

**Meeting Minutes**  
NCWA Board of Directors  
April 25, 2018, 5:30-7:30 PM  
818 Commercial Street  
3rd floor conference room

**In attendance:** Chris Farrar, Michael Summers, Mike Seppa, Katie Voelke, John Tillotson, Mark Garrigues, Carolyn Probst; Staff: Brooke Stanley, Jenn Rasmussen  
**Absent:** Carla Cole, Tessa Scheller

Carolyn was welcomed and introductions were made. She is checking out the board to see if she wants to be the new Ecola representative.

There were no minutes to approve, so we deferred to the next meeting.

Jenn presented a financial report and the organization is in good standing. Annual insurance was just paid and \$15k is added to the budget for a small grant award. Mike moved to approve the financial report, Michael seconded, all approved.

Coordinators report was reviewed. Of note, the John Day Crossing project with CREST and the County was stalled by an Army Corps permit, causing plan changes that will cost an additional \$200k and pushing it back to summer 2019. Mill Creek is out for bid and could be summer 2018 or summer 2019.

Spring OWEB grants are due May 7<sup>th</sup>. Brooke is putting together a Chum Strategic Action Plan TA grant and a Chum Landowner Outreach grant.

Clatsop SWCD is going through some transition and is pausing its weed work.

Katie led an organization structure planning session. We discussed responses from the council member survey. There was some disappointment in the number of responses and the negative comments. It was pointed out that the format for the survey was time consuming and may have deferred more comments, and, on a potentially positive note, that lack of comments could be seen as a lack of complaint. There was discussion of potential for another survey with multiple choice questions about alternatives we face, but we decided it should wait. It was clear from the responses we got that we do not have good systems for communication, which we recognized a need to improve.

Katie led an exercise emphasizing that when we have a clear vision of where we're going and we're all pointed in the same direction, we still know where to go when something falls through. She pointed out that the organization only exists together and is not comprised of any one individual. The board has the legal and fiduciary responsibility that the councils do not, which further requires us all (the board and the councils) to be on the same page and working toward the same goals.

We reviewed notes from the last meeting about our needed structure and program changes and wrote about topics that we felt energized by. We then shared in small groups what energized us and found that the group had a lot of energy for moving towards positive change. Topics that were discussed included why and how to involve more people, service area, meeting/council structures, outreach and education, and communication. The activities helped to guide our understanding of where the board has energy to move forward in response to needed changes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.