

Meeting Summary (3/20/2009 Draft)

CLAGGETT CREEK WATERSHED COUNCIL

5:37 pm – 7:00 pm, Thursday, March 19, 2009
Scenic Valley Farms
12423 River Road North, Gervais, OR

Attendees: Marty Matiskainen, Bob Zielinski Jr., David Philbrick, Jeff Anderson, Patty Tipton, Kate Tarter, Mark Caillier

1. Marty Matiskainen called the meeting to order
2. Introductions
3. Minutes: Motion to approve February 25, 2009 meeting summary (as amended 3/18/2009) made and seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Public Comment: None
5. Mark and Kate had attended the 3/18/2009, Mid-Willamette Watershed Alliance Meeting.
 - OWEB is changing the status of the Mid-Willamette Watershed Alliance from an umbrella organization to a Watershed Council. This action is being taken because only one of four of the Watershed Councils under their umbrella (Battlecreek, Claggett, Pringle, and Mill) has been active and significant allocated funding has been returned unused. Technically, this means that the Claggett Creek Watershed Council is a “sub-“ Watershed Council, but according to Mark, OWEB does not care if we continue to refer to ourselves as a Watershed Council. In practical terms, Kate and Mark do not feel this makes any difference to our ability to apply for grants or to carry out projects. It will reduce the amount of funding available to the Watershed Alliance and the amount of support available from the Watershed Alliance.
 - Currently available funding opportunities include a contract with a resource to help identify funding possibilities for specific projects. There are also \$5,000 grants available through the Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District for specific projects. In general, these involve matching the funding with the value of volunteer labor. In order to conduct the projects, you need the volunteers, both to carry out the work and to generate the value for the needed match. May 15 is the deadline for the next grant possibility. Kate also indicated that Lucia (sp?) with the Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District would be willing to review and provide feedback on a draft proposal if it were submitted in April.

- Mark became aware of a grant opportunity to acquire wetlands at places that used to be gravel pits. He will discuss this with Rob Kissler and Bill Lawyer in Keizer Public Works to explore the possibility of acquiring the gravel pit adjacent to Keizer Rapids Park.
 - Salem Urban Watershed Council Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit. Kate has contacted them and determined that they currently hold \$1,919 in funds that belong to the Claggett Creek Watershed Council. Mark has communicated with them that expenditure of funding intended for the Claggett Creek Watershed needs to flow through the Claggett Creek Watershed Council. The Salem Urban Watershed Council will continue to receive and hold funding for the Claggett Creek Watershed Council without charging any administrative fees. This eliminates the need for the Claggett Creek Watershed Council to expend the time, effort, and cost of seeking our own 501c3 designation.
 - Marty agreed to identify and pursue grant possibilities. Kate will work with him to help find the resources needed to complete the grant applications and projects successfully. One of the first opportunities Marty will learn more about is the funding available through the Marion County Soil and Water District.
6. Kate raised a possibility of getting an intern from Corban College. Such an intern could help prepare grants, recruit, and manage volunteers. Her understanding is that such interns commit for a 6-month period and that they are available from Corban College over the summer. Although the steering committee liked this idea, they felt it was premature at this time. First, it is important to get a more concrete idea of the project or projects we are working to complete and have a better idea of the resources and volunteers needed to carry out the work. We expect to be pursuing this possibility at some point in the future.
 7. Robert described an idea to improve Claggett Creek from the Northwest quadrant of River and Lockhaven to the first bridge over Claggett to the north. Following discussion, the steering committee unanimously approved the following motion: To pursue cleaning up, beautifying, and improving Claggett Creek from the NW quadrant at Lockhaven and River Road to the first bridge to the north as CCWC's first "shovel-in-hand" project.
 - To take the first step, Mark will consult with Elizabeth to determine what needs to be done, what can be done, and land ownership. Kate mentioned that Ken Bearley (sp?) at DLCD is a resource who may be able to provide technical help and advice.
 - Mark will also work with Elizabeth to identify the 5 TMDL sites that Keizer is working to address.
 8. David will talk with Dennis about writing a letter to Salem, Marion County, and the Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District to introduce and formally recognize the Claggett Creek Watershed Council. It was felt this would be helpful as we start responding to grant possibilities.

9. The next CCWC meeting will be held Friday April 17 from 5:30 to 7:00. David will confirm that it can be held at the new Keizer Civic Center.
10. The meeting adjourned at 7:00.