

**Minutes of the meeting for the
South Fork John Day River Watershed Council**

The South Fork John Day River Watershed Council met on the 14th day of January 2019.

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 pm, by Phil St. Clair at the Izee Schoolhouse in Izee, Oregon.

In attendance for regular session:

Phil St. Clair	M.T. Anderson	Jeff Maben	Amy Stiner	Micah Wilson	Pam Powell, ODFW
Maria Snodgress	Amy Charette, CTWS	Scott Hess			

Quorum was present because there are currently 8 directors on the board and 6 were represented at this meeting.

I. Action Items

- a. Director Elections term for election: 2019-2021, Directors up for re-election: Phil, Joanne, Amy. Jeff Maben for vacant position #1 on the 2017-2020 term. Micah nominated Jeff to fill vacant position #1, and Joanne, Phil, and Amy Charette for re-election for the 2019-2021 term for SFJDWC Directors, Scott 2nd. Motion passed
- b. Officer Elections: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary/Treasurer
 - i. Phil is willing to continue vice chair, and Joanne to continue as chair.
 - 1. Micah moved to nominate Joanne as Chair and Phil as Vice Chair, Jeff 2nd, motion passed.
 - ii. Amy described that treasurer duties would include reviewing the Council financial statement on a monthly basis. M.T. nominated Scott for Treasurer, Micah 2nd, motion passed.
- c. December Meeting Minutes
 - i. M.T. moved to accept the December Meeting Minutes as presented, Micah 2nd, motion passed
- d. December Staff Time
 - i. Jeff moved to approve the December Staff time as presented, Micah 2nd, motion passed
- e. Contracts:
 - i. Greg Ontko- Snow Mountain Project
 - ii. Brandon Hueckman – Flat Creek Juniper Removal
 - iii. Clint Walzyk – West Fork Dry Creek Juniper Removal

Phil commented that the juniper cutting prices were similarly priced, and lower than expected. M.T. asked how the contractors were selected, and if it was lowest bid on all? Amy answered that Bid Tours were held for each of these projects, and that on the Snow Mtn and Flat Ck projects, lowest bid was accepted, and for the West Fork of Dry Ck project, the Timber Basin Contractors was not the lowest bid, but this was the landowner’s requested contractor, his bid was only a couple dollars per acre higher than low bid, and that the lowest bidder was Brandon Hueckman, who had been awarded the Flat Ck project, so looking at project timelines it also helped to select 2 different contractors. Micah moved to approve the Contracts as presented, Jeff 2nd, motion passed

II. Agency Reports

- a. **Pam Powell, ODFW Habitat Program:** Wind creek riparian fence is in ODFW Habitat program’s statement of work for this year, they are waiting on culturals to be done to fence Wind creek and part of the South Fork John Day. They plan to fence Wind ck to the Western property line down to the South Fork and finish out what is already. This will be BPA funded. Pam also updated on the Murderers Creek Ranch riparian enhancement project. The project is working with Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), Mark Croghan, to complete design, BPA is working on the needed permits, ODFW Habitat program will handle project implementation and some of the project work, and SFJDWC will try to secure OWEB funding to assist in Contracted work. Pam also reported that SFJDWC is working with Russ on the Tex ck design, for which SFJDWC just secured funding.
- b. **Amy Charette, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs.:** They are wrapping up 2018 projects, and planning for 2019. Amy & Amy discussed possibly including CTWS as partners on the Murderers Creek Ranch project and will follow up with CTWS on planning.
- c. **Jeff Maben, Sustainable Northwest (SNW) Consultant:** SNW doing more work on utilizing juniper, and post and poles. Integrative Biomass Resources has saved bark peelings from Juniper and are mulching it and trying to

market it. They are also still working to find a utilization for more of the small material. Phil asked if this could be used at Torrefaction plant. Jeff said no, that he thought the Torrefaction plant would be utilizing scrap from the mill. MT asked who was taking the juniper on Indian Ck, Jeff said SNW, with Jim Angell doing the work.

- d. Maria Snodgrass: Ag water quality program biennial review for Upper Mainstem and South Fork John Day will be Wed Jan 30th, 3:30-6:15 pm, conference room of ODF. Will have 2 ODA staff present to assist. If anyone wants more info contact Maria. Amended plans can be found at Grant SWCD, or requested from Maria. Amy will forward out to all Directors. Phil noticed that SFJWC project work had been included, which he appreciated the recognition.

III. Staff Report

a. Project Updates

- i. Some of our project work has been delayed due to the government shutdown, but we still have plenty to do otherwise. New project work moving forward includes; Magic Lantern juniper removal/spring development/aspen protection, Tex Ck design on ODFW property.
- ii. We have put together contracts for the Snow Mtn, Flat Creek, and Dry Creek projects, and contractors will begin on the Flat Ck and Dry Ck projects once these contracts are finalized. Work will begin for Snow Mtn once the area opens in the spring.
- iii. Mallory Davies has started work for the Council and is using the Council's office since she cannot access the Forest Service facilities, due to the government shutdown. Mary Lou Welby, Forest Service Hydrologist has been volunteering for the Council and assisting Mallory in her data analysis.
- iv. December meeting talking about projects, to include in the BLM letter. Phil wondered if the proposed fence would fit Title II. Which is another federal funding opportunity.

b. Grant Reports

- i. 2019-2021 Council Capacity Application: Deadline March 4th
- ii. Oregon Department of Energy: Rural Energy Development Grant: support individuals and organizations that are investing in renewable energy systems I am looking at this opportunity for the Keerins's Big Flat Well project
- i. Wildlife Conservation Society: One to two-year projects that implement science-driven, on-the-ground actions that assist wildlife and ecosystems to adapt to climate change at a landscape scale. I am looking at this opportunity for the Keerins' Big Flat Well project

c. Standalone steps

- i. I spent time over the Holidays working with Cascade Pacific and Sue Greer to balance out our accounts, submit final fund requests, and get our grants transferred to our name. I will be requesting our quarterly installment of our Council Support funds (\$9,000) to make payroll for the month, then will be able to request funds from all of our projects to reimburse the Council Support funds, allowing us not to have to request advances (which causes extra paperwork).
- ii. As of this meeting, we are still waiting on the blanket grant amendment to clear in Salem, but we are reassured that this is moving forward smoothly.

IV. Discussion

- a. Annual Self-evaluation: Amy led Directors through the Self Evaluation, and it will be available upon request, and submitted to OWEB for Council Capacity funding.
- b. County Court Presentation: Directors reviewed the County Court Presentation that Amy had put together, Phil suggested making sure to include dollar amounts that the Council brings into the County, and number of people employed.
- c. Job Announcement: Amy discussed the need to have an employee for the upcoming summer months. Elise has given a June 1st end date. There was consensus amongst Directors for Amy to put together a position outreach and have it for review at the February meeting.
- d. BLM letter: Amy is still working to put together the proposed BLM project map and will send it out to Directors once complete. This will be Discussion for the February meeting.
- e. Phil and Micah suggested inviting Nick Lulay, County Predator Control Agent to a future Council meeting.

V. Coming Up

- a. January 23rd: 9:15-9:30 am - Annual County Court Presentation

- b. January 29: 1:00-3:00 pm - NRCS Local Working Group meeting – ODF Conference Room in John Day: M.T. said that he would try to be at this meeting, as will Amy Stiner.
- c. January 30: 3:30-6:00 pm - Upper Mainstem/South Fork Ag Water Quality Management Plant, Local Advisory Committee Meeting, ODF Conference Room: Phil and Joanne will be present, and Amy S. will be giving a brief presentation on the Council's activities.
- d. February 11th: Employee Reviews
- e. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday – Monday, January 21st – office closed
- f. President's Day Holiday – Monday, February 18th – office closed
- g. John Day Basin Partnership meeting – Thursday, February 21st – 10am-2pm – ODF Conf. Room John Day
- h. CONNECT 2019- April 9-11 in Sunriver, OR

VI. Phil Adjourned the meeting at 2:10pm, Next meeting date: Monday, February 11th 2019.