

South Santiam Watershed Council

Meeting Minutes, 2/18/2009

In attendance: Frank Nelson, Frank Garcia, KC Briggs, Karen Stromyheir, Sarah Johnson, Jennifer Held, Jerry King, Katie Kohl, Norm Kaldahl, Nancy Gilmore, Sean Larsen, Dick Bays, Eric Hartstein, Erika Lang, Pam Archer

January Meeting Minutes Review: Accepted

Fiscal Sponsorship Discussion with Cascade Pacific RC&D: Karen, Sarah and Jennifer led a discussion about the fiscal sponsorship Cascade Pacific RC&D provides for the South Santiam Watershed Council. Currently, Cascade Pacific provides services at a rate of 10% per grant. Sarah presented a draft fiscal agreement & amendment that lists suggested services beyond the fiscal management. She also discussed potential insurance for watershed councils (Directors/Officers and Liability) being offered at approximately \$500/year, but 10-12 watershed councils are needed and would have to go through Cascade Pacific (or possibly Network of Oregon WSC's). Eric will check around for interest in other Willamette watershed councils.

Those in attendance went over Cascade Pacific/Council responsibilities in draft agreement. It was agreed that South Santiam Watershed Council will go over the draft agreement at the March meeting and send suggestions to Cascade Pacific.

STEWARDS Update: Members of the Watershed Restoration Team (formerly Junior Watershed Council) were unfortunately unable to attend the meeting. They meet at Sweet Home High School every Tuesday. The 2009 watershed project will be to clean up a dispersed campsite in the spring. To gauge their progress, folks are encouraged to look at the blog on the South Santiam WSC website.

Outdoor School will be held May 27th-May 29th, 2009 at Camp Tadmor in Lebanon. Oak Heights, Siletz, and Lourdes School in Scio will be attending. Pam is doing pre-outdoors school sessions at Oak Heights. Katie mentioned that the Orion Foundation may be a good fit for future grants.

South Santiam WSC Project Update: Eric updated the Council on how projects are proceeding with state budget cuts to grant programs. The Japanese knotweed control project was recommended for funding by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board and the Oregon Department of Agriculture, but both programs may have funding cuts. Federal Payments to Counties funding, if awarded, may not be available until mid-summer. The Ames Creek Fish Passage Project was also recommended for funding by OWEB and other sources of funding may included federal economic stimulus dollars. The Council was also a part of Federal Payments to Counties proposals from OSU (early detection of weeds) and the Linn County Road Department (baseline monitoring and assessment). OSU graduate students evaluated the first site identified through the Fish Passage Barrier Inventory Program (Jack Creek, a tributary to Hamilton Creek).

Meyer Memorial Trust/Bonneville Environmental Foundation Update: Eric updated the Council on the news that the SSWC was selected along with the North Santiam and Calapooia WSCs ("all as one group) to be a candidate for a "Willamette Model Watershed". Two groups will be selected for funding in 2009, and another two in 2010. The program will fund groups for up to \$125,000/year for 10 years to develop and implement a long range testable restoration plan. The Council's will receive a planning grant of up to \$5,000 to develop a narrative proposal and matrix which will be complete by June 15, 2009.

Landowner Recruitment for Restoration Update: Erika updated the Council on her regional program. Plantings were being installed at Brown Creek (tributary to McDowell Creek) the week of February 23rd. Goats are working on the ivy at the project on Thomas Creek, with Scio High School students doing additional ivy removal and native plantings in the coming weeks. There will be a community meeting for the Crabtree Creek Restoration Project occurring along three miles in the Hungry Hill Road area on March 12th.

