



Tualatin River Watershed Council
Meeting Minutes
October 6th, 2021

Stakeholders Present

Bob Baumgartner	Services Districts (Sewerage) Primary Representative, Clean Water Services
Ashley Short	Environmental Organizations Primary Representative, Tualatin Riverkeepers
Briita Pajunas	Soil and Water Conservation District Secondary Representative, Tualatin SWCD
Rahim Harji	Cities Primary Representative, City of Hillsboro
Simon Christensen	Drinking Water Provider Primary Representative (shared position), City of Hillsboro Water Department – Joint Water Commission
Jon Pampush	Fisheries, Trout Unlimited
Rich Van Buskirk	Education Primary Representative, Pacific University
Tom Nygren	Forestry Primary Representative, WA County Small Woodlands Association
Greg Mintz	Citizen-at-large

Staff Present

Scott McEwen	TRWC Executive Director
Samantha Sharka	TRWC Project Manager

Guests Present

Welcome and Introductions

Bob Baumgartner, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:02 pm. 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 September meeting minutes. John Pampush moved to approve the minutes as presented. Rich Van Buskirk seconded. **Passed unanimously.**

Update from Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws and Organizational Procedures – Ashley Short

This committee has met a couple times and has made progress on reviewing Council bylaws. The Steering Committee has submitted edits to the bylaws. Ashley reviewed suggested edits to the entire group this evening. Updates made to the bylaws and organizational procedures address some of the larger equity and inclusion goals held by the TRWC. Ashley raised the discussions brought up during the DEIJ committee meeting, focusing on allowance of non-council members having the ability to serve as chair on a committee (other than the steering committee). Or if a chair member should be an official council member for all committees. The council members decided to move forward with having the less restrictive option for committee chair participation.



Tom Nygren asked to add language to provide ability for WC staff to do due diligence and ask for feedback from community members/ representatives when a new sector or community representative is considered for new WC membership.

TRWC members will receive copies of these updated documents for review and comment. The official amendment process for these documents will begin at the next board meeting in November. The final versions will be voted on at the December board meeting. This task will be completed by the end of the calendar year.

DEIJ Committee Update – Ashley Short

Ashley reviewed the Scope of Work for the upcoming Board DEIJ training. Workshops will include four three-hour sessions. Ashley asked about timing preference for these workshops.

The members decided to hold the workshops 6-9 pm every other month, so that off months allow for regular TRWC business to be addressed during regular meetings.

The contract with the training consultant is ready to sign and the trainings will be proposed to begin in January.

Presentation: Clear Creek Large Wood Placement Project and Beaver Management Gap Analysis – Sam Sharka

Sam presented on the Beaver Strategy Gap Analysis. An online survey was completed in summer 2021. 40 respondents contributed from a wide pool of stakeholder groups.

Urban areas are most commonly at the forefront of complaints including concerns related to tree damage and flooding. Over half of respondents do feel that their agency has a unified approach already in place regarding how they address beaver related concerns, but many still think they could benefit from more assistance in messaging around beaver. Beaver response flow chart for Tualatin Basin has been completed. This was informed by a similar resource from King County.

Sam presented on project update for the Clear Creek large wood debris final phase of construction for 3 miles restored at the confluence of Gales Creek and Clear Creek. Salvage logs from BLM wildfires were used for some of the instream work. Boulders and wood were installed to increase cold water refuge for salmonids. This is the 3rd project that the TRWC has completed, and this represents the 3rd and final phase for this Clear Creek focus area. TRWC staff will now entering a monitoring phase to show that this work does increase juvenile densities and share these findings with other partner and funding entities in future years.

Website Redevelopment – Scott McEwen

Scott shared the mock-up of the new TRWC website and the main landing pages. It is being developed by Foundry 503, a local website development firm that also built the TRK website.



Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Briita Pajunas, Co-Secretary