

Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council
Board of Directors Meeting

27 May 2009
Lowell, OR
6:00 PM

Present: Sean Stewart, Barbara Hazen, Chuck Davis, Eve Montanaro, Chuck Spies, Pat Burns, Debbi Dalrymple, Gregg Vollstedt, Cary Hart, Wade Sims, Bill O'Sullivan

I. Welcome and Introductions – Mr Davis

Debbi Dalrymple will be replacing Cary Hart on the BOD as the Timber Industry representative. She works for Weyerhaeuser.

II. Approve Agenda – Mr Davis

Agenda approved as written.

III. Approve Minutes of 22 April 2009 BOD Meeting Minutes – Mr Davis

Minutes approved as written.

IV. MFWWC Employee Benefits Policies – Administrative Committee

The sub-committee met with the Bent Erickson representative and drew up policies specific to the MFWWC. Everything before page 101 is mandated by either federal or state regulations. The MFWWC chose to go with the personal time off concept instead of sick leave and vacation time off. We eliminated the per diem employee category as the sub-committee felt we would use a personal services contract as a temporary measure if the situation arose. There were 2 sections on page 116 which related to patient care that were to be stricken from the policy and Ms Montanaro was asked to proof-read the rest of the policies for patient related passages. MOTION: To approve the Employee Benefits Package with the changes mentioned and request that Ms Montanaro proof-read the policies one more time for patient related items. Passed unanimously.

V. Executive Director Update - Ms Montanaro

- Restoration Program Manager. The position was offered to Nicole Czarnomski who is finishing her Ph.D. program in stream bio-engineering. She lives in Goshen. She won't be able to come on full-time until Oct. She will work 1 day a week until then. We had 20 applicants for the position. Ms. Montanaro thanked the Hiring Committee (Ms Sawtelle, Mr Davis and Ms Swanson from the Forest Service) who participated with her in the hiring process. We may have funding to offer her more money; we will re-visit this in June. Ms Montanaro is planning to get the staff and the contractors together to figure out how they can best support each other.
- Health Benefits. We will be looking at a cafeteria type plan where the stipend gets paid into the watershed council fund and the employee would get reimbursed. Ms Montanaro will send out an email with further details on the plan selected.
- Action Plan. We got more deliverables back from the contractor which were sub-standard. Ms Montanaro would like to terminate the contract and do the work internally with a local writer. We have paid \$13K and they have invoiced us for \$10K more. Their work is vague. They argue about things when they are challenged and they request Ms Montanaro to do some of the work they are being paid to accomplish. They have a specific set of skills that are not matching what we need. The question was raised about our liability and if we have an attorney to consult regarding termination of the contract. Ms Montanaro will make arrangements to consult with an attorney. She has already sent the contractors a letter telling

them to stop work for billable hours until further notice. She also sent them 2 letters that show where the product is deficient. Ms Montanaro is currently dealing with the Model Watershed Program which has a mid-June deadline and will deal with the contract later. Then she will contact Margie of the Forest Service and ask her about the process involved in terminating a contract. Ms Montanaro would like to work with the Projects Committee on the termination. The options other than this contractor are: Ms Montanaro has already developed an action plan for the 2 sub-basins. She, Ms Czarnomski and Johan from the Forest Service could develop an action plan for several sub-basins and meet with the stakeholders to fill in further information. Ms Montanaro would hold the stakeholder meetings. She has 2 local people in mind who could write the report. The money left in the contract would pay this person. The OWEB representative recognized the inadequacies of the contractor as a meetings facilitator and commented on it when they were here last.

MOTION: The Projects Committee is to make the final decision to terminate the contract with this consultant. Passed unanimously.

The Project Committee consists of Mr Sims, Ms Dalrymple, and Mr Hart (who will stay on the committee until this issue is finished). Ms Montanaro will email copies of the letters and contracts to Mr Hart who will run them by Guistina's lawyer.

- Donation: Ms Montanaro had a family friend from Florida who gave us a \$1500 donation and came out to work on the watershed for a week. She helped with the Education Program and Marty in the office. The BOD is sending her a card, thanking her for her generosity of both time and money.

VI. Board Member Announcements

- Mr Sims: The Forest Service is pursuing a stream restoration project on Little Fall Creek. Weyerhaeuser has expressed interest in partnering on this project.
- Mr O'Sullivan said that the BLM RAC will be meeting Jun 11 to disperse funding. The BLM is also looking for a new fish biologist due to the untimely death of their previous one.
- Mr Davis said Lane County is going thru with the permitting process to relocate the Springfield Mill Race. They have the money for Phase 2 which is dam removal, riparian restoration, etc.

Springfield planners are updating the stormwater plan for the Jasper area. Stormwater comes straight into the Mid Fork of the Willamette from the development sites. The developers will be required to build barriers to stop this. SUB has made initial contact with the planners. No volatile chemicals or personal care products were found in the last set of water samples taken from the Mid Fork.

- Ms Dalrymple said that Weyerhaeuser would be getting stimulus monies to deal with noxious weeds including Scotch broom and False Brome. Some small woodlot owners also got money for this. They will be coordinating with Ms Getty on the projects.
- Ms Burns said that she is still working on a project to remove the Scotch broom from the south side of the Mid Fork near Shady Dell campground.
- Mr Hart said that he helped with a field trip that took 4th graders to an active logging site on Guistina property. The students spent 2 hours there. Ms Montanaro, Ms Chinitz and Ms Watson helped with the trip. The students also got some information about old growth.

VII. Model Watershed Proposal – Ms Montanaro

The final deadline for the grant proposal was bumped up to June 15 from June 30. The drafts are due Monday, June 1. The purpose of the program is to support organizations like ours to do effective, comprehensive long-term restoration and monitoring work. The Program is beneficial to us because granters often don't want to fund non-capital work, such as surveying, monitoring and maintenance of projects or evaluation of the social impact. In this grant proposal we are

going to focus on 2 sub-basins which are undammed: Little Fall Creek and Lost Creek. Ms Montanaro will be selecting digital photographs of reference sites into the Conservation Targets section of the matrices, which will provide the granters a vision of conditions we wish to achieve. In the Measuring Ecological Uplift section we are proposing work that will result in a positive impact on the watershed. They hope to look at this by using a biological index scores for various elements of ecological conditions including water quality monitoring, stream channel complexity, vegetation, wildlife scores, forests, etc. Ms Montanaro is gathering a lot of data now then she will be calling on people for the missing information. BEF wants to propose to funding agencies that these projects are for the long term and need funding for the long term. Ms Montanaro was asked if she is including increasing population pressure and climate change in her projections. She said that it is a good idea to include such information and that information may be incorporated over time, as the document will be a living document. It is a focused strategic plan that could result in significant benefit on the landscape. It would also be great to have the security that this grant would give the MFWWC. The projected funding at this time is approximately 143K in the first 8 months and 120K per year for 10 years that would support staff, operations, restoration and monitoring efforts, in addition to providing match to leverage other funds.

VIII. Appreciations – Ms Montanaro

We've come a long way in the last few years. She would like to thank people for the following service:

Mr Hart for his 3 year service on the BOD. He brought a well-rounded perspective and asked good, hard questions. Mr Davis said that, speaking for the BOD, we sincerely appreciated Mr Hart's input and involvement on the Contracts Committee.

Ms Hazen for the minutes.

Mr Davis for his time, wisdom and perspective

Mr. Vollstedt, Ms Burns, Mr. Spies, Mr. Stewart and BOD not present for their committee work, time and input.

IX. Next Meeting

17 Jun 2009

Lowell, OR

6-8 PM

Meeting adjourned 8:20 PM.

Barbara Hazen
Secretary