

# MINUTES

McKenzie Watershed Council  
Eugene Water and Electric Board - Training Room, North Building  
500 East 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Eugene

April 8, 2004  
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Betty Taylor, Eugene City Council, Facilitator; Dorothy Anderson, Eugene Water and Electric Board; Bob Bumstead, McKenzie Flyfishers; Gene Highfill, McKenzie River Guides Association; Cheryl Friesen, Willamette National Forest; Pat Gripp, McKenzie Residents Association; Mike McDowell, Weyerhaeuser Company; Linda Mooney, Mohawk Watershed Partnership; Douglass Moser, At-large Stakeholder; Ralph Perkins, East Lane Soil & Water Conservation District; Charlene Phipps, McKenzie Residents Association; Emily Rice, Bureau of Land Management; Mike Running, McKenzie River Trust; Wade Stampe, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Kelly Reis, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife; Council Partners.

Megan Finnessy, Kate Ferschweiler, Juan Welsh; Staff

Guests: Will Bondioli, East Lane Soil & Water Conservation District (alternate); Sally Nunn, staff for Representative Phil Barnhart; Philip Farrington, Peace Health; Rick Attanasio and Scott Banker, David Evan & Associates; Kyle Elmenhurst, Senior Trooper, Oregon State Police, Fish & Wildlife Division; Carol Ach, Institute for Regenerative Agroforestry; Jake Risley, Lane County Parks; Derek Hevel, resident; Laurie Power, Eugene Water & Electric Board; Amy Chinitz, Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council; Tim Wright, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, guests.

## 1. REVIEW AGENDA AND INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Taylor convened the meeting at 5:35 pm. It was noted that Marty Douglass, Eugene Water & Electric Board, would not be presenting to the council until next month. There were no other changes to the agenda.

Those present introduced themselves.

## 2. FURTHER DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF DECISIONS MADE AT LAST MEETING – March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2004

It was noted that the poem ready by Emily Rice was written by Bob Bumstead. There were no other objections or further discussion of decisions made at the last meeting.

The minutes of March 11th, 2004 meeting were approved.

## 3. SHORT ANNOUNCEMENTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Finnessy expressed appreciation to the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and Weyerhaeuser for their help with the recent Open House Event and to Linda Mooney, Mohawk Watershed Partnership, for volunteering to attend an upcoming training event. She also noted three upcoming events: 1) Adopt-A-Highway clean up scheduled for Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at the

Walterville fire station at 9:00 a.m., 2) an webcast presentation presented by SUB: Collaborative Problem Solving & Consensus Building on Wednesday, April 21st, (Partners should contact Nancy Moreno for more details and to register), and 3) the U of O HOPES Conference, April 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Finnessy noted the upcoming April 15<sup>th</sup> Willamette Restoration Initiative Subbasin Planning meeting.

Ms. Finnessy provided an update on Cedar Creek flow issues; reporting that she is working to schedule a meeting/tour with affected agencies and landowners.

Mr. Welsh reported that due to the dry conditions watering will need to begin earlier than expected on restoration projects. Mr. Welsh acknowledged Eric Gossler, landowner, for his help with the program and Derek Hevel, volunteer, for helping with restoration and education related work.

Ms. Ferschweiler reported on the recent landowner workshop attended by over thirty residents and her involvement with the Open House event conducted on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Ms. Phipps reported on two new developments in the McKenzie Bridge area: Caddisfly Resort expanding (5-6 new cabins) and a new Pizza Parlor at Harbicks.

Mr. Bumstead reported that there is a good hatch of brown flies on the River this year. He also expressed appreciation to the McKenzie River Trust for the stretch of preserved river bank along Big Island.

Mr. McDowell noted that the McKenzie area is 9 inches short of average rain fall and that this season is shaping up to be another bad fire season.

Ms. Friesen reported on a number of activities within the National Forest. There have been a cluster of earthquakes around South Sister, the area is currently under condition green; escape plans are being crafted. A car crashed into the River, but there was not a spill. The Forest Service was involved with a recovery of an air plane that crashed into the 3 Finger Jack Wilderness area. There was a fire in the Blue River area and windstorm on Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> that put a log across the river on the Belknap Hot Spring Resort property. The Resort will be responsible for clearing the area.

Mr. Running commented on the recent ODFW Conservation Strategy meeting, noting that it will be important for the MWC to remain involved with the process.

Ms. Mooney announced that the Mohawk Watershed Partnership's (MWP) annual meeting will be on June 1<sup>st</sup> at Shotgun Park. The keynote presentation will be on the history of the Mohawk Valley.

Ms. Gripp distributed a copy of a County referral notice for a replacement dwelling (file # PA04-1508).

Mr. Risely, Lane County Parks, discussed the following items: 1) new dumpsters at boat landings throughout the watershed, 2) an upcoming Crilly trail (Armitage Park) maintenance project being conducted as part of an Eagle Scout project, and 3) the pending grant submittal for

a waterwheel house at the Historical Hatchery.

Ms. Chinitz, Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council, invited the Council to attend an upcoming conference on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at the University of Oregon: Wildfire, Watersheds and Communities.

Ms. Finnessy will follow up on Partner interest to have a speaker on the pending Coburg Power Plant proposal.

#### **4. PEACE HEALTH HOSPITAL PRESENTATION**

Mr. Farrington presented Peace Health's River Bend Hospital site plan. He noted that the new campus will help consolidate operations and offer new state-of-the-art technologies, this coupled with the benefits of open and green space will help promote human healing and wellness. The land use process is pending approval. There are 15-20 year building plans for the total site, with no development planned in the floodway. Rainwater management will move through bioswales and into the River Road Waste Management System. Peace Health is working with the County regarding transportation issues.

Mr. Attanasio, David Evans & Associates, presented on the studies conducted hydrograph studies in high density areas of work zones on the flood boundaries. These studies were completed using flood plan maps and aerial surveys, and included a FEMA map comparison.

Mr. Banker, David Evans & Associates, also presented on the current landscape plans. This discussion included conversation and questions from Partners regarding riprap removal, the recreation trail system, and the native plant community. Mr. Banker noted that they would appreciate the Council's involvement with planning the native plant community and removal of noxious weed strategies.

Mr. Welsh noted current discussions with 25 neighboring landowners interested in restoring flows in a nearby side channel.

Mr. Farrington noted that Peace Health is interested in becoming a private Partner of the Council. Mr. Farrington expressed his interest to answer any additional Partner questions at the break or at a later date.

#### **5. SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Ms. Rice noted that Laurie Power was leaving the Eugene Water & Electric Board. Ms. Rice highlighted Ms. Power's accomplishments as a founding member of the MWC and the community in general. Ms. Power then addressed the Council.

#### **6. ADOPT-A-PARK, LEABURG HATCHERY**

Mr. Wright, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, informed the Council about an upcoming SOLV sponsored Down-By-The-Riverside event scheduled at the Leaburg Hatchery on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. This event takes place on the same day as a similar event that the MWC and Lane County Parks are conducting at Ben and Kay Dorris Park. Ms. Finnessy will conduct community outreach for both events.

Mr. Wright also noted the upcoming June 12<sup>th</sup> Free Fishing Day event.

## **7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Ms. Taylor thanked John Woodrow for having his employer, Rothman and Associates, host the Council's website for no cost.

Ms. Taylor noted that the Committee directed Ms. Finnessy to be involved with the organization of a statewide council coordinator effort.

Ms. Taylor noted that the Committee had approved a request to hire Jim Thrailkill to conduct an evaluation of the Council's Action Plans; this is a 2004 Work Plan objective.

Ms. Taylor noted that the Committee decided to not involve the Council at this year's County Fair due to a lack of staff and Partner availability. The Council will, however, attend other fair events throughout the watershed.

## **8. BUSINESS PLAN COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Mr. Running commented that the Committee has had a couple of very productive meetings and noted the Business Plan Table of Contents was in the mailing packet. Partner feedback should be directed to Ms. Finnessy. The Committee plans to do the majority of the Business Plan development, but will bring information to Partners to ensure Council involvement.

## **8. UPDATES ON MWC ADMINISTRATION**

Ms. Finnessy handed out a letter from the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group (OSPIRG) regarding the Governor's commitment to clean up the Willamette River. She asked Partners to let her know if they were interested in discussing the Council's involvement at next month's meeting.

Ms. Finnessy noted that she had four copies of the MWC mailing list and requested help in editing the list. She also noted that she had copies of the Willamette Subbasin Plan Summary and Table of Contents, as well as a draft EDT for Partner review.

Ms. Finnessy asked if there were any questions about the Quarterly Budget Update sent in this month's mailing packet. Ms. Finnessy responded to Ms. Anderson's questions and noted that she would follow up with Jared Weybright, Mohawk Watershed Partnership.

Ms. Finnessy presented the idea of creating four new Committees (Projects Program Development, Volunteer, Fundraising, and Event Planning/Outreach), but only asked for volunteers to the latter. This idea was originally discussed at the recent Executive Committee meeting. Ms. Mooney and Ms. Gripp volunteered to be part of the Event Planning/Outreach Committee. Mr. McDowell offered his assistance with specific duties the Committee generated. Mr. Running brought up the idea of having volunteers outside of the Council participate on the committees.

Ms. Finnessy presented a draft letter of recommendation for the *River to Ridges* vision. Partners noted a number of minor revisions, including sending the letter on behalf of the entire Council.

With revisions the letter of recommendation was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

(Kate Ferschweiler, meeting recorder; Megan Finnessy drafted the minutes)