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Council Meeting Minutes November 8, 2018 -FINAL-

Board Members Present: Youtie, B.Gray, Kasberger, Scanlon, John & Lynne Breese, Smith, Kochersberger, L.Keown, and Beier

Visitors: Fiona Noonan (DLT), Tessa Edelen (ODEQ), and Anna Smith (BLM)

CRWC staff present: Chris Gannon & Mark Peterson

Meeting called to order at 5:04pm by Chair Kasberger (meeting minutes abbreviated due to malfunction of tape recorder)

The following summary minutes capture the high points of the monthly board meeting:

0) Introductions Formal introductions were made as several visitors were new to most board members.

1) Visitor Comments None at opening.

2) Meeting Minutes October board meeting minutes were reviewed. No changes were identified. Minutes were approved (motion by Korchersberger, second by L.Breese; passed unanimously).

3) Financial Report Josh summarizes the monthly profit and loss statements for month of October. Relatively low month in terms of financial activity. Both checking and savings accounts have healthy balances (both over \$30,000). Largest expenses for the month are associated with reimbursements to Opal Springs for contracted work on the fish ladder. October financial statements were approved by motion (motion by Beier, second by J.Breese; passed unanimously).

4) Staff Updates

Chris introduced Mark Peterson, new project manager for the council, to the board. Mark spoke about his background, education in New York, recent employment with the Forest Service on the Siskiyou National Forest, how he came to the council, and his first set of project assignments.

Chris summarized the recent Water Summit held at Eagle Crest. Mike and Bruce shared their perspectives on the event and information presented. Basin-level coordination focused water issues will be challenging but is an important activity to avoid potential protracted litigation similar to the Klamath Falls experience.

Chris listed current grant applications under review with OWEB. Specifically cited were grants for a fish passage project on Ochoco Creek at Prineville Country Club, a landowner engagement project for the lower Crooked River valley, and a baseline monitoring application for the same valley reach. Garry will lead the fish passage project and be assigned the technical coordination role for the monitoring project. Mark will lead both the landowner engagement project and monitoring project in coordination with and support from Chris and Garry. All three projects would begin in 2019 after grant decisions and agreements are in place with OWEB.

CRWC Board:

Berta Youtie, *Emeritus*
Roy Beyer
Joshua Smith-Treasurer, or Jason Beebe
Ann Beier
Robert Spateholts, or Becky Burchell

Mike Kasberger-Chair
John & Lynne Breese
Bill Sigman
Brooke & Andy Gray
Bruce Scanlon, or OID Alternate

Chase Duncan
Kevin Keown, or Jon Kochersberger
Scott Turo, or Jason Grant
Lisa Keown

Chris reported that the CRWC truck was involved with a highway collision with a deer on return from the upper country. Truck is covered by insurance with a \$500 deductible. It is under repair at Prineville Auto Body and Glass.

Chris and Mark briefed the board on a proposal to switch storage needs from current rental unit on Lamonta Road to a permanent shipping container unit located somewhere on the fairgrounds pending Fair Board approval. This change would have several benefits to both CRWC and the Crook County High School Career Technical Education program which will continue to co-habit storage.

Chris reviewed the first draft of the council's 2017 Annual Report. The draft had been delivered to board members the week prior to the meeting for review. Several comments were offered to improve the document. Chris will incorporate board input into the next draft that will be sent to the board prior to the next board meeting.

Chris led a brief open discussion about December board meeting planning, including the annual dinner. It may be necessary to move the meeting date from the second Thursday to accommodate Open Campus kitchen use. Chris committed to a follow up email to board members with suggested alternate dates based on kitchen availability. It was agreed that the council would again enlist the services of the 4H Culinary Club to buy dinner menu items, prepare and serve the dinner, and conduct clean-up, like last year.

5) Member and Visitor Updates & Discussion

Anna Smith (guest) – Talked about the Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) for the basin. There are two open slots currently one assigned to represent environmental issues, and the other wild horse issues.

Jon – Has been working on Deep Creek project. Significant changes have made in a short period of time. Perhaps a site for 2019 board project tour. Prescribed fire projects are proceeding and smoke may be in the air over the next few weeks.

Josh – Putting together a National Park Service grant application for improvements at Barnes Butte recreational area.

Tessa Edelen (guest) – New staff at DEQ Bend office assigned to a large region covering Central and Eastern Oregon. Tessa is from Kentucky and worked with local watershed group there.

Ann – County building permit numbers are up and continue to be steady. Hemp production acres have increased. Solar developments are also expanding with two new installations approved.

Lynne – Society of Range Management workshop was held at The Dalles. Toured wind turbines which currently number around 5,000.

John Breese – During the same SRM workshop, John talked about touring thousands of acres burned in 2018 fires. Annual grasses are gaining ground on bare areas and will be a real problem in coming years. Reminded the group about the Biomass meeting occurring in Prineville the week of the board meeting.

Brooke – Finishing juniper and prescribed fire projects on the preserve. There is much juniper on the ground from previous years projects that was scheduled to be used in biomass projects that now must be addressed another way.

Lisa – Presentation at COCC for Society of American Foresters; CTE education focus. Four natural resource CTE programs presented. Crook County CTE students are getting lots of diverse exposure and experience, including attending the upcoming Biomass event.

Berta – Completed recent residential move to Bend. She reported, sheepishly, that she had inadvertently nearly burned up the hillside above her parcel in Prineville. Nursery needs evaluation study nearly complete. Berta leaving the area for the winter in a week.

Mark – Assisting Lisa with Future Natural Resource Leaders Club to develop timber/forestry skills for competitions.

Bruce – Operation and Maintenance (O & M) work at Bowman Dam proceeding with modifications to the stilling basin nearly complete. Release flows have been set for Prineville Reservoir. Habitat Conservation Plans (HCP) are progressing with key milestones approaching. The district is seeking funds to implement the McKay Water Switch, and is assessing Ochoco Reservoir for the ability to drawdown current dead pool (amount of water below intake).

Mike – City’s waterline project up the hill off O’Neil highway is fully functional. Pump systems going in next. The City has recently won two more national level awards for the wetland project.

Actions Assigned to Staff or Board:

No new assignments

Meeting adjourned at 7:0pm

NEXT Meeting – December 19th, 2018, 5:00pm, at COCC Open Campus Conference Room & Classroom 130