

**WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
April 22, 2015
DRAFT**

Present

Jessica McDonald, Chair
Sheryl Stuart
David Zahler
Jacque Schreck
Joel Hirsch, City Council Liaison

Staff

Jennifer Ward, Public Works
Tom Hubbard, Public Works
Mike Hinton, Public Works
Mark Miller, Trout Mountain Forestry

Absent

David Hibbs, Vice-Chair
Charlie Bruce, excused

Visitors

David Wiens, USGS
Frank Davis, Siuslaw National Forest
John Blackham

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Information Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations
I. Call Meeting to Order/Introductions	X		
II. Review of Agenda	X		
III. Review of March 25, 2015 Minutes			Approved
IV. Visitor Propositions	NA		
V. City Council Report	NA		
VI. New Business • Barred Owl Study	X		
VII. Old Business • Board Policies and Procedures • Annual Tour Schedule & Assignments			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board recommended approval • The Board discussed job assignments
VIII. Staff reports	X		
IX. Board Member Requests and Reports	NA		
X. Adjourn			

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. Call Meeting to Order/Introductions

Chair McDonald called the meeting to order and those present introduced themselves.

II. Review of Agenda

No changes.

III. Review of Minutes

Board Member Schreck moved to approve the March minutes as written. Board Member Zahler seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

IV. Visitor Propositions

Frank Davis, from Siuslaw National Forest, reported that they are having a listening session on Monday, April 27, from 6-8 p.m. at the LaSells Stewart Center.

V. City Council Report

None.

VI. New Business

Barred Owl Study

David Wiens, the lead scientist on this project from the US Geological Survey (USGS), provided details on the upcoming Barred owl study that began last month in Oregon and Washington. It is in its second year in Northern California. He provided some background on the study, as well as what is planned. He noted that close to 85% of areas where Spotted owls have historically been prominent are now occupied only by Barred owls. This project will assess the impacts of Barred owl removal on Spotted owl site occupancy. A group was formed to discuss the ethics of killing one species to save another. That group agreed that a removal experiment is necessary. The group spent a year looking for locations to place Barred owls removed from the study sites, but was only able to place five. Therefore, it was decided that the most humane and ethical course would be lethal removal of the Barred owls. The project is slated to run for four years, at which time the data will be analyzed to determine if removal of Barred owls helps to increase Spotted owl populations. So far, the study has found approximately four to five pairs of Barred owl for every pair of Spotted owl. The first phase is to survey Barred owls to identify numbers and distribution. Removal in the study areas is planned to begin in September. Crews will be trained extensively in owl identification and firearm safety. The City's Rock Creek watershed is a control area for the study. Surveys for Barred owls will take place within the watershed, but no Barred owls will be removed.

VII. Old Business

Board Policies and Procedures

Chair McDonald noted that she and Ms. Ward made some minor edits to the document and asked the Board for any further edits before the document is finalized. Board Member Zahler pointed out some corrections to be made. After some discussion, the Board agreed to accept the document. The document includes some changes to the Board's Scope of Duties outlined in the City's Municipal Code. Staff will meet with the Public Works director to identify the process for making changes to the Municipal Code and will guide the document through that process.

Annual Tour Schedule & Assignments

Ms. Ward presented a plan for the tour. She stated that there will be two stops, with multiple activities at each. The Board discussed what items they will be responsible for on the tour.

VIII. Staff Reports

Mr. Hubbard presented a document on public records and public meetings. He stated that this is for housekeeping purposes after the new Council orientation, where it was determined that this should be reviewed from time to time.

Ms. Ward reported the following:

- Five names were suggested to fill the vacancies on the Board. One person was not interested and one does not live within the urban growth boundaries, leaving three that were submitted to the Mayor.
- Ms. Ward, Mr. Miller, and Frank Davis, from the Siuslaw National Forest, spoke about timber harvesting on Marys Peak at a public forum sponsored by the Marys Peak Alliance.
- She attended a roundtable for the Marys Peak Stewardship Group. One of the topics discussed was redefining local economic areas.
- The Old Peak restoration project is continuing with a new project leader from one of the partners – Institute for Applied Ecology.
- The City owns an area called West Point, which is outside the Rock Creek watershed, but which falls within the Siuslaw National Forest's special botanical area. The City and the Siuslaw National Forest are working together to determine the best course for managing the site.

Mr. Miller reported that he has been working with a silviculture instructor at OSU who has a new outreach project which highlights alternative forestry practices. The instructor has designed a website of examples of forest stands that are being managed in unconventional or non-traditional ways. The website includes aerial photos and maps of the stands with links to information on management activities. Mr. Miller suggested that some of the sites he has toured on the City watershed with silvicultural classes would be good additions to this project. The Board concurred.

IX. Board Member Requests and Reports

None.

X. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

THERE WILL BE NO MEETING OF THE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD IN MAY DUE TO THE ANNUAL PUBLIC TOUR OF THE WATERSHED TAKING PLACE ON THURSDAY, MAY 28, DEPARTING CITY HALL AT 5 P.M. AND RETURNING BY 8 P.M. SPACE IS LIMITED. RESERVATIONS MAY BE MADE THROUGH JENNIFER WARD BY EMAILING Jennifer.Ward@corvallisoregon.gov

NEXT MEETING: June 24, 2015, 5:15 p.m., Madison Avenue Meeting Room