



**Tualatin River Watershed Council  
Meeting Minutes  
May 3, 2023**

**Sector Representatives Present**

Rich Van Buskirk	Education Representative – Pacific University
Bob Baumgartner	Local Govt and Special Districts (Sewer Districts) – Clean Water Services
Rahim Harji	Local Govt and Special Districts (Cities) – City of Hillsboro
Lacey Townsend	Local Govt and Special Districts (SWCDs) – Tualatin SWCD
Victoria Frankeny	NGO Representative – Tualatin Riverkeepers
Jon Pampush	NGO Representative – Trout Unlimited
Tom Nygren	Forestry Representative – Washington Co. Small Woodlands Association

**Staff Present**

Scott McEwen	TRWC Executive Director
Antonella Fillet	TRWC Project Manager

**Guests Present**

Alexis Millet	Capacity Building Partnerships
Briita Pajunas	Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District
Stephanie Beall	Oregon Department of Forestry
Brian Creutzburg	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Brittany Contreras	City of Hillsboro Water District
Mac Barr	Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
Eugenia Parker	Neighbors for Wetland Preservation

**Welcome and Introductions**

Rich Van Buskirk, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:02pm. Stakeholders, staff, and guests introduced themselves and the sector they represent. The meeting was held in a hybrid format, with the in-person location at Clean Water Services Administration Office in Hillsboro.

**Review and Approval of the Agenda**

No additions proposed to the agenda.

**Public Comment**

Eugenia Parker commented on the proposed wetland fill project located on the Portland Golf Club property. This wetland is adjacent to Fanno Creek bike trail and filters stormwater runoff before it reaches Fanno Creek. Both ODFW and Tualatin Riverkeepers submitted public comment on the permit application submitted to the Army Corps of Engineers regarding this project.

**Approval of April 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Tom Nygren recommended two edits of the April meeting minutes. Specifically, there were two bullets regarding the presentation on the Private Forest Accords:

- The Habitat Conservation Plan is not yet in place.
- The new rules go into effect for industry on July 1<sup>st</sup> and for small woodlands on January 1<sup>st</sup> of next year.

### **Vote for Proposed New Agriculture Sector Representative – Sara Burke Kral, Scholls Valley Nursery**

Rahim Harji moved to approve the nomination. Bob Baumgartner seconded. **Passed unanimously via voice vote. Rich Van Buskirk served as proxy for Greg Mintz.**

There is still one available Agriculture Sector spot available on the Council.

### **Developing an organizational Equity Lens for Strategic Planning and Organizational Decision Making**

- Capacity Building Partnerships (CPB) led the TRWC’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) training in the past. Having CPB lead strategic planning allows continuity with DEI work.
- Alexis Millet is guiding TRWC to include an equity lens as a tool in our strategic planning.
  - An equity lens is a set of questions or prompts used to plan, develop, or evaluate a plan, policy, or program. It will help identify potential impacts of TRWC projects on under-served and marginalized groups.
  - An equity lens builds an organization’s capacity to not have to have a lens.
  - An equity lens tends to uncover blind spots, but it doesn’t tend to fix them. It allows organizations to build up from there
- City of Hillsboro has set up their own equity lens. Rahim Harji spoke about it briefly as an example as how it helped the City, such as identifying needs early on, prior to finalizing major decisions.
- Alexis Millet led a practice using equity lens to apply to goals identified by TRWC in DEI training.
  - The Council broke up into breakout rooms to go through the equity lens exercise and discussed after.

### **Adjournment**

Rich Van Buskirk adjourned the meeting at 8:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Victoria Frankeny, Secretary