

MINUTES

McKenzie Watershed Council
Eugene Water & Electric Board Training Room - North Building
500 East 4th Avenue, Eugene

April 10, 2003
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Dorothy Anderson, Kurt Cox, Pat Gripp, Tom Linniger, Ryland Moore, Leroy Peterson, Charlene Phipps, Emily Rice, Wade Stampe, Betty Taylor, Pat Thompson, John Woodrow, Partners; Jim Thraikill, Staff; Juan Welsh, Staff, and many in the audience

ABSENT: John Allen, Dana Burwell, Brent Hefty,

I. AGENDA AND MATERIAL REVIEW

Mr. Thraikill convened the meeting. He noted that one of the nights action items was to elect new members to the executive committee.

Mr. Thraikill welcomed Kurt Cox and Charlene Phipps as new Council Partners. Mr. Cox is representing McKenzie Schools and Ms. Phipps is the second representative from the McKenzie Residents Association.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Those present introduced themselves.

III. OPENING REMARKS

Mr. Thraikill provided a review of the benchmark goals set up by the council the previous year.

1. Providing Community Understanding and Stewardship through Outreach and Education.
2. Promote Partnerships to Support Local Stewardship Actions.
3. Protect and Restore Key Fish and Wildlife Habitat
4. Protect and Restore Water Quality and Quantity
5. Council Accounts for and Provides Investments in the Watershed Statement of Desired Conditions

Regarding Goal 3, Mr. Thraikill said 6-8 restoration projects, on average, were expected to be accomplished yearly. He said there had been 8 projects implemented during the previous year. He said 7 of the 8 projects were in areas identified as priority sites by the council.

Juan Welsh said there were already restoration projects planned for the next year.

Mr. Thraikill said the council is in the process of developing a tech team who would provide technical assistance for the planned projects in the upcoming year. The tech team would rely on Partner organizations technical folks.

Mr. Thraikill showed T-Shirts with draft designs of the MWC logo. He said the council needed to vote on which shirt it preferred.

IV. FURTHER DISCUSSION OF DECISIONS MADE AT THE LAST MEETING

There had been no decisions made at the last meeting that needed further discussion.

V. APPROVE THE MARCH 13, 2003 MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of March 13, 2003, were approved as submitted by general consensus.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

VII. UPLIFT AT THREE SISTERS

Willy Scott provided a powerpoint presentation on the bulge one the Three Sisters Mountain Range. He said the USGS, with other groups, had been monitoring the bulge. The presentation included information on:

- Volcano Hazards
- Cascade Eruptions During the Past 4,000 Years
- Variety of Eruption Types
- GPS Measurements in the Three Sisters Area
- Three Sisters Geodetic Monitoring
- Three Sisters Seismicity
- Airborne Gas Monitoring
- Interpretation of Current Unrest at Three Sisters
- Mitigation of Volcanic Risk
- Enhancing Monitoring Networks
- Hazard Assessment and Coordination Plan

In response to a question from Ms. Taylor regarding potential hazards to water supplies, Mr. Scott there would be some risks to river turbidity but added that a lahar traveling down the McKenzie Watershed could be severely damaged for years to decades.

In response to a question from Ms. Gripp regarding who would be in charge of a emergency response for the local community, Mr. Scott said it would be the County emergency management agency assisted by the State Emergency Management Agency. He stressed that response would focus on the local level and the Counties would be major players in any emergency response.

VIII. STAFF AND COUNCIL PARTNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

In response to a question from Mr. McDowell regarding supporting increasing security at McKenzie boat landings, Mr. Thrailkill said the council and Lane County Parks had lined up \$3,500 in funds to pay for enhanced security at boat landings along the river through random checks. Right now, now vendor to provide the security has been settled on.

Ms. Anderson announced that EWEB had been under pressure to hold public meetings along the river. She said the utility was determined to hold more public meetings for residents along the McKenzie River.

In response to a question from Mr. Moore regarding representation on the EWEB board for McKenzie River residents, Ms. Anderson said that would require a change to the utility's charter and would cause some difficulty.

Mr. Thompson said the Division of State Lands had take serious hits on their budgets and administrative rules. He recommended talking to John Lilly if people had questions about the process.

Mr. Thompson said he was looking for someone to replace him on the council. He said he would introduce that person when found and then resign from the council. He noted that he would be the alternate member if that person could not attend a meeting.

Chuck Davis said that Springfield Utility Board had completed the treatment plant along the McKenzie River and were having an open house event. He suggested that members who were interested in touring the plant should let him know so they could be sent an invitation.

Mr. Stampe said rainfall was 83 percent of normal for the year which was a substantial increase.

Mr. Thraikill said the council had received a grant from the Boats US Foundation to help clean up the river as well as another grant for helping endangered salmon.

IX. COUNCIL WORK SESSION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Executive Committee Appointments

Mr. Thraikill outlined the role of the executive committee. He said, for the current year, the executive committee needed to work on the charter, develop a financial plan, make a presentation to the Board of County Commissioners, and develop a marketing plan.

Mr. Thraikill noted that John Allen had volunteered to be on the executive committee for a one year term if the other stakeholders declined. Ms. Taylor volunteered to be a member of the executive committee from the elected officials portion of the council. From Private Interests, Mike McDowell volunteered to be a member.

There was general consensus for Ms. Taylor, Mr. McDowell, and Mr. Allen to comprise the Executive Committee of the McKenzie Watershed Council.

B. At-Large Membership

Regarding At Large membership, Mr. Thraikill said that the Springfield Utility Board had a reserved place on the council but had chosen not to fill that position. He added that the confederated tribes were unwilling to have representation on the council.

Mr. Thraikill suggested that an at large designation would increase the community involvement in the council. He said two community members from the lower McKenzie and Middle McKenzie areas would have full privileges on the council to broaden citizen representation. He noted that they would not be representing specific stakeholder groups but would represent geographic areas of the community and lead to more community education.

Ms. Anderson stressed that more representation from residents along the McKenzie River was needed on the council.

Mr. Thompson and Mr. Peterson said that residents along the McKenzie were stakeholders in the watershed process.

There was general consensus for creating two “at large” positions from the lower and middle McKenzie communities.

C. 2003 Work Plan Adoption

Mr. Thraikill said he had incorporated priority items named at the council retreat into the upcoming year's work plan. He called for approval of the work plan as a template for council tasks for the coming year.

There was general consensus, with an abstention from Ms. Phipps, for the approval of the council work plan.

D. Fiscal Strategy

Mr. Thraikill noted that a new financial strategy had been called for at the council retreat. He said that the pending non-profit status and the potential decline in Council support funds were a catalyst in the recommendation for the new financial strategy. He called for consensus on the concept of financial strategy. He showed an overhead projection of goals, tasks, and resource inflows for the council. He said this data would be part of a developed plan that the council would be asked to adopt at a later meeting.

There was general consensus to accept the concept of the new financial strategy.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

(Recorded by Joe Sams)

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