

**Klamath Watershed Partnership
Board Meeting – Thursday, April 20, 2017
South Portal Conference Room
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

Members Present: Roger Smith, Matt Walter
Members Absent: Daniel Leavell, Karl Wenner, Steve Kandra, Anne Wenner, Shirley Kerns, Dani Watson
Quorum Present? No
Staff Present: Bill Lehman, Teresa Wicks, and Leigh Ann Vradenburg
Presiding Officer: Matt Walter
Announcements: None

Minutes

- Minutes from the January 26, 2017 meeting were distributed electronically and made available in hard copy at the meeting. A quorum was not available for a vote.

Financials – Bill Lehman

- Bill distributed financial reports and covered the fiscal year budget, payroll worksheet, and grants tables provided.
- Bill indicated that we had received a letter from OWEB indicating that KWP met the criteria for a watershed council and would be recommended for the highest level of funding
- Bill indicated that a board self-assessment is required by OWEB and that he would be sending it out by email
- Bill indicated that the lease for the office space would be up in July. We will likely be moving across the hall and trading spaces with KCEDA. We will likely keep our suite letter for ease of paperwork for both organizations.

Project Manager Report – Leigh Ann Vradenburg

- Leigh Ann covered the two OWEB proposals she had been working on for submission this round. The first is a Technical Assistance (TA) grant where KWP is the applicant. It will build on the efforts of the Klamath-Lake Forest Health Partnership as they start a new project associated with the USFS East Hills and Lobert focus areas. The TA grant will support outreach to and education of landowners, and mapping/inventory of private forestlands. The second grant is a restoration grant submitted by Klamath Soil and Water Conservation District for which KWP is a partner. The grant will involve juniper cutting and other forest health practices on 6 private ownerships. These are properties already enrolled in NRCS EQIP, and it is anticipated that this funding would increase the pace and scale of restoration.
- Leigh Ann gave an update on the status of the Langell Valley planning efforts and indicated that there would be additional water sampling in partnership with ODEQ. Roger suggested that Leigh Ann contact the Bureau of Reclamation for past hydrolab data. There was a public meeting in Lorella in March that was well attended, and Leigh Ann and Brian Quick have conducted several site visits.
- The OWEB Stream Classification Database is anticipated to be awarded soon, after which Leigh Ann will work with ODF and ODFW this summer to identify priority areas and begin outreach.
- The RAC weed grants are under way and the contracts are in place with the county. Leigh Ann will reach out to landowners with letters and phone calls, starting with previous participants. Since only partial funding was awarded, Leigh Ann proposed to put as much into the county contract as possible and cut back on the outreach budget. Roger suggested that Leigh Ann contact the Forest Service to see if there is a need for us to fulfill some of their weed spraying needs given budget cuts.
- Leigh Ann is working with Christie Nichols from Partners for Fish and Wildlife to develop a fencing and off-stream watering project for Green Diamond along Long Creek.
- Leigh Ann described two projects she is pursuing for RCPP.

- Leigh Ann will attend the CONNECT conference and a National Riparian Service Team Grazing Management in Wetland and Riparian Areas training in May. She is also looking to host a similar grazing management workshop in the Klamath Basin this summer funded through an ODEQ 319 grant.

Great Outdoors Alliance Coordinator Update – Teresa “Bird” Wicks

- Teresa indicated that there are several events planned for Earth Day that have been publicized as Sustainapalooza. She was interviewed on the Jefferson Exchange about the events. She has focused efforts on the Mills edition in downtown Klamath Falls because it has been an underserved community, especially with regard to natural resources awareness.
- Teresa will be working with the Klamath County library for some programs this year.
- Teresa is developing a Junior Master Naturalist training for this summer, and she will be presenting a teacher workshop at Tulelake refuge on May 8th.

Executive Director Report – Bill Lehman

- Bill covered the grant funding status list.
- Bill discussed KWP's involvement in the ongoing, large-scale, collaborative planning efforts with the Tribes, Trout Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, and USFWS Partners.
- On March 14th, KWP hosted an outreach meeting in Chiloquin with 4 organizations presenting: Trout Unlimited, Energy Trust of Oregon, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and Wy'East RC&D. 55 people attended. Over the course of 3 days KWP coordinated 6 site visits which generated 2 solar conversions, several ETO rebate submittals, and potential improvements to the ETO rebate process for irrigators. KWP and SNW will present on the success of the Energy and Water Savings Program at the CONNECT conference in Pendleton on May 3rd.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm

Next board meeting - TBD

Minutes submitted by:

Leigh Ann Vradenburg
Acting Secretary