

Meeting Notes April 2, 2009: MCWC Council Meeting

Attendance: Sam Adams, Jennifer Beathe, Jan Christensen, Paul Engelmeyer, Wayne Hoffman, Bob Kemp, Jeff Light, Elmer Ostling, Jay Robinson, Tom Shafer, Mark Stone

Recorder's Report: At the March meeting, the council voted on a motion to send a letter of support for Marine Reserves. The motion failed, with 2 no votes, and one abstention. The council voted to change the TECH Team date from March 19 to March 26.

Treasurer's Report: We have \$31,000 cash in the bank, about \$7,300 in accounts payable, and \$80,000 in Accounts Receivable.

TECH Team Report. TECH Considered 6 items.

1. The TECH Team discussed a proposal developed by Jason Kirchner to replace a tidal culvert on SE 35th Street in South Beach. The Council previously received a Technical Assistance Grant for design work on it. The proposal is to replace the undersized, perched culvert with a 96" round culvert with a corrosion-resistant coating. Council voted to approve grant submission, subject to final review by the TECH Team at its April 16 meeting.
2. Five Rivers Fishway. This project will be delayed a year for the Forest Service to complete NEPA analyses.
3. Technical Assistance proposal for implementing 2 Limiting Factors Analyses. This proposal needs much work, so Council voted to delegate authority to submit this proposal to the TECH Team.
4. Federal Stimulus Projects. Wayne reported that he had received multiple requests for short project descriptions for potential funding using federal stimulus dollars. He forwarded 2 passage projects from ODF and 10 road sediment and passage projects from Plum Creek Timberlands to OWEB. If these are funded the council will not have had an opportunity for its normal project review process. Council voted (two abstentions – Jeff Light and Sam Adams, whose employers might benefit) to authorize council participation in these projects if funded.
5. TECH Team continued its review of science concepts for the Education Program, and added a few items. The list is available from Wayne or Virginia.
6. Council voted to approve submission of a letter of support for the proposal to use NOAA stimulus funds for removal of the SS Pasley and SS Hennibique, and restoration of the bay bottom under them, as an adjunct to the Port of Newport's International Terminal Reconstruction.

Refreshment Break. Jan provided awesome bars with almonds and dried pears, also cheese and triskets, pranges and grapefruit. Elmer brought a tasty white cake drizzled in reduced orange juice.

Siletz WC Report: Siletz WC will hold its annual River Cleanup April 4, from 9 AM till 2 PM. Several parties will work from drift boats, while others will clean up the public access points. A picnic will follow.

Yaquina Group Report. For April the group is planning a Kayak outing, and a field trip to the Highway 20 construction.

Salmon-Drift WC: No report was presented.

ADMIN Report: ADMIN Approved the financial statement. ADMIN voted to pass off to the Salmon-Drift WC responsibility for payroll for their fisher crew and other employees, as they are hiring a fiscal manager. This would happen by the beginning of the Fiscal year. ADMIN voted to pay an invoice to Bio-Surveys for work on the Yaquina Beaver project, but to subtract the amount of the subcontractor bill we paid, for work prior to the receipt of the grant agreement. An explanatory note was sent with the payment. Sam Adams is beginning to work on some improvements to the web site. Wayne is working with Virginia on seeing how the curriculum incorporates the science concepts that TECH proposed.

Education Report: Attached

Coordinator's Report: Attached

Announcements: Jeff Light announced that he wants to schedule a field trip to the site of the new Alsea Watershed Study for April 30.

Adjourned: 8:35 PM.

MidCoast Education Report for March 2009

MCWC now has **Work Experience Training Agreement/Career Related Learning Experience** arrangement between natural resource agencies and Lincoln County School District. The Outdoor School Counselors will need to spend at least 60 to 65 hours with one of our groups in order to earn 0.5 career related learning experience credit. [I would like a description of work you have, contact process, etc. from any of you who are interested in high school students as "free" helpers.](#) There is a minimal amount of paperwork involved. This should be about 80 high school students per year.

Outdoor School Counselors will earn 0.25 credits from their completed counselor training and successful Outdoor School experience. In order to earn 0.5 credits, they need to spend at least 60 to 65 hours working with one of our groups. They may work at more than one agency but to get the best experience, it is recommended that they use all 60-65 hours within one agency.

Natural Resource Crew members and service learning students should complete the paperwork needed by Lincoln County Schools from their parents prior to contacting the natural resource agency at which they are interested in working. The student will be responsible to set up the internship, paid or non-paid, with one of our groups. They need to spend at least 130 hours with one of our groups. For those students that want to do this, Jess Wilson can work with them to make sure all is in place.

Successful completion of this program will give them a .5 credit.

Jess.Wilson@lincoln.k12.or.us

We are creating a Lincoln County Youth Resource Guide to inform our community members of resources available for our youth. The purpose of this event is to have a meaningful and interactive conversation concerning the state of our economy & its effect on our youth/ youth programs/ and the larger community. You can be added to the resource guide by contacting: Lisa Higgins [paadadfc@gmail.com]

March 23rd: the juvenile detention group met at Yachats River site at Hap Ayers and cut Red Osier Dogwood that will be used for streamside plantings in April. Thanks to Mrs. Ayers, we had wonderful cookies. 15 youth really did a great job & got about 5000 trees.

March 27 @ 10:00 am. Summer Natural Resource Crew mtg at CSC. Funding is looking good for about 10 crews but we haven't gotten specific details yet.

March 31st we held our first collaborative outdoor school counselor training. BLM, LSCD, OSU, USFS and MCWC were the trainers. 20 high school students attended at YHONA.

Upcoming EVENTS: Donald S. Gamiles, PhD from Argos Scientific, Inc., Phone 404 403-4709, Fax 815 572-0443 www.argos-sci.com is coming to Toledo to test the air during the week of April of 6-10th. This request arose from the Toledo Middle School students in the after school program.

April 17th: "under one sky, along one stream" event at LaSalle Steward Center-Corvallis.

April 21st Olalla Creek planting event

April 22nd, community wide Earth Day events, Aquarium Events 10-5

April 23, 24 Schooner Creek field trips.

April 27-May 1 Outdoor School Newport Middle School

Coordinator's Report for March 2009

Much of my activity this month has already been covered in the TECH Team report. I have been working quite a bit with stimulus funding opportunities and with the grant applications for the April round. The Port of Newport information was also in the TECH Team report.

The Network of Oregon Watersheds Councils is having its annual Gathering will be Oct. 27-30 at the Running Y Ranch outside Klamath Falls. This is a pretty neat facility and should be a very interesting conference. Should be awesome field trips.

I attended the first day of the OWEB Board meeting on March 15. The board approved funding for our Bummer Creek restoration project, and for our Bummer Creek Technical Assistance project, but not for the Education Program application.

At the OWEB meeting Tom Byler informed me that Cindy Ashy had contacted several legislators (I think by email) and claimed that they needed to make Watershed Councils subject to Public Meeting Laws because councils get so much public money. He told me that he was following up with some of them, and would tell them that OWEB is keeping close account of all public funds that it grants to councils and everyone else. He was also planning to tell them that there have not been any major issues of scandals with watershed council financing to date. And finally, he would warn them notto engage with Ms. Ashy because if they did they could expect to find her monopolizing the time of their staff.

An issue has arisen statewide about Audits. The legislature has recently changed the rules for audits of governmental bodies including SWCDs and other special districts. The new rules make audits much more expensive. Audits that have cost \$2000 to \$3000 may now cost over \$10,000. These rules do not apply directly to us, but most of the CPAs in Oregon who have been doing these audits have discontinued the service, including Tony Wilder, who has been doing ours. This year we will be able to get an Audit Review done, but in the future, who knows. I think several organizations are petitioning the legislature for relief, but I have not heard whether they are having any success.

Wayne Hoffman