

AGENDA
MCKENZIE WATERSHED COUNCIL
November 12, 2020
5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/98603326399?pwd=c3dDd09mV1RiOVVlbndaTjB5OHFXQT09>

- 1. Approval of Agenda and Zoom Logistics** **5:00**
Facilitator: Jared Weybright
Action Requested - Approve agenda

- 2. Approval of October Meeting Minutes** **5:05**
Action Requested – Approve October meeting minutes

- 3. USFS BAER Team Survey Results from the Holiday Farm Fire** **5:10**
Presentation by Johan Hogervorst, USFS Hydrologist
Burn Area Emergency Response (BAER) assessment teams evaluate watershed conditions to determine the level of potential risks to human life, safety, property, critical natural and cultural-heritage resources, and determine if there are appropriate and effective emergency stabilization measures that can be implemented on federal lands in a timely manner to reduce unacceptable risks from potential flooding and debris flow threats.
Information Only

- 4. Partner Announcements and Checks-In** **5:40**
Combined introductions and Partner updates. Please feel free to provide written updates ahead of the meeting that we will share with full Partner list.
Information Only

- 5. McKenzie Recovery Task Force Overview** **6:10**
Presenter: Jared Weybright MWC Director
Update on EWEB-led local efforts to conduct watershed recovery and restoration activities
Information Only

Next Meeting:

- December 10, 2020

Contact: Jared Weybright, 458-201-8150, jared@mckenziawc.org, 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

McKenzie Watershed is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: McKenzie Watershed Council November Meeting

Time: Nov 12, 2020 05:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98603326399?pwd=c3dDd09mV1RiOVVlbndaTjB5OHFXQT09>

Meeting ID: 986 0332 6399

Passcode: 726517

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,98603326399#,,,,,0#,,726517# US (San Jose)

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Dial by your location

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+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 986 0332 6399

Passcode: 726517

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aYxAebTO>

Meeting Minutes
McKenzie Watershed Council
October 8th, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Present: Carol Ach (Resident Partner), Brian Brazil (International Paper), Becca Brooke (BLM), Lara Colley (Resident Partner), Arlene Dietz (Rice Farms), Daniel Dietz (MRT), Emma Garner (OFW), Andy McWilliams (Resident Partner), Steve Mealy (McKenzie Guides), Kier Miller (Lane County), Todd Miller (City of Springfield), Sydney Nilan (UWSN), Ralph Perkins (UWSWCD), Steve Raymen (Resident Partner), Will Rutheford (Resident Partner), Aaron Staniak (Lane County), Kelly Wood (Wildish)

Staff: Chase Antonovich, Jared Weybright

Guest: Al Hrynyshyn, Wendy Jones

1. Introductions and Approval of Agenda and Zoom Logistics

Ralph Perkins motioned to approve the October 8th meeting agenda. Agenda approved all partners showing consensus level 3.

2. Partner Announcements and Checks-In

Kier Miller reported that the land management division of Lane County has begun focusing on Holiday Farm Fire response efforts.

Bob Bumstead reported that he was able to float the lower McKenzie this last week and was rewarded with great fishing.

Daniel Dietz reported that the MRT had been working to coordinate relief efforts and secure supplies for displaced families. He continued that they have begun to focus more of their efforts on assisting with PWP efforts.

Ralph Perkins reported that he was grateful for the PWP partnering with the Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District.

Brian Brazil reported that International Paper is looking to include staff in any fire recovery volunteer efforts where applicable.

Mike McDowell reported that local residents have been working to use the old hatchery as a food bank for those displaced by the fire.

Arlene Dietz reported that Rice Farms was not affected by the fire but suffered some damage from the September 9th wind storm.

Emma Garner reported that no hatchery structures were damaged by the Holiday Farm Fire. She continued that ODFW staff are taking the sorters out, and that they were able to collect enough fish for broodstock efforts.

Lara Colley reported that her property was burnt but her home is undamaged. Ms. Colley continued that many of her neighbors suffered significant loss, although the community is appreciative of all the support they have been given.

Rod Fosback reported that the Northwest Steelheaders were able to clip 13,580 smolts to be put in the pond at their facility.

Steve Raymen reported that his property east of Walterville did not sustain any damage. He continued that the fire came within 2 miles of his home. Mr. Raymen noted that he was appreciative of the volunteer efforts specifically from Lucky Paws Animal Shelter, as they helped him find his cat.

Andy McWilliams reported that his home was lost to the fire, and he is now living in Eugene. He continued that volunteer fire crews spent 16 hours fighting to save the Goodpasture Bridge. Mr. McWilliams lost 9 cabins at the Wayfarer and is grateful to EWEB and Lane County for getting power restored to the area.

Chad Helms reported that Cougar and Blue River Dams suffered minimal damage to the facilities. He continued that despite losing both gauging stations, power was not lost at the facility and they were able to continue planting fish above the dam. At this time over 400 total fish have been transported. Monday evening after fire started, the regulating outlet gate was opened. On Friday, the USACE was able to get back in and everything was still powered fish facility still running and full of fish. Both gauging stations but have since repaired

Steve Mealy reported that the Leaburg hatchery transfer is still underway. Additionally, the McKenzie Guides have continued helping with the Discovery Center and have taken over a 99-year lease of the old McKenzie Hatchery. Mr. Mealy continued that the Discovery Center has added climate change as a focal point.

Becca Brooke reported that BLM staff have been heavily engaged in fire recovery work through ODF and the USFS. She continued that BLM land was hit hard, although as of now the fires are at 82% containment with a great deal of equipment being demobilized. Currently, the BLM incidence response team is working to investigate threats to public safety. Ms. Brooke noted that she very grateful for the partnership between BLM, ODF, and the USFS.

Todd Miller reported that the City of Springfield is trying to help with fire recovery efforts as much as possible. Currently, the City of Springfield is working through the PWP and collaborating on restoration efforts. He continued that they are planning to meet with the DEQ to discuss advancing investments into shade credits.

Karl Morgenstern reported that electric, water, and generation were all affected by the fire. He continued that 300 power poles were burned, with many miles of line now needing replaced. Mr. Morgenstern estimated that EWEB will replace as many poles in the coming months as they typically would over the course of 3 years. Currently there are roughly 3 dozen homes still without power. Mr. Morgenstern continued that the large pulse of water that was released from Leaburg overpowered the water treatment plant, showing that generation staff needs to better communicate with the downstream workers. Additionally, EWEB will be leading with the watershed recovery efforts moving forward through the Watershed Recovery Task Force.

Dave Thomas reported that the McKenzie Flyfishers discussed ways to help with fire recovery efforts in their board meeting earlier this week. He encouraged folks to reach out to the club if there are ways they can help.

5. Upper Willamette SWCD Fall 2020 Tax Initiative

Al Hrynshyn of the Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District, provided background on the tax base initiative, noting that the SWCD has been working on this for several years prior to getting it onto the November 2020 ballot. He continued that this would provide much needed, stable funding, for conservation in the area. Mr. Hrynshyn estimated that this would generate roughly \$2.3 million annually and will serve all of Lane County.

Arlene Dietz reported that the McKenzie Watershed Alliance Board of Directors voted to endorse the tax base initiative and would recommend it to the Council to endorse. She continued that this would provide a reliable funding source to the MWC and other organizations in the area.

Karl Morgenstern noted that he cannot endorse this initiative due to a conflict of interest in working for EWEB, but as a Lane County resident he fully supports this measure.

Daniel Dietz reported that the McKenzie River Trust discussed this initiative and their Board voted to endorse it.

Kelly Wood asked if the SWCD has a plan for how to use an estimated \$2.3 million when they have been running on an annual budget of \$173,000. Mr. Hrynyshyn responded that they plan to increase staff while also dispersing funds to other local organizations. Hiring someone with experience in public funding is a priority.

Bob Bumstead called for a consensus, for the McKenzie Watershed Council to endorse the Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District tax base initiative. Daniel Dietz seconded the motion. Tax base endorsement approved, all partners showing consensus level 3.

4. Local Coordinated Response to Holiday Farm Fire

Jared Weybright provided updates to the coordinated fire response from local organizations. EWEB, the MRT, MWC, SWCD, and other PWP members have begun working together on a coordinated outreach, assessment, and restoration plan to assist landowners impacted by the Holiday Farm Fire. Partners are using a combination of local funding and potential federal funding through the NRCS, FEMA, and others to address priority water quality and habitat concerns on private lands. Mr. Weybright continued that through EWEB funding, they are able to contract out for things like hazard tree removal. The hope is that word of mouth between neighboring landowners will allow this effort to grow rapidly.

Becca Brooke noted that BLM is looking to begin clearing roadside hazard trees beginning October 19th and will likely continue with that work for the next 6 months.

5. Council meeting schedule

Jared Weybright reported that staff is proposing that the Council resume monthly meeting, via a virtual forum. There are several short-term topics that the Council needs to address, like the FY21 budget. Council meetings could also provide a forum for information sharing and collaboration around the Holiday Farm Fire response and recovery.

Partners were in favor of resuming a virtual monthly meeting schedule on the second Thursday of each month.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.