

**Phone**: (541) 923-4358 **X**. 132

## **COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

June 26, 2018 Madras Aviation Building ~ Madras, Oregon 4:30 PM

#### ATTENDING:

John Speece (MDWC)
Mark Goodwin (JCSWCD)

- \*Guy Chittenden (Madras Schools)
- \*Jennifer Mickelson (USFS)
- \*Lloyd Forman (Landowner)
- \*Jeff Rasmussen (Jefferson County)

Scott Samsel (Landowner)

- \*Theresa DeBardelaben (ODA)
- Bill Atherton (Landowner)
- \* Board Member

## **SUMMARY OF BOARD MOTIONS**

**Call to Order:** The June 26, 2018 Middle Deschutes Watershed Council (MDWC) was called to order by Chair Jenn Mickelson at 4:40PM. Introductions were made all around.

**Approval of April 24, 2018 Council Minutes:** The council reviews the minutes from the previous meeting. No changes were noted.

Motion #1: Motion made by Scott Samsel to approve the council minutes as submitted. Second by Guy Chittenden

Approval of Council Financials: Council financials were reviewed, and no changes were noted.

Motion #2: Motion made by Scott Samsel to approve the council financials as submitted. Second by Theresa Debardelaben.

**Presentation: Jenn Mickelson** – Project proposal for a meadow restoration in the upper Trout Creek Watershed. Jenn discussed the project and agreed to host a tour. The council discussed applying for an OWEB grant to fund a portion of the work. The council agreed to add Ingraham Meadow to the Capacity Work Plan and it was put to motion.

Motion #3: Motion made by Jeff Rasmussen to approve the council adding Ingraham Meadow to the Council Workplan. Second by Scott Samsel.



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## **Coordinator Update and Board Business:**

- Recent Activity:
- Adopt-a-Road and Trail Schedule:

The Adopt-a-Road was held in October. Seven volunteers attended and 22 bags of trash were collected. The next Adopt-a-Road will be scheduled for the fall. The Adopt-a-Trail event was held today. The crew collected 6 bags of trash. Fall clean-up will be scheduled for October.

# Grant and Project Updates:

Gray Family Foundation Grant. Awarded in February. Grant Period 2018-2020

The council applied for and was awarded a Gray Family Foundation grant to fund the environmental education program. This grant is awarded annually with up to two additional years of renewal. This grant will specifically fund education programming for  $3^{rd} - 8^{th}$  graders. This spring the council worked with students from Madras, Buff, Metolius Elementary Schools, and Warm Springs K-8 Academy. Students received two in-class presentations followed with a field trip.

## **OWEB Council Capacity Grant.**

Awarded in July.

**Grant Period** 07/01/2017 - 06/30/2019

The council was awarded full funding for the OWEB Council Capacity Grant during the 2017-2019 biennium. This will fund the coordinator position and council activities.

# OWEB Technical Assistance Grant: Landowner Recruitment Grant Period 10/1/2016 – 12/31/2018

This technical assistance project will engage with, educate and recruit landowners in the Upper Willow Creek Watershed to participate in restoration projects. The goal is to address watershed limiting factors and action items identified in the Willow Creek Watershed Analysis (2000), the Proper Functioning Assessment Report Willow Creek Watershed (2005), and during landowner meetings and consultations yet to occur. A landowner meeting was held June 6 at the Madras Fire Hall. The meeting was attended by landowners and partner organizations. A contractor was hired to facilitate the meeting, outreach, and provide a report of those efforts. Two landowners have started to work with the council on projects in response to this outreach, and outreach will continue to others in the Uppers Willow Creek watershed. Three projects are in different phases of planning and/or implementation.



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## Willow Creek Upland and Riparian Enhancement – Update from Jenn Mickelson - Forest Service:

OWEB Willow Creek Juniper Treatment: The juniper treatment is completed. The contract bid came in under budget so an extra 300 acres was added to project area. The Forest Service will burn the downed juniper in 2018 and 2019.

# **Upper Willow Creek Temperature Monitoring:**

The council has partnered with ODA to launch a long term water temperature monitoring at five locations in the Upper Willow Creek Watershed. This will occur over 20 years with the objective of capturing water temperature improvements associated with management activities on private lands.

### **EPA Watershed Education Programming in Central Oregon:**

This is a project funded through an EPA Environmental Education Local Grant with a goal of delivering classroom, hands-on and place based field trips to 840 Central Oregon Students over two years. The MDWC worked with Madras High School again this year and provided in-class education to 120 freshman biology students and a field trip to 60 of those students. The students rotated through education stations during the field trip and took part in installing native riparian plants. This funding source will expire in June, 2018.

### **OWEB Small Grant: Fessler Upper Willow Creek Juniper Treatment.**

This project will treated 120 acres of stage 2 and 3 Juniper within the project area. The trees were cut by chainsaw, and some wood will be removed for firewood and other uses.

## **OWEB Small Grant: Scabby Hollow Restoration.**

The purpose of this project is to accelerate the process of stream aggradation and recovery by installing Beaver Dam Analogues' (BDA), stabilize the stream banks, and provide increased stream shading. Specifically, for this project 3-5 BDA's will be installed throughout this reach of Willow Creek. Riparian plantings of native plants and shrubs will follow installation of the BDA's. These plantings will benefit from the predicted outcomes associated with the BDA's.

#### **Discover Nature Camp:**

The MDWC intended to partner with Jefferson County Kids Club to host a 4-day camp. The camp was scheduled to have two days of science activity stations for kids to rotate through, and two days of field trips. Due to low enrollment the camp was canceled by the Kids Club. We will attempt to host the camp in June, 2019.



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# **Deschutes River Collaborative Project:**

This is a collaborative project with Trout Unlimited, and the BLM. Objectives for this project:

1. Update and share spawning habitat maps to support monitoring efforts and awareness for the public, and provide these locations as an outreach tool for anglers and boaters. 2. Place signs during spawning season that share information for each species, and tips for care. 3. Survey and improve top 10 access points to reduce riparian vegetation loss and provide cover for fish. 4. Create an online story map to share the importance of spawning habitat and recreating carefully along the river, and including updates on population status and habitat conservation efforts. The council will take the lead on deliverable 3. There is a Lower River Managers Meeting scheduled for July where the council and TU will present this concept and seek approval to move forward.

## **Partner Updates and Comments:**

Scott Samsel discussed his recent trip and an idea to recruit kids to treat noxious weeds at public places such as city/state owned parks and campgrounds.

Jeff Rasmussen announced the county was awarded \$297k to complete work at Juniper Hills Park.

Next Meeting: The Next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, August 28, 2018 4:30 PM

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.