

Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council  
General Council Meeting

20 February 2003  
Oakridge, OR  
6:30 PM

Present: Amy Chinitz, Chuck Davis, Kim Garvey, Tom Lininger, Cat Koehn, Dan Cottrell, Don Hampton, Dennis Wise, Glenn Miller, Rick Movsky, Barbara Hazen, D'Lynn Williams, David Murdough, Dennis Joll, Cindy Weeldreyer

I. Introductions

II. Conversations with Commissioner Tom Lininger and former Commissioner Cindy Weeldreyer.

- Mr Lininger stated that we need to be vigilant about threats to our riparian habitat and that the County needs better mechanisms for protecting riparian habitat.
- When he was asked about County support for the watershed council, Mr Lininger said that the County historically hasn't given funding to the watershed councils. They have had commissioners attend meetings. He said that the County might be able to help with open space acquisitions. The politics of this can be frustrating. However, we need to marshal our pro-open space forces and go to Salem to present our case.
- Mr Lininger noted that we need to be able to link the environment and the welfare of the community. There is a growing disconnect between the people and the area they live in.
- Ms Weeldreyer said that the Siuslaw Watershed Council had a model program that kept some of the Federal timber harvest dollars for projects in the woods.
- Ms Weeldreyer also noted that conservation easements can be funded through OWEB. Lane County is entitled to some of the Measure 66 funding, and we should pursue getting some of these funds.
- Ms Weeldreyer added that Lane County has started its periodic watershed review.

III. Approval of the Agenda - Ms Garvey

The agenda was approved as posted.

IV. Approve January Council Meeting Minutes - Ms Garvey

Minutes approved as written.

V. Public Comment and Announcements

There was no comment or announcement.

VI. Coordinator's Remarks - Ms Chinitz

- The English ivy removal work party in the Springfield well fields will be Mar 1. The Cub Scouts are going to help. There will be refreshments. All are welcome.

- Household Hazardous Waste Roundup is Mar 15. Sarah Grimm is doing education/outreach at Westridge Middle School, Lundy Elementary, and at the Pleasant Hill Schools.
- Our web site is [www.mfwwc.org](http://www.mfwwc.org) <<http://www.mfwwc.org/>> . They are working on trying to make it more interactive.
- March 27 is the tentative date for a social event to meet our legislators. Mr Thrailkill from the McKenzie Watershed Council is working on it. He would like to hold the event in Eugene at the EWEB building and have a big turnout. (Someone mentioned that this date was during Spring Break.)

#### VII. Steering Committee Report - Mr Movsky

- Ms Chinitz's evaluation was completed at the last Steering Committee meeting.
- There are several grant applications pending.
- We are starting to work on our formal policy and procedure manual.

#### VIII. Budget Overview - Ms Chinitz

Ms Chinitz presented a clear picture of the financial status of the watershed council, including a handout.

#### IX. Survey of Weeds in the Upper Watershed - Mr Miller

Mr Miller has found the following weeds in the upper portion of the watershed: Japanese knotweed, butterfly bush, English ivy, and vinca. He would like to do a survey of the lower part of the watershed soon.

##### Japanese knotweed:

There are 5.5 acres net from Oakridge to Lookout Reservoir. It is found on every gravel bar and bank downstream of Oakridge, and in the Buckhead and Black Canyon campgrounds. It is a poor soil stabilizer. It rapidly alters the riparian function, forming monocultures in the stream corridors. It is spread by root fragments or pieces of stem. Nutria or beaver munching on a stem can release a lot of pieces in relatively short time. The control is based on work the Nature Conservancy has done. It takes 3-5 years to control it. They don't cut it; they root grub it out. This reduces the stand's vigor and height. Then they put a herbicide (Rodeo) on it. Near streams they have to use the injection method where they use a veterinary syringe to introduce herbicide into the plant.

##### Butterfly Bush:

Butterfly bush is becoming the dominant plant on the coast where it is damper than around Oakridge. Here the dry summers are hard on it. In Salmon Creek it is being replaced by the alders and willows. It loves open areas and gravel roadways; vacant lots in Oakridge are becoming infested. Butterflies use the bush as a late season nectar source. Their larva feed on the alders and willows, not butterfly bush. It spreads by seed. The favored control method is to pull it up; they use a winch to pull the bigger plants out. Root fragments do sprout.

##### English Ivy:

There is one big patch at Salmon Creek Bridge. It spreads by its seeds (berries). The ivy has to go up in the trees to get enough light to produce the berries. Mr Miller has been impressed with the Walama Restoration Project Work on ivy removal around Hendricks Park.

Vinca minor:

Vinca pushes everything else out. They don't know much about it yet.

X. Cooperative Noxious Weed Management in the Upper Willamette Basin-Mr Wise  
A year-and-a-half ago Willamette Basin Invasive Weed Management Partnership (WBIWMP) was formed. Its goal is to prevent the introduction of and to control the spread of invasive plant species in the Willamette Basin by facilitating cooperative management among all land managers. They also want to unite the individual ownerships and jurisdictions that make up the Willamette Basin, enabling them to work toward a common interest for the management of invasive species. This is not a new program but rather a forum. It has no authority. It is a tool for people to get together and try to leverage some funding such as the County Payments Title II funds. Cascade Pacific RC&D has the capacity to receive and manage funds for these projects and is the designated financial manager. Weed Management Areas (WMA) would be created in areas that have similar geography, weed problems, climate or human use patterns in order to facilitate cooperation in management of a common weed problem. A WMA that works across jurisdictional boundaries may assist County Weed Boards; they are not the same. At this point WBIWMP is looking for letters of support from the watershed councils. Mr Wise provided a Q & A handout, a timeline handout, and multiple handouts about invasive weed species.

XI. Next Meeting:

March 19, 2003

Lowell Ranger Station Meeting Room

Lowell, OR

6:30 PM

Meeting adjourned at 830 PM.

Barbara Hazen

Recorder