

Ecola Creek Watershed Council Meeting Minutes November 20, 2017
Cannon Beach City Hall 4:30pm

Present were: Rich Bertellotti, Ed Johnson, Mark Morgans, Mark Barnes, Jan Siebert-Wahrmund, Bob Lundy, Barb Knop, Carolyn Propst, Lisa Kerr, Scott Rekate, Brenna Visser.

Addition to September minutes: Jim Arndt reported that the City did not withdraw any surface water this past summer, and that a meter was replaced.

The minutes were approved as amended.

Updates & Reports

- Recent high enterococcus counts at the Gower St. and Chisana Ck. outfalls coincided with major rainfall—4 in. in one day.
- Someone asked about the results of the sewer smoke test results. Richard says they are in the draft master plan. Should be available from Jennifer Barrett.
- Ed queried whether any high bacteria levels in the ocean may be due to sea lions.

NCWA update: They submitted three grant applications:

- to replace a culvert with a bridge in John Day
- to remove a road including 21 culverts at Mill Creek (rich in beaver) with ODF
- Road removal design with Hamilton Lumber in Knappa-Big Creek

There was a discussion of ECWC potentially switching affiliation from NCWA to Necanicum Watershed Council. This was discussed, but was generally viewed unfavorably.

Beaver update: Ed has talked to Doug Deur, who is willing to present a workshop at our next meeting, on January 22, on watershed enhancement. We should invite the City Council members. It was recommended that we read the material Mark M sent us.

GENA: As usual, GENA will meet tomorrow.

Community Forest update: Sustainable NW received a \$250,000 Meyer Memorial grant to work on the community forest initiative from Arch Cape to Lincoln City. Check out the Sustainable Northwest site, <http://www.sustainablenorthwest.org/>

Friends of Trees: Working on insurance coverage for cleanup on 101 right of way. Barb will finish the Tree City USA renewal application by mid-December.

Discussions:

- **Option to join with Necanicum**—Melyssa Graeper would not be spread as thin as Brooke is in their functions as coordinators. Maybe we would send a rep to their meetings, rather than MG coming to ours. Brooke will invite her to come to our March meeting.

- **Chamber of Commerce and City moving forward with eco-tourism meetings without ECWC involvement, ask to be invited to the table?** The meetings were originated by Cannon Beach. For about nine months, Melissa Keyser has been going representing the City. The meetings are open-door, and involve Travel Oregon. It is a steering committee of about 30 people from throughout a large area. They will meet again in about six months. There was a Daily A article in October. Melyssa Graeper is on the steering committee. The Parks Committee policy has been made clear.

- **Smejkal property**—Early days; lots of County hoops to jump through once their application is in. There would be a big hearing after (if) the County approves, and then an ODOT approval process.

Good of the Order

- Jan spoke in favor of protecting porcupines, and referred us to a piece in the Daily A on October 20, cowritten by Brenna, <http://www.dailyastorian.com/CBG/news/20171009/heck-gnaw-porcupines-spotted-in-clatsop-county>
- Manzanita has passed a single-use plastic bag ordinance. Jan suggests we again push for one in Cannon Beach.