

The meeting of Luckiamute Watershed Council was held on August 13, 2015 at Volunteer Hall, Monmouth, Oregon. Meeting was called to order by Gail Oberst at 7:03 p.m. Minutes recorded by Steve DeGoey and transcribed by Kristen Larson.

Introductions of members and guests were held; Board members present were Gail Oberst, Dan Farnworth, Ed Miller, Steve DeGoey; Council Coordinator, Kristen Larson. Guests and stakeholders present were Rob Burns, Ken Hetsel, Sharon Safina, Gail Arkley, and Judy Maule. Volunteer time and attendance sheets were circulated.

Minutes from June and July meetings were approved by consensus with changes.

Public Comment: Ken Hetsel introduced himself as a board member of the Marion SWCD. He will also be taking over fiscal management for the Rickreall and Glenn-Gibson Watershed Councils through the Mid-Willamette Watershed Alliance. He is interested in mid-Willamette groups partnering and learning from each other. He likes the Benton SWCD volunteer weed spotters program and using technology (GPS / smart phones) to pin point weeds.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee reports by Gail: Reviewed draft Fundraising Policies and key points from EC training with David Atkin. Finalized draft for approval will come to Board at Sept. meeting.

LWC Charter and Bylaws – Updates needed, EC will review at next meeting and bring draft in Sept.

Recruitment (Board and Committees) – Working to assess current Board profile, locations represented, and skills needed. Gail Arkley expressed interest in joining LWC Board, has submitted Prospective Board Member form. Introduced herself and gave information about her background and her (and her husband's) interest and work on restoration on their own property in the American Bottom area. Judy Maule is active on EnO and Fundraising Committees, considering Board membership. Discussion regarding Board size – bylaws will require legal minimum and maximum, and definition of a quorum. Board should also consider what its target (ideal) number of Board members is. Dan feels around 10-12 is good to help spread out committee work.

Landowner Request for Letter of Support – La Creole Orchards requested letter of support from LWC for application to Oregon Water Resources Dept. for a water storage project. Discussion. The project's primary purpose is water capture and storage, and does not fit with the LWC's mission; it's not in LWC's purview. LWC Board does not support providing letter, the project is not habitat restoration.

501c3 status – Discussed rationale for pursuing 501c3 status. EC recommends directing staff to develop a plan for the LWC to pursue its 501c3 status. Approved by consensus.

Benton County Cooperative Weed Management Area (BCWMA) – Time to renew MOU with the Benton Co. CWMA. LWC Board approved signing MOU in October 2012, expired in December 2014. This renewal will be open-ended; LWC can withdraw from agreement if it desires. Approved by consensus.

Fundraising Committee Report by Gail O. and Dan – First meeting held, reviewed policies and strategic plan. Will meet (in general) the first Monday of every other month. Seek to recruit members with fundraising experience and will work to develop a fundraising plan. Next unrestricted funds budget to run fundraising campaigns and track money, see what works.

Gail O. has started talks with McMenamins for event or other fundraising such as making a special beer.

July Burgerville – raised \$192 in sales, small cash donations (Gail O. not present to help drum up donations). Need to ensure have at least 3 volunteers present to make this work. Next up in October.

IndieGoGo (crowd funding online fundraising for Ash Creek) – closed, raised \$565. Disappointing results, but lessons learned. Fundraising committee will review and document lessons and do's and don'ts.

Finance committee, Treasurer's Report by Dan F. - Dan presented financial statements and treasurer's report for June 2015. This is the last month of Fiscal Year 2015. Annual report is forthcoming. LWC has a lot of cash on hand because of large MMT restoration grants and Finance Committee is reviewing options of transferring money to higher yield accounts; interest yielded is unrestricted revenue.

Coordinator's Report by Kristen L. – Strategic plan check-in. Committees to develop committee description to help with Board orientation and committee recruitment. Discussion on plan and timeline for different committees to have a) a draft one-page description (Kristen will send template) and b) an update on committee work versus strategic plan and any recommended updates to the plan. Targets are: *EnO and EC: by end of Sept. for review at Oct. Board meeting*
Finance: by end of Oct. for review at Nov. Board meeting
Fundraising: by end of Nov. for review at Dec. Board meeting
PRC by end of Dec. for review at Jan. Board meeting

In the future, committees will develop some kind of performance review or self-assessment mechanism and a sketched out annual workplan (target 2016).

Draft Comment on BLM Resource Management Plan for Western OR – Kristen wrote draft comment letter. Board reviewed and approved for submission. Gail O. will sign and submit before deadline.

City of Independence – Kristen wanted to notify the Board that the City has contacted her for help on both a potential stormwater project and land acquisition of property along the Willamette. Kristen feels it's worthwhile investment, but wanted the Board to know about it.

Projects Update – See agenda.

No new business. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.