

LWC Monthly Meeting, Luckiamute State Natural Area Park Office, July 9, 2015.

Introductions

Steve DeGoey, Karin Stutzman, George Grosch, Rob Burns, Dan Farnworth, Ed Miller, Guests -- Sharon Safina, Ken Fletcher.

Ken – 40 acres next to the park, CREP planting, 4,000 trees. Irrigation rights on state property. 10 acres in hay and Jerry Nisley leases for barley total of 26 acres. On Luckiamute Water District water. Dry wells. Also on a board for 10 years, for a shelter in Tangent.

Committee reports – next meeting of Ed/Out

Update – Fiscal -- Marys River, no merger, Mary Vedaa leaving, new bookkeeper/CPA to take over. May hire someone not a CPA, discussion: Could they decide to renegotiate the contract if they have to pay more for a bookkeeper? Financial Policies – See drafts – First round in June, then to the Steering Committee. Main change, authorized signer (over \$10,000 requires second signature). Contracting policy also requires review if over \$10,000. Also travel policy, as required by IRS for nonprofits. Expenses not reimbursed for volunteers unless approved by council.

Adopted as amended – no objections

Discussion of operating policies changes, reviewing for the first time – Discussed eliminating items out of date and updating policies – Changes: Executive committee vs. steering committee. Still officers, but for clarity. Updated goals and descriptions of various committees. Many things related to contractor coordinator no longer relevant.

Adopted as amended. No objections

Personnel policy – reimbursements, removed reference to petty cash, no petty cash. Adopted as amended, No objections.

Bylaws -- All policies and procedure changes require changes to the bylaws, i.e. officer roles and responsibilities, removing and changing items addressed in the operating procedures and adding rules that conform to nonprofit rules – some feedback needed from legal – David – about decisions between meetings, for example, and other items. More to come – whistleblower policies, for example.

Urban knotweed outreach – Water control district agreed to treat and LWC agreed to do outreach. Now includes SWCD and Ash Creek, memorandum of understanding to spray. If outreach help needed, LWC agreement to help lists responsibilities. 5 patches involves 8 landowners. Approved MOU with Polk SWCD.

Fundraising – see notes, plus Burgerville discussion, describe

Discussion about bequests from wills, opened a thrift store. Building a sustaining donor base

Recruiting -- Distributed the list of potential recruits. Asked for more ideas, stakeholders and committee and board members.

Discussion of appeal to potential members – make a one pager with nice pictures of children and puppies.

Financial/Treasurer report – Dan delivers report -- July 3, see Treasurer report. Among highlights: OWEB Council Capacity grant approved at highest amount.

Fiscal sponsorship agreement addendum – proposed flat fee, plus hourly, with not to exceed \$35,000 clause, raises total by \$6,170. Discussion about this – relatively small increase for good service. Low fees for services anyway. Still 60% of what we paid before. Considerations for future changes if/when we go ahead with nonprofit status. See addendum. Could be updated with new employee.

Approved new agreement.

Application for 501c3 to come.

Tabled – Fundraising/Investment policies

Additional item – changes in budget items – see budget line item notifications.

Coordinator's Report, see report, and also --

Thanks to Dan and Kathy and Karin, garbage picker-uppers, last float in the 4th of July parade.

Polk Co. Fair – volunteers needed, doodle poll t.k

BLM to update NW Plan, RMP, public comment until July 23. Seeking comments on interactive map. BLM website? Alternative A – all BLM land in our watershed is old growth reserve, managed for old growth. Valsetz, cold springs. Kristen will send us a link for making choices.

Oregon Conservation Strategy – no maps, comment period through July 20. DFW layers for restoration with maximum benefit.

New Business – See list of events to come. Polk SWCD wants regional meetings to be not during harvest time.

Save the date -- Sept. 20, movie Ken Bierly's Up River; Sept. 13 Marys. Landowner has asked for a letter of support for a water storage project on Ash Creek, collecting from a spring, above the mill, north fork ask creek – OWRD application. Do we support this landowner or what? To discuss at next meeting.

NEXT DAY FOLLOW-UP

Hi Everyone,

Thank you for a productive meeting last night. Here are some follow-up items from the meeting.

1) Approved updated Operating Policies - attached. I'll bring copies to the next meeting.

2) Approved LWC Fiscal Policies - attached (we'll get signatures soon)

3) **Polk County Fair Sign up:** <http://doodle.com/cb6ba5u2r3qhp7qw#table>

Gail and Steve - I put you in for the [Friday 1:30 - 7:00](#) shared shift (Gail [1:30 - 4:30](#) and Steve [4:30 - 7](#))

All others - feel free to sign up, but when you sign up, it is expected that you have committed to be there for that time slot. Thank you all for your help!

I'm going to send the BLM / ODFW stuff in a separate email.

Hi,

Here are the items open for public comment we discussed last night:

1) **BLM Resource Management Plan (RMP) Update - Comment Period ends [July 23](#)**

As discussed, the BLM is updating its RMP for Western Oregon. They have a draft out with a "no action" option and 4 alternatives (A, B, C, D). The Proposed Plan will likely end up being a hodge podge of pieces from those alternatives. They are required to state a preferred alternative when releasing the draft and have stated B is their preferred. The web site is here:

<http://www.blm.gov/or/plans/rmpswesternoregon/>

The Interactive Map linked from this page appears useful and well-done. Where it says "I WANT TO" you can make it zoom to a County, Township, etc. to help focus your search. You can click layers on / off for each alternative. Important to note, they propose reducing riparian reserves from the current in all alternatives, saying going from 2 Site Potential Tree Heights to 1 or less is scientifically valid and will provide full shading and sufficient large wood inputs. They have added a proposed "Inner Zone" with no thinning, but tree tipping into the stream is allowed.

BLM staff requested that any comments describe what you prefer or do not prefer and you give clarity on why and what your rationale is for liking / not liking something.

For our area specifically - you can see Alternative A has everything in Large Block reserves. Alt. B does not, and looking Alt. B, C, and D, if you click the "Land Use Allocations" on and off, you'll see various mixes of light, moderate and uneven-aged timber sales out of those lands. So there is a wide range of impacts depending on how they assign these tracts in their plan.

There are also differences (though small) in proposed Recreational Management Areas (RMAs) - shown in purple.

I have emailed Ryan Gordon, ED at the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils (NOWC), to ask what he's hearing from councils about this and if he's gotten requests for an NOWC comment.

2) The **Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Oregon Conservation Strategy** update- Comment closes July 20.

I'm not sure what to say about this. It's based off of modeling. It's non regulatory, but does hold weight when we're submitted proposals and want to support the value of doing restoration in a certain area. There is no map available for public review / comment at this time. The draft strategy is presented in several pieces on the website and an email address provided for submitting comment.

http://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/public_comment.asp

If I had any comment for ODFW at this time, it would be more on process than on substance, but I'll try to review things more in depth and let you know if I have any more specific comments / concerns to present to ODFW.

If you dig into these items, I'd be interested to hear your thoughts.

Thank you!
Kristen