

ECWC meeting minutes 1-28-2019

Present were: Carolyn Propst (ECWC representative to NCWA), Lynette Villagomez (NCLC staff), Austin Himes (Greenwood), Jeff Adams (City), Jan Siebert-Wahrmund (GENA), Mark Morgans (Greenwood), Bob Lundy (secretary), Scott ReKate (vice chair, presiding), Ed Johnson, Barb Knop, Bruce St Denis (City), Charles Dice (Falcon Cove Water District chair).

Carolyn announced that ODOT has approved spending \$\$4.8M on improving the Asbury Creek culvert, restoring fish passage, with construction to take place in 2020 and 2021.

The November minutes were read and approved. It was agreed that future minutes will be sent out before the following meeting for review by those listed as having attended.

Mark reported on behalf of Greenwood that this should be a fairly quiet year here for them, with some reforestation. They have replanted the 80-acre Murphy plots. The trees are still small, not very greened-up, growing their roots. Since their purchase of forest in this area in 2009, GW has been trying to recreate the old-growth mix of mainly spruce and hemlock. In response to a question, Mark explained that “precommercial thinning” takes place about 10 to 15 years after planting, cutting-and-dropping by hand to create room for the other trees to grow. GW is expanding, recently adding about 12k acres in Tillamook County, for a total of 185k acres, mainly in Clatsop County. He is the supervisor of all of it.

Austen has said he would be willing to serve as chair. There was a discussion that concluded with thanking him for stepping up but putting off the decision until the next meeting.

Scott sent an email to Bruce asking about plans for land acquisition. Jeff says it’s not clear how the area relates to CB’s water sources. He says it is on the Public Works master plan, but that it is not a priority for either the City or GW. Jan says not to forget that [these are] 15-20-yr-old trees. Mark says that more water goes into the aquifer under bare ground than under mature trees, which have a large area respiring moisture into the air. Ed suggested a hydrology study that might raise the priority.

Ed requested a water report from the City, and will talk off line with Bob and perhaps Carolyn about what that should cover.

There was a thorough and productive review of the bylaws. Jeff will write up a draft reflecting what was agreed. He will also keep a spreadsheet of who attends which meetings in case we need to know who can vote at a future meeting. It was agreed that we should (re)activate the plan to have projects in even-numbered months, such as ivy and Scotch broom abatement, and clearing along the CB Trail. (Another suggestion, not at the meeting, was planting willow in the ECFR to attract and retain beaver.)

Good of the Order: Jan invited and received contributions for an appreciation gift for Mike Manzulli, in recognition of his years as ECWC chair.