

**Klamath Watershed Partnership
Board Meeting – Thursday, January 26, 2017
South Portal Conference Room
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

Members Present: Anne Wenner, Roger Smith, Dani Watson, Karl Wenner, Shirley Kerns, Steve Kandra, and Daniel Leavell
Members Absent: Matt Walter
Quorum Present? Yes
Staff Present: Bill Lehman and Leigh Ann Vradenburg
Presiding Officer: Anne Wenner
Announcements: None

Minutes

- Minutes from the October 20, 2016 meeting were distributed electronically and made available in hard copy at the meeting. A motion to approve the October 20, 2016 board meeting minutes as presented was made by Anne Wenner; seconded by Roger Smith. No discussion. Motion carried.

Financials – Bill Lehman

- Bill distributed financial reports. As requested he added a column to the secured grants table to indicate the 2017 portion of funds available for each budget category. He noted that the BLM RAC Horsecamp Rim Juniper Removal project total was incorrect; it should be \$30,255.
- For the pending grants page, Bill indicated that it was likely that the USFS RAC weed grants would be funded at \$15,000 each. Roger suggested that KWP see if the USFS will need additional assistance with their weed program due to the hiring freeze. It was noted that the Council Support grant was presented twice, and that the blue column contained the correct figures. The pending GOA grant is not reflected on spreadsheet, but it is likely to be funded, and KWP will administer those funds.
- A summary page included all of the current grants, their expiration dates, and the amount of the grants used. Daniel thanked the staff for their grant writing efforts.
- Bill presented a payroll worksheet that showed current personnel costs and a proposal for a \$1 raise for each staff person starting in Feb. 2017. A motion to approve the \$1/hr raise for both employees was made by Anne Wenner; seconded by Daniel Leavell. No discussion. 4 yeas; Shirley Kerns abstained. Motion carried. (Note Karl Wenner and Dani Watson arrived subsequent to this vote.)

Project Manager Report – Leigh Ann Vradenburg

- Leigh Ann gave an update on the status of the Langell Valley planning efforts. The OWEB TA grant was awarded, and a subsequent opportunity for planning funding has also been approved through the NRCS National Water Quality Initiative. KWP, KSWCD, BOR, NRCS, and ODEQ are now moving forward with monthly planning meetings, a plan to do water sampling, participation in Langell Valley and Horsefly Irrigation District meetings, and public outreach meetings.
- Leigh Ann said that the BLM RAC proposal for juniper work on Dave Noble's property would likely be funded. There may be an opportunity to partner with NRCS EQIP to fund juniper cutting on the remainder of the property.
- Two weed grants were closed out at the end of the calendar year, and there will be new weed grants for Keno and Sprague Rive. To date, KWP has worked with the county to treat 403.5 and 2089 acres in those regions, respectively.
- Leigh Ann and Bill are jointly working to close out the past beaver grants and to plan for the newly funded OWEB beaver management grant. Based on meetings with a Technical Advisory Committee of the KWP Board and with ODFW, there is an interest in reassessing what we want to accomplish with the beaver program. There is current interest by a PhD student at OSU in developing a remote sensing tool to aid in beaver management. Karl emphasized the statewide interest in beavers and suggested that an OWEB beaver FIP (focused investment partnership) might be appropriate. Roger suggested that getting data from ODFW, ODA, the county animal control, and

others on beaver harvest would be useful in better understanding their numbers, habitat preferences, etc. Discussions will continue with partners and the potential student.

- Leigh Ann is looking to build a partnership with Green Diamond Resource Company to help them address some of their fencing, off-stream watering, spring development, and road decommissioning projects. She indicated that her current engagement with the Klamath-Lake Forest Health Partnership would help in developing technical and financial resources to do larger scale projects with multiple partners. She worked with Daniel and Amy Markus (USFS) to submit a National Forest Foundation proposal in December to support private-lands mapping, planning, and outreach in the East Hills area associated with USFS restoration projects.

Grant Funding Update – Bill Lehman

- Bill reviewed the grant proposal status list. Two of the USFS RAC proposals were declined; the one for Dave Noble's juniper may be covered by other funding sources and the Yainax Butte spring project could be eligible for resubmittal with some modifications.

Executive Director Report – Bill Lehman

- Bill discussed the marketing, branding, and outreach efforts for KWP, the beaver program, and the nonpoint source pollution prevention program. The board discussed possible marketing items including nicer canvas bags, pens, and coffee mugs. Daniel said that it would be great to have outreach efforts include the soil and water station at the Klamath Forest Tour in September. Advertising may be an option with DEQ NPS funding, but not with county funding.
- Bill discussed the status of the Energy and Water Savings Program – results provided by Energy Trust: Between 2015 and 2016 Energy Trust of Oregon assisted 19 farmers from a KWP list of contacts. This resulted in 27 irrigation and energy efficiency improvements saving 560,000 kWh. In 2014, prior to KWP doing site assessments, they had 8 recommended contacts, none of which resulted in a complete project. Support to continue the program anticipated through USDA-REDA, SNW, and NRCS-RCPP.
- KWP will likely need to find new office space by the summer when the lease is up. Bill asked that board keep an eye open for appropriately-sized office space under our current budget of \$1100.
- Bill is now on the board for the Network of Watershed Councils.
- Bill and Leigh Ann will be attending the State of the Beaver conference in February.
- Bill is working on the OWEB Council Support grant that is due March 6th. He provided a copy of the draft budget to the board.
- The Federal Indirect Rate for 2017 has been set at 11.96%.
- The NFWF grant interest of \$804.71 is to be spent on work consistent with the project goals as per the NFWF finance team.

Other

- Leigh Ann noted that it is looking promising that the OWEB Monitoring grant developed to address the Oregon Department of Forestry's Stream Classification Database will be funded.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm

Next board meeting - April 27, 2017

Minutes submitted by:

Leigh Ann Vradenburg
Acting Secretary