

Youngs Bay (+Nic-Wik) Meeting 11/17/15
Submitted by Brooke Stanley

Present: Brooke Stanley, Carla Cole, Tom Kollasch, Mike Seppa, Sam Giese, Amanda Robinson

Nic-Wik members did not show up, likely due to power outages and down trees and powerlines on hwy 30 due to the storm today.

New members were welcomed and introductions were made.

Minutes were approved with corrected spelling of Deborah's name

Voting policies were discussed. Carla stated that the policy is: if you show up you can vote, and a majority vote is the majority of those present

Brooke gave an update on NCWA happenings:

Wallooskee project: construction is complete. A tree planting party will happen sometime this winter. Best dates were discussed and Carla suggested before February in case it's a dry spring.

The NCWA is working on defining the relationship between the councils and the board of directors and asked the council how it sees its relationship to the board. The conversation has started in Ecola council which sometimes votes to take a stance on issues that the NCWA does not. Carla said her understanding is that the councils operate as sub-committees to the board and are thus under the same guidelines as the NCWA. Mike said that they have always been a stakeholder group on the council and board level and that it's important for keeping ag and forestry at the table. Carla talked about being cognizant of which hat members are wearing when representing opinions so the watershed councils aren't seen as taking a stance on contentious issues. As a representative of NPS, she said the organization values the stakeholder representation. Sam spoke of his experience working on diverse stakeholder boards that "agree where you can agree" and get work done where there's common interest, avoiding contentious areas.

Youngs Bay Monitoring grant was submitted in October. Brooke applied to OWEB for around \$8,000 and to ODFW for \$2,000. The grant would start an "adopt a (data) logger" program where volunteers would be responsible for one of 15 data loggers throughout the watershed. She is working with DEQ to

develop Sample Analysis Plans and quality assurance. Grant awards will be announced in April, but she will continue as though we are getting the grant, working with DEQ to develop plans this winter and looking for volunteers for the spring. If funding isn't awarded, she will keep working on the program with the limited equipment we have.

Big Creek Mainline Decommission was discussed. This project would remove 2 bridges and install water bars in an abandoned section of road running through the Big Creek channel and flood plain. The project was dropped for this grant round because it was too hasty for the landowner. Brooke will try to work with Hampton this winter to get a project together for submitting in April and implementing summer 2017. There was interest in taking a tour of the project.

Bear Creek working group was discussed. They have had 3 meetings thus far including a tour of the location. The group is interested in focusing on the successes of the city and getting tours for other communities. They meet on months opposite this meeting at Buoy Beer.

Brooke worked with Kristen Homel from ODFW on a Chum Focused Investment Partnership (FIP) in Youngs Bay, Nicolai-Wikiup, and Clatskanie watersheds. The grant would fund the development of a strategic action plan for chum. Other partners include: NPS, CREST, LCEP, Lower Columbia Watershed Council.

Upcoming events:

Nature Matters on November 19: Welcome back Otter

Violet Planting this Friday and Saturday with NCLC

Good of the Order:

Mike went to Vienna and that "Finnish farmer got some culture" seeing an amazing symphonic ballet. Amanda is new to the coast from Portland and was invited to join the local native plant society chapter.

Meeting adjourned 8pm