

Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council  
Steering Committee Minutes

27 April 2005  
Lowell, OR  
6:30 PM

Present: Chuck Davis, Barbara Hazen, Diana Bus, Peggy Marcus, Eve Montanaro, Adam Ulrey, Dan Hurley, Pat Burns, Paul Hoobyar

I. Introductions

II. Review Agenda - Ms Montanaro

III. MFWWC Priorities - Paul Hoobyar

Mr Hoobyar is working on a project with OWEB to figure out priorities so people applying for funding understand what OWEB's priorities are. OWEB has developed a framework to judge grant proposals that is being used on the Rogue, the John Day and now the Willamette. This framework is on their website. The Willamette is one of the most heavily studied basins in the region. A lot of planning is going on from agencies other than OWEB. OWEB wants to use local knowledge and local priorities to aggregate up to a basin-wide plan. The watershed councils and SWCD are a source of assessments and action plans. OWEB has divided the Willamette into 3 regions: Lower - below Willamette Falls, Middle - from Willamette Falls to the Calapooia and the Upper Region - above the Calapooia. John Runyon and Paul Hoobyar are trying to get the 27 watershed councils to partner in the planning. They will summarize the information at watershed, regional and basin levels and align this with other basin-wide priorities. For example: NWPPC has conservation themes in their Willamette Sub-basin Plan. It also deals with dams, fixing fish passage, focusing on valley and foothills wildlife, restoring lowland riparian areas, restoring low cost, high return areas of the Willamette floodplain, letting the river cool itself by seeping thru streamside gravels and side channels. DEQ TMDL is concerned about water quality limited streams.

OWEB has 5 principles in their framework.

Principle 1. Restore watershed connectivity for fish and wildlife. Restore access.

Principle 2. Restore watershed processes impacting the aquatic system, water quality limited streams and wildlife.

Principle 3. Restore key habitats and water quality for endangered and other listed species.

Principle 4. Reduce or eliminate human impacts and inputs into watersheds from landuse activities in the basin.

Principle 5. Address symptoms of disturbance that impact fish and wildlife populations and water quality limited streams. How do you address this in the near term and the long term?

The next steps are:

1. Regional meetings starting in May, Oct and Dec.

2. They will create a summary of the key issues and limiting factors in the watersheds.
3. They will summarize the restoration priorities.
4. If possible they will identify high priority projects and locations.

IV. Approval of the Mar 2005 Steering Committee (SC) minutes - Ms Montanaro

They were approved as written.

V. Steering Committee Issues/Concerns

Mr Ulrey asked for clarification about the Small Project Grants. The response was: refer anyone who is asking to Ms Montanaro who has the application forms and knows how much money is available and what OWEB is approving. Mr Bontrager is a project manager and does help put together the grant application. The committee that reviews the grant request consists of Juan Welsh, Megan Finnessy, Eve Montanaro, and Marc Paulman.

VI. Coordinator's Update - Ms Montanaro

- Ms Montanaro referred the Committee to the Staff Report she sent out last week.
- The Lost Creek Confluence Project costs will increase as the State is no longer able to loan us their equipment. We will need a weedeater and a lawn mower to take care of the weeds. The rental on the lawn mower is \$60/day.  
MOTION: Authorize Ms Montanaro to buy a weedeater and approve the rental of a mower for up to 3 times a year. Passed unanimously.
- Joe Fraley's Contract. If we switch employment agencies from Cardinal to Select Temp Joe Fraley, our caretaker at Lost Creek Confluence project, will get more money.  
MOTION: Switch Mr Fraley's contract to Select Temp employment agency. Passed unanimously.

VII. Exit Interview Recommendations - Ms Montanaro

One of the questions is how we create a corporate memory. Suggestions made: orientation for new SC members, have a cue sheet as to what is going on, a buddy system and a field trip to acquaint the new member with the watershed.

Another issue revolved around people saying they'll do something and then not doing it. Ms Montanaro suggested that people take on what they are interested in doing and be honest about it.

VIII. Steering Committee Vacancy - Ms Montanaro

With the resignation of James Johnston the designated Environmental seat is vacant. Suggestions for finding the new member included advertising in the May newsletter and emailing the local environmental groups. Mr Ulrey said that he would ask Mr Bontrager re:an Audubon candidate; Ms Hazen will ask the Sierra Club. The groups that nominate a candidate will pick the seat holder.

IX. Budget Committee - Ms Bus

Ms Bus, Ms Hazen, Ms Chinitz and Ms Montanaro met and reviewed the budget and the way our bills are paid and expenses are accounted for. They recommend that MFWWC have a Treasurer; it would be safer for the coordinator. This person would not have to be on the SC. A full job description would need to be developed. They also recommend a Finance Committee to look at funding strategies. The Budget Committee needs a new member as Mr Weber resigned. We will invite the membership to join.

X. Dirk-Edwards Gift - Ms Montanaro

We had decided that we wanted to spend the money on education and outreach. Diane Davis and Kate Fischbinder were not available. There is an outdoor school in Oakridge which 6<sup>th</sup> graders attend. We could give scholarships for kids who couldn't go otherwise. Mt Pisgah also has a week long summer camp; we could provide scholarships to this. We might be able to develop a fund to provide scholarships every year. The SC directed Ms Montanaro to look into funding kids for the outdoor school first, checking to see if we could fund some of the travel expenses to Oakridge and with what is left of the first \$1000 fund some scholarships to Mt Pisgah summer camp. They also directed her to see if there is an opportunity to support kids in the watershed first, to advertise the Mt Pisgah scholarships at our local schools and to look into spending the rest of the money for something like "Forest Forever". Alternate suggestions were: a portable kiosk, games to draw people to our booth, educational materials and pamphlets.

XI. Representation at OWEB Prioritization Meeting

Mr Ulrey and Ms Hazen said they would represent the MFWWC at the meeting Wed May 18, 7-9 PM in Eugene in the EWEB Training Room.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Barbara Hazen  
Recorder