

MINUTES

McKenzie Watershed Council
Eugene and Water Electric Board– 500 East 4th Avenue

September 12, 2002

5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: John Allen, Dana Burwell, Pat Gripp, Ryland Moore, Leroy Petersen, Gary Rayor, Emily Rice, Fred Simmons, Dan VanDyke (for Jeff Ziller), partners; Jim Thraikill, Council Coordinator; Kate Ferschweiler, Council staff; Chuck Gottfried, City of Springfield; Tim Wright, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife - Leaburg Hatchery; Cheryl Friesen, US Forest Service; Tim Shinabarger, Springfield News; Philip Farrington, Peacehealth; Andy Moore, Carol Ach, Douglass Moser, guests.

ABSENT: Dorothy Anderson, Barb Blackmore, Bob Bumstead, Brent Hefty, John Lilly, Wade Stampe, Pat Thompson, Cindy Weeldreyer, Jeff Ziller, partners.

1. REVIEW THE AGENDA

Mr. Thraikill called the meeting of the McKenzie Watershed Council (MWC) to order, reviewed the agenda and called for deletions or additions.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Those present introduced themselves.

3. OPENING REMARKS

Mr. Thraikill welcomed those present. A copy of Mr. Thraikill's opening remarks were distributed to partners. Materials distributed included the following:

- MWC Coordinator's Accomplishments, Jim Thraikill, July and August 2002
- MWC Education Coordinator's Accomplishments, Kate Ferschweiler, July and August 2002
- MWC Project Management Accomplishments, John Runyon, August 2002
- Flyer- New Metaphors of Restoration
- Flyer - Household Hazardous Waste
- Oregon Agreement Overview, dated May, 2002, Oregon Agreement Projects, dated may 16, 2002

Mr. Thraikill offered thanks to the members that participated in the interview process for the delegation from Japan that interviewed Council Partners and presented Japanese tea cups from the delegation as a thank you.

Mr. Thraikill also spoke about funding, noting that the MWC has been awarded funds through competitive application through Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). The funding application process was changed from last year and in November, the MWC applied to a solicitation from BPA. In February, there was a site visit with the BPA review team. In March there were formal comments by a science review team, recommending the project be funded. Other review processes, through June 2002, recommended the McKenzie as a high priority, fundable project. In July, questions were being raised about which projects should be funded, with from the over 50 proposals for the Willamette basin. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) said that they would like to see emphasis on research for the Willamette estuary. Options were crafted later in July and Mr. Thraikill said that the MWC was in two of the three options, although it has now been included in all three options. The Northwest Power Planning Council (NWPPC) is the final decision maker on these proposals. Mr. Thraikill said that he attended the NWPPC meeting in Montana in August and then he was in Spokane yesterday for a similar meeting. Yesterday at 3 p.m. baseline funding was approved for the MWC for the next three years. While this does not provide full funding, it provides some stability for the council. The funding will allow for a cost of living adjustment of approximately three to four percent annually.

In response to a question from Carol Ach, Mr. Thraikill noted that BPA funding provides for staff salaries and for restoration projects.

Ms. Ach asked what would have happened if the funding had stopped. Ms. Rice said that approximately two-thirds of the funding for this council come from these funds. Mr. Thraikill said that it would have impacted the work of the council. This round awarded approximately \$110,000. He also noted that other watershed councils, approximately 90 in the state, are funded through Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) funds.

4. FURTHER DISCUSSION OF DECISIONS MADE AT LAST MEETING

There was no further discussion.

5. APPROVE JUNE 13, 2002 MEETING MINUTES

The following changes and corrections were requested to the minutes:

- page 6, paragraph beginning “Ms. Rice said that she supported . . .” The next sentence should read, “*The BLM Advisory Council* is lukewarm on funding . . .”

THE COUNCIL INDICATED CONSENSUS LEVEL 3 FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 11, 2002, AS AMENDED.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Andy Gilmore expressed concern with the conflict between the concepts of restoration for salmon recovery and urban villages that go to the river. He expressed specific concern for property between Armitage Park and Riverbend and the on-going process.

Carol Ach spoke about Eugene Water and Electric (EWEB)’s effort for new licensing up the McKenzie River valley. Without water in the canal, clear-cutting in the area, and a new road along the base of the canal, area residents have concerns. She said that she wanted to bring this to the attention of the Council. Mr. Thraikill noted that there was a presentation on this in May and one a year ago. Ms. Ach expressed concern for the several wells that have gone dry. She said that mitigation should have been included in the budget and said that the federal regulatory agency was out of line.

Mr. Burwell said that he was present for the meetings, but some of the impacts were not anticipated. He said he would like to see the agencies come back out and explain why the work is being done. Mr. Allen said that it may not be clear to the public what EWEB was directed to do by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and that a discussion might be helpful for area residents. Mr. Thraikill said he would bring this to EWEB’s attention.

Chuck Gottfried, City of Springfield, spoke about the recent chemical spill along the Willamette River and spoke in support of the hazardous materials program and coordinated efforts, noting that there was no substitute for really good planning.

7. STAFF AND COUNCIL PARTNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Burwell reported that the Lane County Hazardous Waste Roundup has approved the Leaburg Fire Station as a collection site.

Ms. Gripp asked where the hazardous waste ends up. Mr. Thraikill said that he assumed it was being distilled and disposed of. Mr. Burwell said that some of the wastes were being recycled.

Mr. Petersen reported that East Lane had contemplated having a permanent tax base on the ballot for natural resource related work in Lane County, but withdrew it after being told by Lane County that it would cost \$67,000 win or lose.

Mr. Allen reported that there was an algae bloom that created a problem in the reservoir during the warm weather. In addition, a couple of researchers are researching macro-invertebrates, including some of the historical sites that the watershed council has been conducting. He also reported that he has seen more salmon up the river than he has seen in the past. Mr. VanDyke reported that McKenzie River hatchery had the highest return ever. He said he did not have other reports at this time.

Mr. Rayor arrived at 6:20 p.m.

Mr. Simmons said that there was some turbidity from the Millpond into the Willamette River, although the cause has not been clearly identified. Mr. VanDyke said that they had taken a sample and that it was all sediment. Mr. Simmons said that one theory was that it was from the large carp or other suckers that are in large quantities in a shallow area.

Mr. VanDyke said that excess hatchery adults and spring chinook salmon have been released over the past several years in the Mohawk River area. He asked for any properties that might be available for survey.

Ms. Ferschweiler reported that she participated in the macro-invertebrate survey Mr. Allen talked about. She also announced that more volunteers were needed for the salmon count. Ms. Ferschweiler said that she also went to the Waltham fair and staffed the MWC booth, where children enjoyed the salmon game.

Mr. Thraikill said that the date for annual raft trip for MWC was a moving target at this point. Just hard getting folks together for this one and it may not happen, stay tuned for future announcements.

Mr. Moore said that Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB) was running a story on Oregon Land Trusts. October 10, Thursday at 9 p.m. and October 13, Sunday at 10 a.m. McKenzie River Trust is one of the highlighted trusts. Mr. Thraikill requested Mr. Moore tape the program and to show it at an upcoming council meeting.

8. RIVERBEND DEVELOPMENT BY PEACEHEALTH

Philip Farrington, Director of Land Use Planning and Development for PeaceHealth, presented an overview of the Riverbend Master Plan campus development. Mr. Farrington provided a slide show regarding the development. Mr. Thraikill distributed an aerial photo of the Riverbend site, as well as a copy of the Council's biological assessment - *McKenzie River Subbasin Assessment Summary 2000*. This information is specific to McKenzie River Reach 7, which is in the same area proposed for development.

Mr. Farrington announced that the Oregon Planning Institute will be held at the University of Oregon in early October and that information was available through the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG). His presentation included the following highlights:

- Hilyard campus will go through renewal 2007-2009 to provide a dual campus approach
 - Primarily outpatient services
 - general medical beds
 - 24-hour comprehensive urgent care
 - PeaceHealth Medical Group
Regional business Center
- Sacred Heart Medical Center at Riverbend
 - Acute care
 - Trauma Center
 - Specialty care institutes

- Medical specialists offices
- Mixed uses
- Approximately 160 acres
- Design Basis
 - Healing and wellness environment
 - Patient- and family-centered
 - Stewardship
 - Flexibility
 - High quality design
- Why Riverbend
- Buildings reflect the landscape
- Design concepts
 - Gathering Spaces
 - Quiet Spaces
 - Protected areas
 - riparian edge along the river
 - tree groves
 - Public Access/Riverfront
 - Gazebo/Paths
 - Stormwater treatments/water sites
- Master Plan Assumptions
 - 800 ksf hospital, 200 ksf institutes
 - Approx. 500 beds, 2200 employees
 - About half of the parking in structures
 - BRT station proximate to hospital entry
 - 800 residential units
- Core nodal area to north
 - 8 stories, with 137 feet elevation
- Looking ahead by looking back

Mr. Farrington noted that the master plan was only a beginning, noting that the plans would evolve as planning continues with the City of Springfield and other stakeholders.

Ms. Ach asked why a “campus” description. Mr. Farrington said that he thought of this like the University of Oregon campus, with large open spaces. He said that there was a need for large educational spaces within the facilities. He said that future use might include other educational opportunities.

Ms. Ach asked how PeaceHealth would manage 800 housing units. Mr. Farrington said that it was necessary to show that housing fits within the development. He said that PeaceHealth would not anticipate getting into the rental market.

Mr. Burwell said the guides would rather have open areas rather than residential. He asked if PeaceHealth was willing to provide deed restrictions to commit to open areas. Mr. Farrington said that the City of Springfield has a 75 feet setback. The five acres of firs are retained in perpetuity. He said that area in the north is in the “flood way” which would not be built by PeaceHealth. He said that the area may be needed for stormwater enhancement. Mr. Farrington said that the meadow is being retained and said that the board is making it difficult for future boards to build into the meadow. He said that a deed restriction may be the way to settle this. He added that he could not say that the flood way would be “dedicated” to the public. Easements will have to be dedicated for the pathways along the river. He added that the ability for PeaceHealth to secure the facility was of critical importance.

Mr. Rayer noted that the 160 acres was dedicated to medium density housing and expressed concern that there would be a reduction of residential lands inventory. Mr. Farrington said that there would not be a

reduction of residential lands inventory. He said that housing and transportation were two of the most critical issues.

Mr. Rayer asked if PeaceHealth has considered meeting ISO 14,000 standards. He cited William McDonahue as a internationally renowned architect that might be considered by the City of Springfield to use to ensure that specifications meet the desired standards for health care facilities. Mr. Farrington said that while zero emissions might be a desired outcome, it may be unattainable and that there were financial limits.

Mr. Rayer said that he was concerned about the same “cookie cutter development” that were auto oriented. He said that the development needs to be “done better.” He said that this felt “status quo” and asked how the river would be protected.

Mr. Simmons spoke about the transit flow, noting that the building is set back from the road and that the delivery of patients and staff to the door was important. The subsurface parking will be a challenge, given the nature of the area. Feedback from area people was that there was not enough Goal 1 participation opportunities. He said that a hospital siting group was a valid approach. He complimented PeaceHealth by the work done by Mr. Farrington and his professional input, but noted that there was a tremendous amount of work to be done.

Mr. Farrington responded to Mr. Simmons concerns and noted that the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line may be relocated to put the line as proximate to the hospital as possible. Subsurface parking will be a challenge economically as well as for flooding concerns. The hospital and all of its approaches will be built above the 500 year flood zone elevation. Regarding Goal 1 participation, Mr. Farrington responded that to the Goal 1 participation, there have been open houses, PeaceHealth has been talking with various groups, like MWC and Kiwanas, and meeting with neighbors.

Mr. Allen commented that the riparian zone along the stretch of river has been heavily impacted over time by human activity. He suggested that riparian area be restored to meet the need of medical patients recovery needs. He asked how the flood maps of the late 1890's match up with the hospital's facilities. Mr. Farrington said that they were doing flood plain analysis. Mr. Allen suggested the risk analysis information be made available to the public. He said he was intrigued that a major medical facility would be placed in this area. Mr. Farrington said that the area has not been flood-prone since 1947.

Mr. Farrington thanked partners for the opportunity to make the presentation.

The Council took a brief recess at 7:40 p.m. The Council reconvened at 7:50 p.m.

9. McKENZIE RIVER BOAT LANDING SECURITY

Mr. Thrailkill briefed Council partners on McKenzie River Boat Landing security and illegal activity. He provided a handout that summarized illegal activity and option for providing a security presence, which he reviewed. In the Council work plan adopted for FY02, there was a question about the magnitude of illegal activity on the approximate 20 boat landings. Mr. Thrailkill concluded that it was difficult to get adequate data.

Mr. Burwell asked if “car-clout” (*sic*) was run. Mr. Thrailkill said that it might be listed as “other” in the County Sheriff's data. Mr. Burwell said that this year it appears to be better (less illegal activity). He added that if reported to the Sheriff's office, they no longer respond in person, but send a report for completion.

Mr. Thrailkill noted that several years ago, there was a resident Sheriff that assisted with patrol of the area. He said that law enforcement presence appears to be a fairly effective deterrent. Options for providing a

security presence were presented to partners. He said that he was working on opportunities for some private funding, as well as other public agencies providing funding, that may lead to hiring a contract security firm for next year.

Mr. Allen asked if there was an area that was more susceptible to illegal activity. Mr. Thraikill said that it appeared to be between middle to lower river. Mr. Burwell added that he has seen less upper river, which may be a result of BLM presence.

Mr. Simmons asked if the federal land funds, similar to that come from gun sales and recreational fees might be a source of funding. Mr. Thraikill said that he was most interested in finding a sustainable funding source. Mr. Burwell suggested Mr. Thraikill contact the County and speak with Mark Reese.

Mr. Rayer asked who at the County would be responsible for these areas, suggesting that a letter might be appropriate. Mr. Thraikill said that the County (Parks Dept) has been only able to get up to the landings once a week, usually on Mondays or Tuesdays to provide maintenance and clean-up for the landings. Mr. Burwell said that there was a forest patrol with the County. Ms. Rice said that the Title III monies were used to hire 4-5 deputies and that one is assigned to the McKenzie. Mr. Burwell said that a letter to the sheriff might be appropriate. Mr. Rayer suggested that a copy of all correspondence be sent to Mr. Liningerr, the new County Commissioner from east Lane County.

Mr. Rayer reported that Betty Taylor may be his replacement from the Eugene City Council onto the MWC.

10. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

A. McKenzie Watershed Council's FY2003 Work Plan - Draft

Mr. Thraikill presented the Executive Committee report, including a draft FY2003 work plan for partner consideration, a copy of which was provided to those present. The work plan is proposed to be adopted in November. Mr. Thraikill noted that a number of subcommittees, he believed would be necessary to accomplish the Council's goals in the work plan. Included with the materials were three options for staffing the McKenzie Watershed Council and the Mohawk Watershed Partnership. Mr. Thraikill said that staffing and staff contracts would be primary agenda topics for the Council's October meeting

Mr. Moore asked how the riparian incentives objective in the work plan might impact with county's tax base. Mr. Thraikill said he was not certain, but it may withdraw properties from the tax rolls. Mr. Moore noted that in other areas where property was taken from the tax rolls to provide for riparian zones, the land around these zones increased to more than offset the reduction in value of the taxable properties.

Mr. Allen said that in working with Oregon State University, there was a grant application that was not successful, that could provide some funding for the work on educational goals, noted on page 8, specifically related to the certificate of initial and advanced mastery (CIM and CAM). Mr. Thraikill noted that this proposed work plan item was looking to build on the efforts and enthusiasm of the early proposal.

Mr. Thraikill suggested a retreat be scheduled for early November, potentially on a weekday rather than a weekend from noon to 6 p.m to work through and adopt the work plan.

Mr. Thraikill announced that he has assisted with the "New Metaphors of Restoration" program scheduled for September 14-15 on behalf of the MWC. He noted he would be facilitating a session on Sunday, September 15.

McKenzie River Arts Festival is scheduled for October 12-13. The MWC has a role in the McKenzie Arrival-Departure water feature at the McKenzie River Ranger Station. It will be unveiled on Oct 11, 5 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

(Recorded by Kris Aanderud)

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