



Tualatin River Watershed Council Meeting Minutes May 5, 2021

Stakeholders Present

Bob Baumgartner	Services Districts (Sewerage) Primary Representative, Clean Water Services
Stephen Cruise	Washington County, Primary Representative
Ashley Short	Environmental Organizations Primary Representative, Tualatin Riverkeepers
Rich Van Buskirk	Education Primary Representative, Pacific University
Simon Christensen	Drinking Water Provider Secondary Representative (shared position), City of Hillsboro Water Department
Kristel Griffith	Drinking Water Provider Primary Representative (shared position), City of Hillsboro Water Department
Briita Pajunas	Soil and Water Conservation District Primary Representative, Tualatin SWCD
Jon Pampush	Fisheries, Trout Unlimited
Erin Poor	Citizen-at-large

Staff Present

Scott McEwen	TRWC Executive Director
Samantha Sharka	TRWC Project Manager

Guests Present

Kellyn Baez	Clean Water Services
Stephanie Beall	Oregon Department of Forestry
Dave Stewart	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Brian Creutzburg	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Welcome and Introductions

Bob Baumgartner, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:03 pm. Bob shared that this meeting will be recorded via Zoom. Scott and Bob shared the agenda. Stakeholders, staff, and guests introduced themselves. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Approval of April meeting minutes. Ashley Short moved to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Stephen Cruise. Passed unanimously.

May 2021 TRWC Minutes

Page 1 of 2

Treasurer's Report – 3rd Quarter

Rich presented the balance sheet indicating profit and loss as of March 31, 2021. One liability that continues to hold on is the Paycheck Protection Program, but that liability will likely disappear when that money is forgiven. Many small grants are being wrapped up. BOR grant was spent and went towards NetMapping work. Carter Creek project is winding down as is the TREE grant with Tualatin SWCD.

Presentation: FY 2021-22 High Level Budget – Scott McEwen

Scott presented projected revenue for FY21-22 in both restricted and unrestricted categories. Unrestricted funds could be considered general funds and with each grant there are some monies made available for indirect work that can go towards rent, salaries etc. Scott also introduced the list of discretionary expense items for discussion. He prepared estimated cost ranges for these items, including costs associated with legal, HR Consultation, Board training/ facilitation, Retirement Plans, Website, and Strategic planning facilitation. Bob recommended going back to the 3-year strategic plan to compare this current discretionary list against any that were in that plan. And plan to include those discretionary items that had been removed/ postponed due to Covid-19 related issues.

Review of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ) Committee – Ashley Short

Sam, Ashley and Scott have been attending the Change Agent Cohort with Intertwine Alliance. It is led by the consulting firm Capacity Building Partnerships. Ashley shared the list of other entities that are attending this series of trainings as well.

DEIJ Committee is recommending that the Council choose to work with Capacity Building Partnerships consultant and accept their training proposal. Ashley shared the core proposal elements indicating 2 workshops, 4-hrs each will be scheduled, likely for late fall 2021. A wrap up gathering/ debrief will also be scheduled after the 2 workshops are completed.

Ashley presented the DEIJ committee recommendations for when to use the approved TRWC Land Acknowledgement statement.

Emerging Project: Use eDNA in the Tualatin River Aquatic Systems – Scott McEwen

Scott shared a presentation on a new monitoring project related to Environmental DNA testing for Pacific Lamprey in the Tualatin Watershed. Genomic technology for sensing trace presence of aquatic species within a waterbody has expanded rapidly in recent years. Scott shared the NatureServe rankings. Pacific lamprey was considered for federal listing, but USFWS and other agencies felt there was not enough information available on lamprey distribution to pursue listing at this time. TRWC has already gotten a firm confirmation from the Rocky Mountain Research Station of the US Forest Service to fund the eDNA analysis of 30 sites within the Tualatin watershed for Pacific Lamprey. Brook lamprey will be added to the list of high priority species to test for in addition to Pacific Lamprey, Steelhead, Coho and other high priority anadromous fish species.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Briita Pajunas, Co-Secretary