

Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council Meeting Minutes February 28, 2007

Attendees: Bryan Von Bargaen, Chuck Spies, Chuck Davis, Don Hampton, Pat Burns, Kelly Von Bargaen, Stephanie Schroeder, Nancy Sawtelle, Eve Montanaro

No objection to approve minutes.

Announcements:

- Don—Next tree planting date sat, May 5th or 6th at another location in Oakridge. Opportunity for council members to come out and participate in event.
- Stephanie- Oregon plant sale May 12th at Alton Baker Park in Eugene.
- Household hazardous waste round-up in Mid Fork Watershed on March 17th.
- Steering Committee discussed ideas for drawing in more community members, recreationists, anglers, etc. to participate in Council activities. Some ideas included doing more interactive events, facilitating more community presentations, corralling local people in Oakridge/Westfir communities, participating in local fairs in Oakridge/Lowell, making more personal phone calls to community members, and getting advocates from already established organizations.
- Chuck D.--Ag chemical round-up update: At least 11 tons of waste have been removed from the mid fork watershed as a result of this program. A report on amounts, types of hazardous waste, and successes will be available soon.
- Chuck S.- The CORPS has drafted its management plan for Dexter reservoir. The Council is being encouraged to make comments on the draft. Comment period for reviewing the plan is March 17th. Eve has a link to send out to the General Council for providing comments.
- Bryan—starting flow management season. Had spawning occur below in Dexter for the first time in years. CORPS has been proactively doing Chinook studies (following ODFW protocol) with many survival rates (much more than ODFW). This project is going very well and is very groundbreaking work.

Introductions:

The SC welcomes Brian, Chuck, and Don. Eve is excited about the new additions to the Steering Committee.

Coordinator Corner

Staff report was sent out to SC for them to review. Highlighted issues include:

- *Office situation*- Eve doesn't have any concrete answers on where the office will go. The SC would like to have an office centrally located in the watershed. Eve will continue to converse with people about the office situation.

- *SC member orientation*- Eve has spent time with all three new members. Eve offered an opportunity to learn about the SC with a current member as an additional orientation. Chuck Davis and Barb (chuck is speaking for her) are both willing to participate. Don has been on SC before, and feels like he doesn't need an orientation (has been on the GC for years). Eve suggests that he meet with a long-time member anyway to build a relationship with other members of the team.
- *Presentation to OWEB Board (3/14)* - Their quarterly meeting will be held in Eugene, and has asked a group of organizations in this area to make presentations to the board, including the middle fork, MWC, CFWWC, City of Eugene, MRT, and ELSWCD. Eve will be working with these groups to pull the presentation together. All are invited to the meeting. Each group will present a core project (Eve wants to do the Lost Creek Confluence Project). Eve asked SC to offer any other suggestions for the presentation.
- *Presentation to Lane County Commissioner* - Every year MFWWC makes a presentation. Eve has been meeting with the other Lane County watershed councils to discuss what to focus on for the presentation. The meeting will be held on April 18th. SC members are welcome to come. A SC member will introduce the presentation and each participant will talk to a particular slide, and then hand it over to the board members. They want a diverse group of members. Chip Weber will participate in the project. Nancy commented that this is a good venture because it shows the commission that the Council will help leverage funding for watershed restoration/education projects in this watershed. Eve is working on three different other projects with other council/agencies. It is nice to be collaborating with all of these groups.
- *Public outreach proposal* - Eve proposes to open the topic to the SC and then allow for the SC to bring any issues to the table via email. The Public Outreach Campaign will focus around how the Council can expand its membership and connections with private landowners. Eve's concern: The Council generally has 10-11 GC mtgs/yr, but the same core group of people attend. Eve is finding it challenging to bring in multiple speakers. Eve feels that outreach can be focused in other areas and will be more effective. Eve proposed to decrease the number of GC mtgs and focus the energy on finding more effective methods to reach the public. Eve presented goals at the past SC meeting. Nancy and Chuck S. agree with Eve's proposal. Don suggests outreach to TEAM Lowell. Chuck S. suggests a 'canned' presentation for all SC members to have the ability to present to their communities, agencies, events, etc. Pat suggests a stream bed demo for use at a festival to draw in people. Eve suggested to get more specific on GC meetings and to host a yearly presentation on a topic that the public can look forward to. Chuck D. makes a motion to vote and Bryan seconds. All in favor.
- *Outreach coordinator position*—Eve suggests gathering funding for a new FTE .25 position that will focus solely on outreach and/or providing some assistance to the Coordinator. Eve wears several different hats and feels that she doesn't do justice to all of them. An assistant coordinator would help in cohesiveness and could take responsibility for several tasks

- Bryan asked if he could provide an alternate when he's gone. Council said that an alternate won't be able to vote. Bryan will have the same issue as Chip does with voting on financial issues.

8:25 Meeting adjourned.