

Luckiamute Watershed Council

Minutes for May 14, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Kelly Gordon at 7:05pm at Falls City High School, in Falls City, Oregon.

Introductions of members and guests were held; Board members present were Karin Stutzman (formerly Nembach), Steve DeGoey, Kelly Gordon, Ed Miller; Council Coordinator Kristen Larson.

Minutes from April 9, 2015 meeting were approved with changes (update location) by consensus.

MRWC Collaboration discussion and follow-up to Steering Committee meeting with guest David Atkin (lawyer at Center for Nonprofit Support): Kristen and Steve provided summary of April 10 joint meeting with MRWC for board members that were not present. Kristen provided summary of SC meeting with David Atkin (see meeting minutes). David Atkin provided information about potential costs of transitioning to a 501c3 entity and how the process would work. David Atkin discussed legal perspective and options for potential restructuring with another organization such as the Marys River WC. Result of SC discussion was SC feeling that pursuing merger with MRWC is not best option at this time and LWC should consider pursuing 501c3 and continue exploring other ways to collaborate with MRWC and others. MRWC wants to pursue negotiations including merger. Board members present shared individual perspectives on the best path forward; many different opinions exist across board members. Next step is joint tour with MRWC staff and board members to visit LWC projects sites and socialize, on June 4 for those that can attend.

Fiscal Sponsorship arrangement: Kristen met with Xan and Mary to review first year of fiscal sponsorship and discuss potential changes. MRWC may revisit fee structure and propose changes. Overall, both organizations feel it's going very well and are happy with the relationship.

Fundraising: Burgerville event April 22 raised about \$169 from percent of sales and \$116.53 in donations. Deposit will show on May financials. Next Burgerville night will be in July. Rockin' the River at Rogue Farms event on June 17 - planning is in full swing. Save the date, let Gail and Kristen know if you can help. Please help ask for donation items for the silent auction.

Treasurer's Report: refer to packet report for March. LWC FY Budget to Actual includes new column showing original approved FY budget so board can see how we're doing compared to original (versus FY budget that we have adjusted as the year progresses).

Draft Fiscal Policies: Board reviewed each draft document and discussed policy options. Next steps - Kristen will send revisions back to David Atkin for review, SC will speak with David Atkin via phone or Skype at next SC meeting, and bring revised drafts back to board next month.

Budgets: End of fiscal year will require some shifting between line items to spend funds down by the end of certain grants (especially council support grant and prior year MMT model watershed grant).

Fiscal Year 2016 budget is in development phase. Kristen summarized assumptions for building the budget and what unknowns exist. Discussed payroll and budgets for staff; include at least a potential cost of living increase if board wishes to award. Discussed format will change slightly as finance committee works to better represent revenue in the budget.

Board Profile / Programming Stakeholders response: Kristen is working on summarizing responses from board members. SC is working on identifying LWC board gaps in skills / geographies represented and identify best individuals to fill those gaps, especially people we already have connections with.

Projects: Two funding updates – MMT will provide some funding to the seven Model Watershed Councils so that reveg work can move forward with site preparation in 2015 and planting in 2016. OWEB's SIP to FIP transition disrupted funding cycles and left MW groups without option for riparian restoration funding and MMT will fill that gap. LWC identified about 8.5 acres and will be awarded \$75,000 for reveg, paid in multiple payments over the next few years. Second – OWEB board approved the FIP priorities for the state at its April 28 / 29 board meeting. For LWC, only the mainstem Willamette is eligible for FIP. LWC is included in discussion of mainstem Willamette FIP proposal and may or may not be included in proposal pending project selection criteria decided by the partners; pre-proposals are due July 1.

Meeting adjourned 9:00pm