

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF HOOD RIVER WATERSHED GROUP

The Board of Directors met on May 23, 2023.

The meeting was held at the OSU Extension Center Conference Room, 2990 Experiment Station Drive, Hood River, OR.

The meeting was called by the Board of Directors.

The notice for the meeting was given more than seven days in advance in writing via email.

The directors present for the meeting were Sam Doak, Greg Short, Alexis Vaivoda, Lillian Dick, Felipe Mendez, and Chuck Gehling. Les Perkins, Hilary Doulos, and Chuti Fiedler were absent.

The other people present at the meeting were Cindy Thieman, Executive Director, and Alix Danielsen, Restoration and Outreach Project Manager (via Zoom) of the Hood River Watershed Group, and Bernie Yoo.

A quorum was present because six directors on the Board were present for the entire meeting.

Chuck Gehling, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

- I. Welcome & Introductions
- II. Agenda & Minutes
 - a. Additions or Corrections to the Agenda – none
 - b. Review and Adopt April Meeting Minutes and May decision via email to amend the contract with CTWS - Sam moved, Lil seconded, and the board resolved to adopt the April meeting minutes as written and the May decision via email.
- III. Financials
 - a. April expenses were reviewed.
 - b. Treasurer report on bank/credit card reconciliation (March & April) – Les was absent from the meeting so could not provide the treasurer report.
 - c. Reporting – Cindy reported that the annual reporting - 990 (IRS), CT-12 (Dept. of Justice), and Secretary of State – were filed on time for 2022.
- IV. Contracts & Project Updates
 - a. Follow up on CTWS 2023 contract - amendment to add funding for development of three restoration designs (two on East Fork Hood River, one on Neal Creek)
 - i. Cindy explained that Patrick Hayden accepted a job with the Yakama Tribe and has left CTWS. As a result, Cindy worked with CTWS to develop an amendment to the HRWG contract with CTWS to include the funding for three restoration designs.
 - b. RFPs for East Fork Hood River and Neal Creek Phase 3 – Alix gave an overview of the RFPs, the project areas, the budgets, and the timelines.
 - c. Aquatic Contracting contract – Cindy explained that the contract has been signed, after material cost estimates were subtracted from the overall budget.

- d. OWEB grant applications – two applications were submitted: a TA grant to design a Baldwin Creek fish passage and habitat restoration project and a monitoring grant for the development of the Basin Monitoring Plan. The grant HRWG was going to submit on behalf of EFID was delayed until EFID is ready.

V. Board Meeting Frequency

- a. Cindy explained that Les suggested that the board should consider moving to every-other-month meetings and that she knows several other watershed councils that meet every other month. Important decisions in off-months could be made over email. The schedule of HRWG presentations/meetings would not be affected.
- b. Felipe was supportive of the idea and noted that every other month meetings could be longer to catch up on business.
- c. Sam was supportive and suggested separating the board meetings from the monthly presentations.
- d. Lil and Alexis expressed interest in every-other-month meetings.
- e. Greg noted that if there were active committees, board business could progress efficiently.
- f. The board agreed to skip the June meeting and meet again in July.

VI. Staff and Board Updates

- a. Chuck asked about the Jubitz tour, which Cindy explained went well. Cindy and Alix toured the Jubitz group around the Upper West Fork Red Hill project.
- b. Chuck asked about the EFID regulating reservoir. Cindy noted that HRWG is supporting EFID in the process of purchasing land for a regulating reservoir. There are a lot of moving pieces and Cindy will share updates as the project progresses.
- c. Lil reported that CTWS hired a Bio 3, Lance Downing, who started this week and will help get the trap going and move the monitoring program forward. CTWS is currently hiring for the Bio 2 and Habitat positions.

Next Board Meeting: July 25th, 4:30 to 6:00 pm (there will not be a watershed group presentation in July)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:43 pm.

Signature of Secretary: _____ Date: _____
Sam Doak