



LWC Board Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2021

Via web conference

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by Treasurer George Grosch.

Introductions:

Board Members: Wendy Hudson, Dave Ehlers, George Grosch, Scott Youngblood, Karin Stutzman (left after EnO update), Jackson Stalley, Britton Castor (elected)

Staff: Kristen Larson, Suzanne Teller

Guests: Judy Walrod Maule, Kelly Wiggins, Nancy Sullivan, Amy Pinkley-Wernz, and Matt Malinowski

Approval of Minutes:

Wendy Hudson, President

The January 14, 2021 minutes were distributed prior to the meeting (Attachment A).

The board approved unanimously.

Committee Announcements:

Wendy shared that the Fundraising Committee is hard at work developing a new fundraising program for planned giving and will plan to present at the next meeting.

Public Comments:

No public comments

Mission Moment:

Suzanne shared an email received in response to the native plant workshop. The sender enjoyed the workshop and is planning to adopt two acres behind his lot and developed into bird and wildflower haven. Wendy commented on the successful 20th Anniversary virtual event, stating about 29 attended in its entirety. Appreciation was also given to Matt for his work contributing to this event. Kristen has been invited to speak to the local Rotary and Lions Club as a result of this event.

Karin shared that they have seen foxes that they have been watching for the past several years on their property and are encouraged to see they are doing well, additionally seeing elk and swans.

Board Training (Technical) Debrief ODFW:

Scott Youngblood

Board members were asked to listen to the Beavers Podcast, Part I in advance of the meeting. Scott sent out questions to the board in advance and shared what he felt was interesting about the podcast. Other board members shared their thoughts on the podcast and what they learned. Scott then led the group through his questions and the members of the group responded, encouraging discussion.

Kristen announced that grant evaluations came out today from OWEB, and LWC has been recommended for funding for both beaver grants. Nothing is official until the OWEB Board awards funding at its March meeting.

Executive Committee (EC):

Wendy Hudson, Chair

Elect Britton Castor as Board Member

George Grosch nominated Britton Castor to the Board.

The board approved unanimously.

BEF Project Management Contract Modification (Attachment B, Action Item)

Kristen provided an overview of current contract and changes. Kristen recommended approval of modification to increase the contract not to exceed \$10,000, new total not to exceed \$63,000.

The board approved unanimously.

Review Self-Assessment Results (Attachment C)

Results of the OWEB survey board members took in December were distributed prior to the meeting. Wendy presented the results and explained what will need to be submitted to OWEB. The Board must agree on one value for each element and then choose four items that are priorities for the next biennium. The group reviewed and discussed the scores, specifically those scores that did not have a clear majority.

After discussion adjustments were made to those results that did not have a clear majority:

1. Leadership/Board Involvement & Support – in favor to select level three
2. Skills, Abilities & Volunteer Commitment – in favor to select level three
3. Management of Legal & Liability Matters – in favor to select level two

After further discussion about the areas of priorities and how the tool is used, Wendy proposed finalizing the top four priorities with the board agreeing to the following:

1. Dependence of organizations' leaders & Staff on ED
2. Volunteer Management
3. Community Involvement
4. Community Presence & Standing

EnO Program Update:

Suzanne Teller, Outreach Coordinator

Annual reports were provided from Vicky. Suzanne presented her presentation *Love (Your Watershed) in the Time of COVID-19*, highlighting EnO work in 2020. She also shared projects coming up in the following weeks including conifer planting, website updates, the 20th anniversary photo contest, TEK video series and a spring Sips 'n' Science. Possible program on

The LWC envisions communities working together to create vital, vibrant watersheds of thriving native fish populations and diverse, healthy habitats shared by people, plants and animals.



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indigenous populations in partnership with Grand Ronde and current natural resource management activities and strategies.

Finance Committee (FC):

George Grosch, Treasurer

The December 2020 Preliminary Financial Report (Attachment D) was distributed prior to the meeting. Large funds received for income with a few small operating or project expenses noted. This report is not final because Kristen and Gloria (bookkeeper) are still finishing necessary year-end entries, but George stated he is not expecting significant changes.

Governance Committee (GC):

George Grosch, Chair

Retire Single Point of Contact Policy (Attachment E, Action Item)

George presented background for why the LWC originally adopted this policy. After discussion the committee recommended retire single point of contact policy. Since the board originally adopted it, the GC felt the Board should act to retire it.

The board approved unanimously.

The board also discussed that board member position descriptions should be updated soon. The update can incorporate language around appropriate communications from board members. GC will work on proposed language to bring through the EC and then to the Board.

Executive Director Update:

Kristen Larson, Executive Director

Kristen highlighted several items from her Monthly Activity Report (Attachment F) which was distributed prior to the meeting. Items highlighted included the approved forgiveness of the 2020 PPP loan, and the pending the submission of a second PPP application; she noted Caleb's last day with LWC and that board members were encouraged to sign the ecard and to contribute to gift; LWC will be contracting with EDI, LLC for DEI training and a planning team has been formed and will be meeting soon.

One Tree Planted (OTP) has contacted LWC, regarding the 2021 contribution based on planting credits. OTP donates 70 cents per plant based on the numbers of plantings that LWC reported. Kristen shared proposal on how the funds could be distributed, including adding to the operating reserve. Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF) has been managing the communications with OTP. Kristen will organize thank you e-cards for both BEF staff for this help and for OTP for the donation. She will provide planting photos for people to use in the cards.

Kristen talked briefly about ongoing plans to create the new position of assistant director. She is proposing reserving some of this year's OTP donation to build a reserve for this position. BEF is hopeful there will be similar donations next year. Meanwhile, Kristen will draft more detail around the position and budget. LWC can work to leverage 2021 funds with grants.

Fundraising Committee:

Wendy Hudson, Chair

Board members shared updates on their efforts to reach out to folks who have not yet renewed with the Friends of the LWC for 2021. Some successes (contact made and subsequent donations made), others not able to make contact. Seems to be a worthwhile endeavor – not too labor intensive for each Board member, good conversations if contact made, and results in some contributions. A few members not finished, will follow up soon.

Topics for Future Consideration: None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.