



**Council
Minutes Meeting of
December 6, 2017**

Stakeholders Present:

Bob Baumgartner	Service Districts (Sewerage) Primary Representative, Clean Water Services
Ruby Buchholtz	Environmental Organizations Primary Representative, Tualatin Riverkeepers
Eric Chambers	Small Woodland Owners Alternate Representative, Washington County Small Woodlands Association
Mike Conroy	Substituting for the Soil & Water Conservation District Primary Representative, Tualatin SWCD
Stephen Cruise	County Primary Representative, Washington County
Alfred Dinsdale	Environmental Organizations Alternate Representative, Tualatin Riverkeepers
Kristel Griffith	Water Districts, Primary Representative, City of Hillsboro Water Department
Ariel Kanabe	Business and Industry Representative, Washington County Visitors Association, Primary Representative (shared position)
Jan Miller	Citizen at Large Primary Representative
Tom Nygren	Small Woodland Owners Primary Representative, Washington County Small Woodlands Association
Jon Pampush	Fisheries Primary Representative, Trout Unlimited
Erin Poor	Citizen at Large Primary Representative
Victoria Saager	Citizen at Large Primary Representative
Carla Staedter	Parks Alternate Representative, City of Tigard Parks
Rich Van Buskirk	Education Primary Representative, Pacific University
Ross Van Loo	Citizen at Large Primary Representative
Dave Waffle	City Alternate Representative, City of Beaverton

Staff Present

Karlene McCabe	TRWC Transition Manager
April Olbrich	TRWC Coordinator

Guests Present:

Lilliann Meek	Pacific University student, presenter
Wade Peerman	Oregon Dept. of Env. Quality, Tualatin Basin Coordinator
Chris Toole	Tualatin Basin resident
Johanna Wood	Pacific University student, presenter

Welcome and Introductions: The meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m. with introductions and Rich Van Buskirk encouraging members to attend the Steering Committee meetings.

Approval of November TRWC minutes: A motion was made by Jan Miller and seconded by Dave Waffle to adopt the November meeting minutes, which were adopted by consensus.

Public Comments:

Washington County Visitors Association informed the group of a grant they have available due March 1. The focus of the grant is to increase tourism through capital projects. The grant will fund 75% of the project, up to \$35,000.

There is a 4-County Cooperative Weed Management Event January 10 at the McMenamins Kennedy School.

Wade Peerman with Oregon DEQ informed the group of a DEQ grant opportunity open until January 8. 319 Grants fund restoration and water quality actions. The grant requires a 50% match, and funds projects up to \$20,000.

River Restoration Northwest Symposium is the first week of February. The TRWC will have a poster at the Symposium this year, sharing the Gales Creek Restoration Action Plan work.

Presentation: Story Mapping Tualatin Basin spawning survey results.

Pacific University students Lilliann Meek and Johanna Wood shared their work on a story mapping project of spawning coho in the Tualatin basin. The story mapping interface allows users and map visitors an opportunity to learn general information on coho salmon spawning and their importance to the ecosystem. The introductory page includes a video of salmon spawning. As users interact with the interface, they can look at spawning data for individual sub-basins.

The story map is a great way for citizen scientists to get involved and generate additional interest in the life in area streams. Citizen scientists who see spawning occur can then add information to the story map through interactions with the administrator.

One interesting idea brought up in the group discussion was to have users click on a dot where salmon were seen spawning, and have their pathway to that location light up.

Presentation: Summary from November 15, 2017 Steering Committee phone conference with Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) regarding Council Capacity funding.

Stephen Cruise gave a summary of the conversation the Steering Committee had with OWEB regarding Council Capacity funding on November 15.

Between 1999 and 2016, OWEB has invested \$4,263,789 in Washington County. The top two funding categories are Restoration & Acquisition at 56.5%, and Local Capacity funding at 30.8%.

In 2017-19, OWEB will be spending \$6.75 million to fund 60 Watershed Councils. OWEB anticipates the funding amount to stay static, which will end up diluting the available funding to individual Councils over time.

OWEB stated that the Council Capacity Grant funding can be used for anything by the Council. OWEB understands that their funds do not fully fund Council needs and is encouraging Councils to pursue partnerships within a geographic area. In order to receive full funding from OWEB for Council Capacity Grants, Councils are judged on 5 criteria (Effective Governance, Effective Management, Progress in Planning, Progress in on the ground watershed restoration, and progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes). While OWEB used to count how many widgets Councils made, they now look at how Councils are making progress towards restoration goals.

OWEB's focus is still on restoration actions. TRWC work needs to be tied to the delivery of restoration projects. For community outreach, OWEB wants to see Councils reaching out to the public to encourage them to participate in directing the Watershed Council's work.

OWEB discussed a few grant opportunities with the Steering Committee. These are the Local Council Capacity grants, Partnership Investments, regular large grants, and small grants. In 2015-17, OWEB awarded 8 capacity building grants and 6 implementation grants within the Partnership Investments. Under the Focused Investment Partnerships grant, OWEB is looking to provide capacity building grants of up to \$150,000 over a biennium.

The Steering Committee also talked to OWEB about Councils that have made the transition to a larger staff. Courtney Shaff, OWEB Capacity Programs Coordinator, recommended we talk to the Rogue River Watershed Council, Umpqua River, and Coos Watershed Association to see what lessons they have to share. OWEB also funded a study on successful partnership building, which it will share with the Council.

Presentation: Update on Tigard's Dirksen Nature Park.

Carla Staedter gave an update on the Dirksen Nature Park. Tigard purchased their second largest park in 2011. The park is 48 acres with seven distinct northwest ecosystems (oak savanna, scrub shrub wetland, ash forested corridor, forested wetland, coniferous forest, mixed deciduous forest, and an emergent wetland).

The park has a sports field and greenway regional trail with 400,500 visitors that use the trail. One sports field has been abandoned for a wetland restoration project.

The property was purchased for \$5.3 million, and the funds for the purchase have been used as a grant match for building a restroom and interpretive shelter. The purchase happened through a community bond that was passed by the citizens of Tigard. The passage of the bond showed the community's commitment to keep the property from being developed and a multi-generational connection to the property.

Since 2012, the number of kids who have used the park for tours or camps has increased from 285 to 2000 in 2015. The Fowler Middle School kids use the park for field trips and PE.

Some of the restoration actions occurring in the park through a Metro Nature in Neighborhoods grant are restoration of an oak savanna and creation of an oak savanna overlook, and the creation of a forested wetland boardwalk. The park is incorporating sculptures into the design to help park users understand the typical animals found in the variety of ecosystems present.

Anticipated in 2018 are a nature play area coming online and the restrooms replacing the porta-potty.

More information can be found on Tigard's city website.

Update from Karlene McCabe, Transition Manager:

Karlene gave an update on what she has been working on as a transition manager. She has been speaking with partners. They value the role of the Council and would like us to expand on the work we have been doing. She is working with the Steering Committee to determine what that expansion looks like and how we might fund it.

She is working on an expanded work plan and budget, and anticipates we should see some interesting things happening over the next few months.

Karlene is also impressed with the diversity of this region and would like to see the TRWC embrace this diversity.

Coordinator Updates. 1) Fran Warren will become the Washington CPO representative to TRWC. April recently attend the Washington County CCI meeting to provide information about TRWC and recruit a representative to TRWC. CCI members asked many questions and expressed interest in basin issues. 2) GC/Clear Creek confluence project was delayed and will be implemented during summer 2018. 3) A grant application was submitted to OWEB for East Fork Dairy Creek Large Wood Placement project on November 6; seven landowners and the Tualatin SWCD are partnering with TRWC in a project that will focus on improving aquatic and riparian health in a three mile stream reach. TRWC appreciates the opportunity to work with Tualatin SWCD on a joint approach to address watershed issues. 4) April is finishing up the completion documentation for three OWEB small grants

Additional details on Project Updates: See November 2017 project updates, part of the meeting packet.

Committee Updates.

Member Announcements:

Joint Water Commission – They are one year into a 3 year project to expand their facility. This work will expand the drinking water generation capacity. They dug a huge hole and

are furiously working to keep it void of water. The hole is the future site of filters and sediment basins.

Tualatin Riverkeepers are working to create storm water murals. They will be creating a committee to guide this work and are looking for people to take part in this process.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Cruise
Co-Secretary

January 3, 2018 TRWC refreshments: Eric Chambers

Roving Steering Committee member for January 10 meeting: None

Roving Steering Committee member for January 24 meeting: Carla Staedter