virginia Ave; Stayton, OR

Date: November 13, 2008

Time: 7:00 to 9:00 PM

Attendance:

Role Call for Quorum: Present: John Caruso (Marion County Citizen, Chair), Bruce Rogers (City of Salem), Mandy Summer (North Fork Subbasin), Bill Sanderson (Economic), Larry Trosi (Irrigation), Jon Tucker (Lower Subbasin) and Dave Embleton (Salem Alternate). Quorum confirmed.

General: Ronn Bevan, Lori LaMarche, Paul Eckley, Scott Eden and John Shepard.

Contractors: Elizabeth (Liz) Redon, Erika Lang and Pam Archer

7:00 PM Steering Committee Meeting Called to Order

Public Comment and Announcements:

- Liz Redon announced that Erika Lang received a Spirit of the Oregon Plan award for her work with landowners across the three watershed council region (i.e. North and South Santiam and Calapooia Watershed Councils).
- Liz Redon introduced Pam Wright, who will be implementing the STEWARDS program across the three watershed region starting with Sweet Home, Mill City and Brownsville. She explained this was the youth education program that South Santiam and US Forest service began and invited the other two watershed councils to join and expand the program throughout the region. South Santiam Watershed Council secured funding that the North Santiam Watershed Council approved support letters for.
- John Caruso and Liz Redon provided a summary of impressions from the OWEB conference. Liz explained the theme was climate change; however, a lot of the underlying restoration recommendations were similar to those for salmon habitat. She also mentioned that water supply seems to be an upcoming priority for watershed councils to work on in the future. John Caruso described a couple of the sessions he attended including one entitle “Why Can’t We All Get Along.” He mentioned that the primary lesson he learned was to recommend that Liz designate more to council members to help with the increasing work load.
- Lori LaMarche announced that students are required to complete a community service learning project that might be an opportunity to partner with the watershed council to get volunteers on projects.
- John Caruso announced that the North Fork Clean-Up had another successful event, and thanked Mandy for taking the local lead on that event.

Approval of Minutes: Members reviewed October 2008 minutes. Jon Tucker motioned to approve minutes. Bruce Rogers seconded. Members approved.

Decision: October 2008 minutes approved.

7:15 PM Presentation: Santiam Fish Passage Barrier Inventory, Eric Andersen, OSU Graduate Student

Eric provided an overview of his graduate project for identifying and prioritizing fish passage barriers in the Santiam Basin. He identified the culvert on Little Rock Creek as the highest priority barrier for replacement so far. He will have more barrier priorities in his final report early Summer 2009.

Liz Redon explained that an undergraduate class will be selecting a barrier in the North and South Santiam to study and present alternatives to use in a restoration grant. The class is taught by the same professor that assisted in setting up the project and connecting with Eric as his advisor.

Liz Redon also mentioned that the inventory is being used to identify priority barriers that would meet the ODOT mitigation requirements. After several communications with NOAA Fisheries, it became clear that a culvert replacement would meet their mitigation requirements and then the Watershed Council can apply for restoration dollars to do other restoration on the tributary with the mitigation money as match (which she has confirmed with OWEB as a feasible approach).

8:15 PM Decision: Officer Election

Liz Redon facilitated annual officer/Operations Committee elections by passing out ballots with nominees determined by the nomination committee. Members voted and Liz counted the votes.

There was consensus on the officers/Operations Committee for 2008-2009 as follows:

Chair- John Caruso

Vice-Chair- Dave Bonebrake

Treasurer/Secretary- Bruce Rogers

8:30 PM Progress Reports-

Treasurer: Liz Redon provided reports from Cascade Pacific RC&D.

MMT/BEF Model Watershed: Liz Redon reminded Council members of the 3 watershed region submission for the Model Watershed Program with Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF). She explained that BEF is now partnering with Meyer Memorial Trust who recently decided to invest money in a Model Watershed Program in the Willamette. They will be selecting 4 models in the next couple of years. The region application is under consideration with this newer program. She presented letters and follow-up communications (see meeting materials). She explained that they seem to be very interested in the regional partnership of 3 watershed councils.

Projects: Liz Redon explained that she is wrapping up paperwork on Summer 2008 projects and is working to get Summer 2009 projects ready, especially Tom Fencl's project on Snake-Deford.

Erika Lang provided an update on her work with landowners. She secured funding to move forward on stream restoration on Stout Creek, is assisting landowners with CREP on Bear Branch and is completing some plantings on the Hatch Side Channel.

Pending Proposed Projects:

- Upper and Lower Bennett Dams Fish Passage

8:50 PM Other Business - None

9:00 PM Meeting Adjourned