

**AGENDA**  
**MCKENZIE WATERSHED COUNCIL**

**January 11, 2018**  
**Springfield Utility Board, 223 A St. Suite F**  
**Springfield**

- 1. Introductions and Approval of Agenda** **5:00 – 5:05**  
TBA, Facilitator  
*Action Requested:* Approve agenda.
  
- 2. General Public Comment Session** **5:05 – 5:15**  
  
*The Council invites public comment on any watershed issue related to its mission. The time limit for comments is three minutes. If you wish to make a comment, please complete a public comment card and provide it to staff before the session. The Council’s adopted public comment procedures are on the reverse side of this agenda.*
  
- 3. Approval of December 14 Meeting Minutes** **5:15 – 5:20**  
*Action Requested:* Approve minutes. (Attachment)
  
- 4. Partner Announcements** **5:20 – 5:40**
  
- 5. Staff Reports** **5:40 – 6:00**  
(Attachment)

**BREAK**

- 6. Watershed Action Teams for Enhancement, Restoration and Stewardship** **6:00 – 6:45**  
Presentation on the Watershed Action Teams for Enhancement, Restoration and Stewardship (WATERS) program, efforts to expand within the Upper Willamette River Basin and future outlook. Justin Demeter, Education Coordinator McKenzie Watershed Council and Maggie O’Driscoll, Education Coordinator, Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council

**Next Meeting:**

- Date: February 8, 2018
- Time: 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- Location: Weyerhaeuser Co. office 785 N. 42nd Street, Springfield, OR 97478 (east entrance).
- Presentation: *TBA*

**Contact:** Jared Weybright, 458-201-8150, [jared@mckenziawc.org](mailto:jared@mckenziawc.org), [www.mckenziawc.org](http://www.mckenziawc.org)

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURES MCKENZIE WATERSHED COUNCIL**

Adopted February 14, 2013

A general public comment period of at least ten minutes will be placed on each agenda at the beginning of the meeting. During this session, testimony is allowed on any matter relevant to the Council's mission. The facilitator shall determine relevance. The time limit for comments is three minutes, which can be reduced at the discretion of the facilitator. The facilitator also may allow public comment or questions on specific agenda items as they are addressed, with a three-minute time limit. The facilitator has the discretion to end public testimony if needed to make sure the Council completes its business.

Before members of the public may provide comments, first they must be recognized by the facilitator. Individuals should raise their hands to be recognized and provide their names and the organizations they represent, if any. The Council will require speakers to fill out a public comment card identifying themselves and the topic they wish to address.

Each agenda should include a statement describing these public comment procedures.

### **COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT**

To foster better stewardship of McKenzie River watershed resources, deal with issues in advance of resource degradation, and ensure sustainable watershed health, functions and uses. The Council will accomplish its mission through fostering voluntary partnerships, collaboration and public awareness.

### **MEETING AGREEMENTS**

- Honor the agenda or modify by agreement
- Candid and constructive conversation
- Ask questions for clarification and understanding
- Monitor speaking time
- Focus on problems (issues) not people
- Avoid sidebar conversations
- Listen carefully to each other; focus on content not style

### **ROLE OF THE FACILITATOR**

- Use meeting agreements for guidance
- Refrain from contributing your own ideas (if you feel strongly about providing an opinion on a certain issue, pass the gavel temporarily to another Exec. member)
- Keep group's attention focused on agenda items
- Make sure everyone has a chance to participate
- Maintain agreed upon time schedule
- Summarize to move from one topic to another (but don't try to bias what was just decided by the council)
- Coming to consensus:
  - Highlight where participants agree
  - Identify areas of disagreement
  - Develop plan for achieving consensus

**Draft Minutes**  
**McKenzie Watershed Council**  
**December 14, 2017**  
**Weyerhaeuser Co.**  
**785 N. 42<sup>nd</sup> (East Entrance)**  
**Springfield**

**Present:**

*Council Partners:*

Diane Albino (Mohawk Watershed Partnership), Brian Brazil (International Paper), Bob Bumstead (McKenzie Flyfishers), Dana Burwell (McKenzie River Guides), , Lara Colley (Resident Partner), Nate Day (McKenzie School District, Arlene Dietz (Rice Family Farms), Daniel Dietz (McKenzie River Trust), Rod Fosback (Northwest Steelheaders), David Kretzing (Resident Partner), Andy McWilliams (Resident Partner), Karl Morgenstern (EWEB), Libby Morrison (Wildish), Ralph Perkins (Upper Willamette SWCD), Joe Pishioneri (City of Springfield), Maryanne Reiter (Weyerhaeuser), Wade Stampe (Resident Partner), Sue Zeni (Resident Partner),

*Staff:* Justin Demeter, Jennifer Weber, Jared Weybright

*Visitors:* Randy Hledik, Matthew Prichard, Nancy Toth (EWEB), Todd Miller (City of Springfield)

**Absent:**

Carol Ach (Resident Partner), Chad Helms (Army Corps of Engineers), Mike McDowell (Resident Partner), Ray Rivera (McKenzie River Ranger District, USFS), Emily Semple (Eugene City Council), Mark Stephen (BLM), Jeff Ziller (ODFW), Steve Raymen (Resident Partner), Steve Mealey (McKenzie River Guides), Keir Miller (Lane County), Amanda Gilbert (Staff).

**1. Introductions and Approval of Agenda**

The proposed agenda approved as written, all partners showing consensus level 3.

**2. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**3. November 2017 Meeting Minutes**

Minutes from November, David Kretzing stated that Darren Cross is the new ranger at USFS McKenzie River Ranger Station. Council approved November meeting minutes as amended.

**4. Partner announcements:**

Ralph Perkins- UWSWCD will be hosting Mace Vaughan, a nationally recognized expert on pollinators, on Feb 6<sup>th</sup> (approximate 7:00 PM start time). Mr. Vaughan will be giving a presentation on pollinators at the Unitarian Church on 13<sup>th</sup> and Chambers. Flyers will be available at the next meeting.

Dana Burwell- McKenzie River Guides are continuing the push and fundraising effort for the McKenzie Discovery Center. Mr. Burwell commented on the recent MWC/USFS tour of the South Fork McKenzie River project site and Deer Creek (Upper) floodplain restoration project. There was concern from a number of members who guide on the South Fork regarding the loss of a navigable channel. About half a dozen guides have clients who regularly float the South Fork. After some discussion, the Guides voted unanimously to support the South Fork project based on the restoration potential of the project and potential benefit to the fishery.

Nate Day- McKenzie High School environmental science class students have been using Finn Rock Reach for scientific inquiry. The three groups have focused studies on soil health, highway runoff and its

effect on salmon, and moss as an air pollution indicator. Mr. Day expressed his gratitude to MRT for allowing access to Finn Rock Reach for these studies.

Karl Morgenstern- Mr. Morgenstern reported that EWEB is currently working on their 10-year strategic plan that will fund six existing programs; baseline water quality monitoring, emergency response system, Healthy Farms/Clean Water, Pure Water Partners, urban run-off mitigation). The EWEB Board will consider the adoption of the plan at its meeting on January 9<sup>th</sup>.

MRT- Mr. Dietz reported that MRT received a grant from Land Trust Alliance for the development of a site plan of Finn Rock Reach.

Bob Bumstead- Mr. Bumstead reported that he enjoyed his time with Salmon Watch this year and that it was a good season.

Andy McWilliams- Mr. McWilliams reported that Wayfarer Resort is a proud sponsor of the “Four Seasons on the McKenzie” collaboration with the Eugene Symphony this February. He also encouraged the council to buy tickets for the event.

## **5. Staff reports:**

Justin Demeter reported on preliminary Salmon Watch numbers and express gratitude for those that participated. He also reported that the WATERS program is going well, with students from Mohawk and McKenzie high schools using new equipment, funded through the EPA grant, for water quality testing. Students are now on break for the holidays. Mr. Demeter stated that the Salmon Watch Volunteer Appreciation event is being planned for January 19<sup>th</sup>.

Jennifer Weber reported that she was not at last meeting due to workload associated with the recently completed Deer Creek Phase II project. Contractors completed the project in mid-November. The project added seventeen whole trees to approximately 0.5 miles of the creek. Initial outreach through the Pure Waters Partners program has started. Initial landowner feedback has been positive with 23 replies, four access agreements completed, and five site visits scheduled for next week. The goal for the initial round of outreach is to complete 40 assessments. Outreach is a partnership among EWEB, SWCD, and MWC. Project maintenance is ongoing at several riparian restoration sites. At the Filacres property, contractors completed the site preparation through the removal of ivy and blackberry. Planting will occur in February 2018. At Whitewater Ranch round two of planting on Goose Creek will occur in February 2018. MWC staff, in partnership with the BLM, recently completed a site visit to the proposed in-stream restoration site on Deer Creek (lower) with the OWEB Willamette Review Team. The site visit is part of the OWEB grant review process. The site visit seemed to go well, but funding is very competitive this cycle.

Ms. Weber stated that Jared Weybright is running late due to a scheduling conflict with a Meyer Memorial Trust meeting in Portland. Ms. Weber stated that interviews for the new operations staff member have concluded. Five candidates were interviewed, and the new staff member will start Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>. The MWC and USFS continue planning and outreach for the Lower South Fork McKenzie project. A site visit was completed on December 5<sup>th</sup>. The Rivers-to-Ridges partnership formally accepted the MWC as a member last week. Mr. Weybright joined the meeting late. Mr. Weybright reported that local watershed councils, the MRT and the Friends of Buford Park have been meeting over the last year and a half to explore collaboration opportunities. The group successfully applied to the Meyer Memorial Trust for support expanding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) actions among local conservation organizations. Staff will provide additional information on the topic later. USFS Researchers from HJ Andrews will present on Western Cascade fire ecology at the March MWC meeting. Mr. Weybright also stated that staff is trying out written reports in addition to oral reports at monthly meetings.

## **6. Presentation: Pits, Politics, and People: Understanding the Willamette Valley's Aggregate Mining Industry and the Role of Enhancement Reclamation in the West.**

Libby Morrison, an Environmental Specialist with the Wildish Company, gave a presentation on aggregate mining reclamation in the West, specifically the Willamette Valley, and factors that influence the industry. Ms. Morrison completed two graduate degrees at Oregon State University, and the presentation is a combination of her research. The presentation will be available on the MWC website.

Maryanne Reiter asked about the difference between reclamation and restoration of gravel mines. Ms. Morrison responded that each state is different, and Oregon law states that mines established after 1972 must have an approved reclamation plan. Basic reclamation requirements include 3:1 slope and re-seeding plan. Sites predating 1972 are exempt (grandfather clause). Ms. Reiter asked if there are local sites that predate 1972. Ms. Morrison responded that yes, there are several included the Springfield Quarry south of downtown Springfield.

Ms. Dietz asked about the fill source for reclamation projects. Ms. Morrison stated that sources vary from site to site, but all fill must follow clean fill rules and that DEQ must approve fill material. Demolition material is a frequently used source material.

Mr. Perkins asked about the future supply of locally sourced gravel. Ms. Morrison responded that the next 50 years look good. After that time, supply may be limited. In that case, pits have to dig lower and crush material. This process generally yields a lower quality material. Additionally, residential expansion results in structures built on top of gravel resources.

Mr. Morgenstern asked about recycling demolition material. Ms. Morrison stated that asphalt can be recycled, but other materials are more difficult to recycle as aggregate.

Mr. Burwell asked about restoration plans for the hardened banks at operations near Armitage Park on Lower McKenzie. Ms. Morrison stated that it is not in the current long-term plan, but maybe an option in the future. Mr. Burwell asked how long mining is expected continue at the current site downstream of Armitage Park. Ms. Morrison stated that it could be decades.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm**

**Next meeting will be the SUB, Springfield, Thursday, January 11, 2018.**

**McKenzie Watershed Council**  
**Staff Reports**  
**December 2017 – January 2018**

**Education Program**

Prepared by Justin Demeter

Several WATERS outings occurred in December prior to a winter break. Stream Habitat crews braved the cold to survey several side channels on the Lower South Fork McKenzie River. The Thurston HS Water Quality team began monitoring four sites on the lower South Fork, and the Springfield HS Water Quality team continued monitoring at urban sites in Springfield. Springfield Public School middle school teams completed work at BWCA and will move to the Dehne property off Deerhorn Road in January. Coburg Charter Middle School also resumed its project at Green Island in early January. The Mohawk HS and McKenzie Water Quality teams resumed monitoring in early January. In early January, high school teams began data analysis lab work in preparation for spring presentations.

A Salmon Watch Volunteer Appreciate Event is planned for January 18<sup>th</sup>. All participants in the 2017 season are welcome and encouraged to attend. Contact Justin Demeter for further details.

**Restoration Program**

Prepared by Jennifer Weber

Staff continues to work with PWP landowners as part of its outreach efforts. A total 24 landowners have responded with interest in the riparian assessment and potential program participation. Of these landowners, five sites have progressed to having the desktop GIS assessment completed, and nine access agreements have been completed. Site visits will continue to occur in January.

Staff are wrapping up details for the OWEB Small grant for the Dehne property, and expect to begin site preparations in spring/summer 2018.

Staff continues to meet with partners and potential contractors to finalize planning and budgets for the Lower South Fork Floodplain Enhancement Project.

**Directors/Operations Report**

Prepared by Amanda Gilbert and Jared Weybright

Chase Antonovich began as the new Operations Assistant on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Chase previously interned with the Council during the 2016 Salmon Watch Season, and was a regular volunteer at Salmon Watch in 2017. He has worked for the past year at The Green Store in Eugene, helping run office operations. He grew up in Springfield, attended Thurston HS and has an environmental studies degree from the University of Oregon. He is a regular boater and angler of the McKenzie River and is enthusiastic about the opportunity to work with the Council. Welcome Chase!

Staff completed the 2017 Annual 412 Technical Team Report in December. The report provides background on the 412 Technical Team, an update on 2017 activities, and status of previously funded conservation and restoration projects.

Staff also completed final reporting requirements for a 2015 grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Bring Back the Natives (BBN) program in support of the Deer Creek Floodplain Enhancement Project. The report summaries project implementation over the course of 2016-17 and monitoring efforts completed in 2017. Both reports are available upon request.

Amanda and Jared met with the Senator Jeff Merkley's local field representative, Country Flathers in mid-December. A press release from the EPA announcing local environmental education-funding award caught her attention. The hour-long meeting summarized the Councils education and restoration programs, highlighted local partnerships and touched on funding challenges. It was a great opportunity to open up lines of communication and develop a relationship.

The office closed for the Holidays from December 22 – 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **December Grant Updates**

- The MWC's 2017 application to the NFWF BBN program was unsuccessful. The application sought funding (approximately \$100,000) for the Lower South Fork Floodplain Enhancement Project. Given past support for the McKenzie River Sub-basin projects, this news was unexpected. Staff will seek feedback from NFWF regarding the application.
- The Willamette National Forest submitted an application to the Mt. Hood National Forest Stewardship Group seeking \$400,000 for the Lower South Fork Floodplain Enhancement Project. The Alliance will administer the funding, with the majority going towards contracted services.