



TUALATIN RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

Engaging The Community To Sustain Our Watershed

Tualatin River Watershed Council Meeting Minutes April 5, 2023

Sector Representatives Present

Bob Baumgartner	Local Govt and Special Districts (Sewer Districts) – Clean Water Services
Lacey Townsend	Local Govt and Special Districts (SWCDs) – Tualatin SWCD
Rich Van Buskirk	Education Representative – Pacific University
Erin Poor	Community Member
Greg Mintz	Community Member
Jon Pampush	NGO Representative – Trout Unlimited
Rodney Jacobs	Forestry Representative – Stimson Lumber
Tom Nygren	Forestry Representative – Washington Co. Small Woodlands Association

Staff Present

Scott McEwen	TRWC Executive Director
Antonella Fillet	TRWC Project Manager

Guests Present

Brittany Contreras	City of Hillsboro Water District
Dave Stewart	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Rebecca McCoun	Oregon Department of Forestry
Sara Kral	Scholls Valley Native Nursery
Amadeo Ramos, Jr.	Scholls Valley Native Nursery
Caleigh Byrne	Scholls Valley Native Nursery

Welcome and Introductions

Rich Van Buskirk, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:04 pm. Stakeholders, staff, and guests introduced themselves and the sector they represent. The meeting was held via Zoom.

Scott introduced Antonella Fillet, who started March 14 at the Council's new Project Manager. Antonella highlighted current projects she's working on, including RCPP with TSWCD, Tualatin Basin Beaver Strategy, White Creek temperature logging, and GIS work.

Public Comment: None

Presentation: Oregon Forest Practices Act: Moving Forward – Rebecca McCoun, Oregon Department of Forestry

- Rebecca gave an overview of the newly approved Forest Practices Act Rules.
- The Private Forest Accord is an agreement made between representatives from Oregon's timber industry, small woodland owners, and conservation and fishing organizations, to modify parts of Oregon Forest Practices Act to protect certain aquatic species.
- The Private Forest Accord and Forest Practices Act Rules will go into effect January 2024.



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- There is a new Habitat Conservation Plan in place, which includes aquatic species. ODF has until December 31, 2027 to implement an incidental take permit or the rules will revert back to the old rules.
- Rebecca went through each new rule in detail. In general, the new rules include expanded stream protections (wider buffer requirements), new regulations on steep slopes (still being developed) and new standards for culverts on forest roads.
- Several questions were asked by Council members.
 - Jon Pampush asked if these new rules put us into compliance with the Endangered Species Act? Rebecca: not yet, the Habitat Conservation Plan still needs to be developed and approved.
 - Scott asked about the modeling and if it showed how the increased riparian buffers would change temperatures downstream. Rebecca: currently working with DEQ and the Heat Source Model to look at this information.
 - Rich Van Buskirk asked about how the new rules protect salamanders. Rebecca: the increase in riparian buffers will help protect amphibian species.
 - Scott asked about whether or not source water protection areas were treated differently. Rebecca: no, drinking water areas have the same buffer width (110 ft).
 - Scott asked if the new rules would decrease landslides in Washington County. Rodney Jacobs: wider buffers could help with a decrease in landslides, but more still needs to be developed on the steep slope areas.

Approval of March 2023 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were unanimously approved.

Strategic Planning – Scott

- Scott stressed the importance of the Council board leading the planning process.
- As decided last month, the Council will contract with Capacity Building Partnerships on the strategic planning process. Scott is putting together a scope of work.
- Scott showed a timeline of the process, which will include a 6-hour staff/board retreat in June.
- It was decided that the Steering Committee will start as the Strategic Planning Committee, but interested Council members can be added.
- The group discussed a 3- or 5-year plan. It was decided that a 5-year plan would be best.

Adjournment

Rich Van Buskirk adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lacey Townsend, Treasurer