



Luckiamute Watershed Council Board Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2021
Via web conference

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by George Grosch.

Introductions:

Board Members: Wendy Hudson, Dave Ehlers, George Grosch, Scott Youngblood, Jackson Stalley, Britton Castor, Karin Stutzman (at 6:15pm)
Staff: Kristen Larson
Guests: Judy Walrod Maule, Andrea Berkley, Matt Malinowski

Approval of Minutes:

Wendy Hudson, President

The February 11, 2021 minutes were distributed prior to the meeting (Attachment A).

The board approved unanimously.

Committee Announcements:

- Finance committee - Britton Castor is a new member.
- Education and Outreach committee minutes was just an agenda, noting that updates were provided on these items. Suzanne is going to type up some notes. Please have minutes for meetings to share with the Board.
- We are doing our photo contest starting April 1.
- Fundraising committee discussed they might award prizes for the photo contest at the fall event, feeling optimistic about October and having an in-person event.

Public Comments:

No public comments

Mission Moments:

- Kudos to Suzanne for the "Because of You" cards, well done.
- Glacier and climate change themed artwork presentation recently out of Corvallis (Ash Creek Art Center) was interesting and could be a model for how we communicate.
- Thanks to board members for efforts to reach out to friends and supporters to get renewals. It made a difference.

Board Training (Technical) Debrief – ODFW Beavers Podcast Part II

Scott Youngblood

- Fun facts: Beavers are both ecosystem engineers and keystone species. Potential geography-based tail differences. Poor eyesight due to being in dark places such as water. Beavers eat their own scat, and make scent mounds. They prefer early seral forest.
- Population estimates commonly used are from one watershed in Canada.
- No correlation between populations and quantity of dams.
- Uncertainties in beaver populations and issues with using the Beaver Restoration Assessment Tool (BRAT) model, but those don't mean we shouldn't do beaver based restoration.

- The conventional thinking that beaver dams are ephemeral in the coast range in the modern era may not be how it was in the past before splash damming, incision, and other human caused impacts to the system.
- Beaver Believer documentary worth a watch.
- Theory that beavers prefer bank dwelling because it's easier, and that once all bank dwelling niches are filled, then the rest will build dams.
- A beaver monitoring protocol was mentioned in the podcast, but Wendy couldn't find it online.

Next trainings:

- In the fall there will be two governance trainings. These were the technical trainings.
- At the April meeting Scott and Kristen will debrief from the Nonprofit Association of Oregon event they are attending virtually on March 13.

Board Training Debrief – Fundamentals of Nonprofit Board Governance

Britton Castor

- General baseline informative presentation. Value in Q&A session at end.
- We're legally required to have a president, secretary and treasurer.
- Mobile guide helpful for being an effective board member. Couldn't find it. Did find "The Red Book".
- Board notebook is important as your got-to collection of documents for a board member. Kristen: historically we've done a paper copy, then CDs, and goal now is to get this all on the internal website.
- Would not recommend this particular training but perhaps one like it with a better delivery method to get the information.

Executive Committee

Wendy Hudson, President

Strategic Plan Internal Goals – DEI 2021 plan, shift lead from GC to EC, ATTACHMENT B

- When dividing internal vs external goals we put DEI in Governance Committee but it impacts all of us so it is now to be in the Executive Committee. As a change from an adopted plan, we will make this an action.

Board unanimously approved changing DEI 2021 plan lead from Governance Committee to Executive Committee.

- Remainder of attachment identifies major demographic groups, assessing how we are doing in board/staff in terms of DEI, and identifying community groups and opinion leaders who may be able to help us as we get deeper into this issue. Internal work and trainings coming up. Mid Valley River Connections has organized and contracted this training. Staff, EDs and board members will participate. Trainings will be 1.5-2 hours each, and two will be offered.
- Do we want to schedule these Instead of, or in addition to, board meetings? George and Karin prefer using board meeting time, but ok if it is another time. Wendy feels we need board meeting time as it is. Britton prefers to participate in as many board meetings as possible being new. Most prefer weekdays. Alternatively, could do a 2 hour training plus 1 hour board meeting. Will continue discussing this



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BEF Project Management 2021-2022 Contract, ATTACHMENT C, ACTION

- Contracting for PM services since 2015-2016 with BEF. J.P. has spent 0.6-0.7 of his time on LWC projects. Now trying to get him down to 0.5. April 1-March 31 is BEF's fiscal year. Document is not ready yet so edits are likely. NTE: \$53,000. Board will review actual document when available.

Board unanimously approved authorizing the director to sign contract with a not-to-exceed of \$53,000 without future review of contract language unless it is substantially different than it has been in the past.

Finance Committee

George Grosch

January 2021 Financial Report, ATTACHMENT D

- Nothing to note. First month of the new fiscal year. Finance committee reviewed and had no concerns.

2020 Year-End Financial Report, ATTACHMENT E

- Per CPA recommendations, LWC recorded revenue of Unbilled Receivables as a General Journal Entry (GJE) at the end of a fiscal year. We then reverse that entry on the first day of the new fiscal year, which leads to a lot of negative numbers. That money is expected to come in. This is not unusual to see. Ask Kristen if you have questions.

MRWC Assistant Project Manager Fee for Service contract, ATTACHMENT F, ACTION

- We can contract our employees to other organizations to use our expertise and gain revenue. Mary's River WC would like to contract with LWC for Aubrey's project management services. The policy says we will get 100%+15% of our costs. Upon further review, we do so much business with MRWC and in spirit of good neighbors that we would like to only add 10% above our recovery costs. This would only apply to this particular contract.
- Q: How was 15% developed? A: This was based off our experience using fee for service. Also OWEB reimbursement for overhead uses 10% as a de minimis number. Analyses in the past float around 13%, sometimes more, sometimes less, so we settled on 15% in the policy.
- With the Mary's, we are more like partners/a watershed council peer. Differs from potential contracting with cities.

Board unanimously approved this particular contract using 10% over costs instead of policy of 15%. If this re-occurs consider changing the policy.

Outreach training follow-up, investment in one-on-one coaching, ATTACHMENT G

- EC would like to move forward with this expense. David supports in whole heartedly. It looks like we're doing a good job with outreach but we don't know for sure. We have the PDF book that came with the training.

- E&O committee and Board would like her to share what she is learning.

Board unanimously approved training for Suzanne.

Monitoring Program Update

Kristen Larson, Executive Director

- Kristen provided an overview of the LWC's [Data Visualization web app](#). Data visualization application that is web based to make data more user friendly internally and externally. Temperature monitoring.
- Key question 1: is water coming out of upper watershed cold enough? Informs passage and in-stream projects.
- Key question 2: Lower reaches – are these warm as we assume, informing our actions to address that. For the most part we have confirmed both of these hypotheses.
- Have seen some warming hotspots and have increased monitoring intensity in those areas to tease out what is happening.
- We used NetMap model (steelhead habitat, looking at incision, stream gradient, and floodplain width, and modelled temp attribute) to prioritize areas for restoration. We looked at areas that the model predicted would be too hot. We added some of the sites the model cut based on thermal modeling to our 2018 monitoring proposal to compare. Our on-the-ground data showed that these areas were actually cold and could be suitable for restoration.
- We may in the future look at flow and dissolved oxygen.
- Kristen walked through the tabs on the website. Utilize the video tutorials to orient to the site.

Executive Director Update

Kristen Larson, Executive Director

- Thanks to commenting on kudos cards.
- Working on an update to our website. Our system didn't work for new features so we had to upgrade. In process of updating website.
- Volunteer tree planting event at Upper Maxfield tomorrow.
- Meeting with various agency reps on Mercer Dam / P. lamprey project recently.
- Beaver grants are officially awarded for TA and Stakeholder Engagement.
- Attended Polk SWCD meeting yesterday and asked them to match Benton SWCD contribution. Could be used to support ivy control at upper watershed property.
- Hours log and contract activity is again part of the packet. Board requests Kristen not spend time with these reports. Board can inquire on time and contracting activity if there are any questions.

Topics for Future Consideration

- None

Meeting Adjourned 7:48pm