

MidCoast Watershed Council Meeting
5 Nov 09

Introductions: 19 people in attendance

Recorder's Report: A number of official actions were taken last month to approve submittal of grant applications to OWEB based on tech team approval. Recorder's notes were forgotten so the names of the applications approved for submittal will be reported next month.

Treasurer's Report: Accessed line of credit due to delay from new forms for invoicing OWEB Approximately 25,000 in the bank at the end of October.

Educational Program: Coastal dikes and Levees Inventory by Laura Mattison. Laura Mattison is a NOAA Fellow working for Dept of Land Conservation and Development's Oregon Coastal Zone Management Program. Contact information 971-673-0967 office Lauramattison@state.or.us

She provided a one page summary of the effort, which covered the who, what, when, where, why and how of the program.

She'll be inventorying and mapping (GIS) the number and condition of dikes, ditches, levees and tidegates and the land uses that exist behind the structures to support strategic planning for the impacts of climate change because of increase in storms and flooding. Collection of the information so that decision makers and landowners can make decisions on what structures need to be protected, which are adequately maintained and which areas should be restored to tidal influence.

FEMA has created a systems but it isn't very accurate-100 year flood plain or sea level rise. Laura's work is not tied to FEMA.

The project is being done along the entire coast-ocean to head of tide and beyond a bit-based upon slope. Looking at areas within the 500 year floodplain for each of the estuary systems. LiDAR data for elevation is being used. Also using air photos. She'll return with a map that has some items on it that need feedback and details added. Attributes will need to be added. She then will meet with key folks who are interested in sharing their knowledge and verify what people know (e.g. areas where dikes are planned for removal) and check out unclear areas (LiDAR sometimes shows levees as hedges) Will seek input from many users, landowners. Project occurring over the next two years..

Encouraged to get the 1930 aerials from ODOT as baseline information. NOAA has photos, EPA has photos too.

Break—Thanks go to Jan Christensen once again for providing excellent snacks and beverages. Chantrelle stuffed celery was one of the features; pumpkin cake another.

Tech Team Report-4 grants were reviewed

Bummer creek, Feagles creek

OWEB Strategic Plan and comments: Council should comment and have developed a set of comments for OWEB plan. Ask Council to vote to submit as comments from the Council. Friendly overall to the Plan and sharpen the language. Motion made to submit the comments by Jan seconded by Sam. Passed one abstension.

Basin Planning Team reports-**Siletz**-Greg Harlow gave out copies of report. Got their grant for the Mill Park Survey to develop the city park and educational resource. SWSC is the lead group for the Park project.

Yaquina Outreach Coordinator-A new coordinator has been hired to do outreach and education within the watershed area. She will do outreach to existing groups to inform and involve them in our efforts. Lisa Mulcahy introduced herself and gave a little background about herself. She has worked for SeaGrant and ODFW as an educator regarding marine and aquatic topics and was the manager of the Seafest celebration last year. 541-265-5438 message

Salmon-Drift Watershed Council report was provided as a handout and summarized by Corinna Chase. They recently completed a Tamara Quays volunteer day 30 people showed up to help. Celebration to welcome back the tides to Tamara Quays. Brochure for the watershed council for comments. Recently Sampson drift log placement, barrier assessment, couple of sites need to be checked but most of the ground work is done, \$600 from Siletz Tribal fund for outreach for septic outreach. Repair of many failing systems are needed. Programs need to be advantageous to landowners. Septic maintenance person is available from the County. Photos were taken by soil and water of algae blooms from failed septic systems. Large log placement for Bear Creek was submitted to OWEB. Larger space at old Taft Elem site will be their new office. 10th Nov is next meeting-TBA. Guy Siebert will be their educational speaker about ecosystems-carbon clock-to sell carbon credits. Network meeting was

attended by Corinna. Future meetings include an elk forum that will discuss the history and biology of the elk herds here on the coast. 2nd Tues in Dec.

Alsea Watershed Council-welcomes Yaquina Coordinator. Will be resubmitting technical assistance grant to Ecotrust. Chum on Canal Creek. Next meeting Nov 19th at Fall Creek last meeting of year. At fish hatchery at 7 pm. No Dec meeting. Kelly Hockema's place on Five River's is available for spawning viewing if we make arrangements with him.

Admin Committee- The MCWC used our line of credit while invoices were in review by OWEB. Got \$13,000 extra funds from OWEB, voted to give \$1000 more to Salmon drift and \$1000 more to Siletz this year. Discussed MCWC comments on OWEB strategic plan draft. We reviewed a proposed MOU about shared office space with LSWCD. Wayne learned at Klamath Falls, 990 tax return is readily accessible on the web and there is a place where descriptive information about the group can be used advantageously. Foundations often request copies of 990 tax returns. A fundraising mailing can be put out through the Central Lincoln PUD's mailing list. A coordinated effort with the other councils might be productive for all. Annual report materials being gathered.

Education Committee: Introduced Ralph Breitenstein who will be one of the leaders for the Natural Resource Crews doing invasive species and other monitoring on the Yaquina. Viva Worthington deputy district ranger for the USFS will also make use of the NRC crews for trash clean-up efforts.

Coordinator report-October was busy: 7 grants delivered, 2 monitoring, 2 education and 3 restoration grants. One is outreach grant with Alsea for the 5 river and upper Yaquina area regarding limiting factor follow-up for project development. Attended the Network of Oregon Watershed Council Klamath Falls meeting-network gave award to OWEB deputy director Ken Bierly. Rennie Ferris, Bob Kemp, and Corinna Chase also attended. Wayne reported on some of the sessions he attended:

Session on: Pricing and marketing ecosystem-starting in Willamette Valley-clean water services for Washington County. They are looking for opportunities to improve water through market based approach-pay for temperature management, filtration. Pay for watershed improvements and cool the whole stream so that the effluent won't raise the temperature above critical levels. Some market forming.

Session on: Carbon offset trading and marketing. Europe has market. US market was set up out of Chicago and not working yet. Probably, Congress will need to set up standards so that the buyer and seller will have standards.

Session on: climate change in Oregon, higher percent of rain, lower snow pack, melt earlier in spring runoff earlier and smaller, ecological functions will be impacted, longer hotter summer, increased fire danger. West side of Oregon, less snow pack than in past, 10 year intervals now for snow pack. One thing we might expect is increased fire danger and longer dry summer periods. One of the issues-at what point do we need to think about the trees we plant-where the seeds came from-should we be changing our root stock? We can expect reduced stream flow, lower flows, projects that we can do that will support water table maintenance and source capacity could have a benefit.

Session on: water resource strategy, working consistently on a strategic plan and sources for public use sources-balanced into the future. One of the things water resources does is gives grants for feasibility studies for new reservoirs for water storage. Maybe other methods could be studied for water storage.

Session on: recovery plans, Jeff Blackwood-Umatilla, Tom Stahl-ODFW, Sue Knapp from governors office, Ken Berily (SP)

Corrina Chase mentioned a few of the sessions she had attended: Session on organizational development strand, didn't learn as much as previous time since it wasn't as new but did learn about billing hourly + benefits. Spreadsheet . She also attended session on: Tillamook-Accounting for restoration workshops, lots of details and move things around to understand. Examples of books for ongoing projects. Also session on: Climate change portion, preparation for new era, what can we do? Dr. Brenda Bateman-water conservation wasn't really mentioned in the conference. One idea is a contingency line item in the budget-5-30% with explanations.

Other items: Marine Reserves ODFW is moving ahead with planning process, sign up period on their website and apply to be a member of the advisory committee. On Marine reserve website: <http://www.oregonmarinereserves.net/>

Wave generation-OSU team- Annette von Jouanne have deployed buoys for testing at a site near Yaquina Head.

Kip spawning surveys-tributary of Coho-Drift Creek Camp had redds-Coho, Chum, Chum above Morgan Park-Bear Creek, Eucre Creek, Bear Big Elk-a little

action everywhere, Chinook counts in Siletz-fish seem to move based upon temperature more than on rainfall.

Announcements:

John Spangler is working at ODFW in Florence now. New job is a promotion. John served for many years on the tech team and gave its reports, served also as the MCWC's rep. on the small grant team. A thank you card was circulated for him.

Celebration was held regarding the acquisition of lands for conservation at Beaver Creek (Ona Beach). Coastal estuary grant-state parks, wetland conservancy-other monies, 300 acres purchased, including 100 acres of wetlands and beautiful uplands with about 5 miles of trails. Will be managed as a natural area. Celebration involved many neighbors as well as agency people and had donations of an incredible lunch from Local Ocean Seafoods (Laura Anderson, proprietor and former part time watershed coordinator for the MidCoast Watersheds Council in its early days), with a neighbor (Blythe ___ providing wonderful dessert and a vegan squash dish, Old River Coffee Roasters, a Siletz Based coffee company (Herb Jennings proprietor) provided coffee and cidar and a new company out of Portland (Smith Brothers) provided tea. This food help emphasize the connection between a healthy environment and the local economy it can support.

Fred Meyer is distributing information about the handling of drugs so they aren't discarded into the septic and sewer system as has been done in the past.

Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District is recognizing Virginia Tardaewether with an award for her exceptional education work.

DEQ is accepting comments about the proposed asphalt plant in Toledo.
Hearing Nov 19th