

North Coast Watershed Association
Board of Directors Meeting
April 12, 2017
Astoria, OR

Members present Mark Garrigues, Chris Farrar, Ty Williams, Mike Seppa and Tessa Scheller
Absent and excused: Carla Cole, Scott Rekate and Katie Voelke
Staff Present: Brooke Stanley, Jennifer Rasmussen

Chris called the meeting to order at 1802 with introductions and acknowledgement of Carla's absence.

Announcements: Nature matters next Thursday, SWCD is hiring new technician
The agenda was "accepted as proposed" by motion; Mike/Mark, all.
The minutes from our February meeting were "accepted as presented" by motion; Mark/Tessa, unanimous.

Financial update: Jennifer introduced herself, shared some of her history and explained various accounting entries with Brooke adding further detail. We discussed the Skipanon Council funding stream with Tessa noting this was our last year of funding from the Pacific Seafood settlement. Skipanon funds had been targeted for removal of dams on the river and that process is constrained leaving us open to investing those funds. Tessa/mark; "Place 50% of Skipanon WSC funds in CDs of 6months to 1 year duration".

Further discussion of locally owned banking resulted in a motion by Mike/Mark, all to "move all NCWA funds to Clatsop Community Bank" and a companion motion by Mike/Mark to "add new interim coordinator, Sarah Swissler as signer in addition to the Board Officers (Carla Cole, Chris Farrar and Tessa Scheller)".

Brooke suggested moving currently unneeded travel funds to the purchase of supplies. She specifically noted the need for cloud storage and a new lap top computer. Mike/Mark, offered a unanimously approved motion to "approve moving those budgeted funds and purchases".

Committee reports: We briefly discussed past Ad Hoc committees for bylaws and hiring. The Fundraising Committee has not met recently and offered no report. The Bear Creek Citizens group has been meeting.

We addressed our BOD officer positions and noted the treasurer position to be vacant. The Chair then called for Board Officer nominations followed quickly by Mike/Ty: "Motion to reelect all current officers." CarlaCole will continue to serve as President/Chair, Chris Farrar, Vice President/Vice Chair and Tessa Scheller, Secretary/Treasurer. Carla will be so notified.

BOD evaluation: We noted our progress and the process from our last meeting. Brooke asked the BOD to use a written evaluation tool to indicate areas we might look at for improvement or focus.

We selected four categories for focus; Overarching Strategy, Database management, Community presence and Standing and Financial Management.

Discussion points:

New bookkeeper and interim coordinator. Brooke notes that written job descriptions are needed and in the works for the new interim coordinator.

Our Capacity Grant finishes out on June 30th of this year. For the last biennium we received a 123K OWEB grant. We are now looking at a potentially much leaner budget. Jenn and Brooke are already looking at cost cutting budget items. We await action by the State legislature.

The larger Alderbrook project burn proposal was not well received and Brooke has been meeting with neighbors in this area. Brooke will seek more funding for pollinators next year. Completion reporting is also on her agenda. The City of Astoria has offered us a riding lawn mower and small trailer. We discussed use, maintenance, storage, transport, volunteers and liability. Ty will send Brooke a volunteer form to consider and we agreed to the idea by consensus.

The Mill Creek culverts ODF project featured a recent tour with consideration of road removal and/or culvert replacement with removal of fill. With reduced funds and no planned harvests in that area ODFs planning may be somewhat constrained. A small OWEB grant may be considered.

The Chum FIP funding preparation is in gear with Brooke likely to be the project manager. Announcements of successful grants will be made in the fall.

The Youngs Bay monitoring grant was successful and our data loggers have been checked for accuracy. Brooke still has a couple of loggers to locate when stream flow conditions are safer.

The Lewis & Clark Reach assessment has promising partners and a technical assistance grant may be considered. The County could provide the match. US Fish & Wildlife and NRCS PL566 funding is being organized. Mike and Brooke noted property at risk in the area.

Brooke then reviewed the four work parties she has recently been engaged in. A fence removal project is one that will require more on the ground effort and we discussed options. The ivy removal and tree planting projects were fun and successful. Tessa acknowledged the promising new cedar grove on a site that once was a sewer pond.

CREST will take the lead on the John Day culverts project while Brooke is looking at a road removal project near Big Creek.

Brooke noted our insurance costs have gone up and that our policy is renewed and up to date. She reviewed the company and coverage they provide.

Brooke has our 2017-19 Work Plan on our website and presented a brief overview.

We agreed to an additional BOD meeting in May and Brooke noted other upcoming events. She highlighted the "Tides" Nature Matters for May 11. We adjourned at 1940.

Respectfully submitted,

Tessa Scheller