



Lower Boise Watershed Council

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
USDA-Farm Service Center, Caldwell
Thursday, September 8, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Introduction

Attendees: See attached sign-in list.

Meeting called to order, introductions made. An additional agenda item was added by Johanna to discuss a USGS announcement.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

The minutes from the regular meeting on July 14, 2011 were approved.

Discussion Agenda

TMDL Activities Update

Susan and Lauri provided a summary of ongoing TMDLs for tributaries. For Indian Creek, there will be a temperature workgroup meeting later this month to discuss EPA comments on the modeling. For sediment, the proposed sediment targets are being reviewed by a committee and a TAC meeting will be scheduled for later this month or early next. The target memo being reviewed will be posted on DEQ's TMDL website. Recommendations on the target will likely be addressed by the LBWC board at the October or November meeting. A monitoring TAC was held earlier in the day. DEQ is installing temperature loggers at 5 locations in the watershed downstream of the Callopy Gates. This was identified as a need in the SBA.

For 5-10-15-Mile, biweekly monitoring for sediment and bacteria is ongoing. Bacteria geomeans have been in the 700-800 cfu/100 mL range, and sediment results are generally greater than 50 mg/L, with a peak value in 10-Mile of 225 mg/L. DEQ is now going through an internal process to evaluate the 2001 UAA, tour the watershed, and figure out how to move forward with the SBA.

There was no new news on the Willow Creek and Sand Hollow TMDLs.

Lance noted that DEQ will start on the Boise River nutrient TMDL in October.

Lance Holloway Introduction

Pete introduced Lance Holloway as the new Southwest Idaho Watershed Manager for DEQ. Lance previously worked for over 14 years for several of the agricultural agencies and the conservation commission, with a recent focus on agricultural water quality programs.

319 Grant Tour Recap

Johanna, Tanya and Delwyne gave a powerpoint presentation showing the tour of the 319 grant funded project sites and agricultural BMPs that are in place.

Council Business

FY 2010 FY 2012 Budget Discussion

Dan provided a handout that provided 3 options for the FY2012 budget. All 3 options had a total budget in the \$110,000-120,000 range, and all included \$61,400 for the USGS monitoring, which was the budget and scope recommended by the monitoring TAC. It is considered a minimalist budget relative to the overall monitoring needs for the watershed. Dan noted that at the board retreat, it was agreed that increased fundraising is a critical need for LBWC to accomplish its mission.

Option A would include the hiring and salary for an Executive Director. Dan handed out a detailed description of the proposed duties for the ED. These would include the facilitation and running the business tasks done by CH2M HILL in previous years, as well as additional duties, including a major emphasis on fundraising. The ED salary would be \$25,000 plus an additional \$4,600 to cover taxes, insurance, website support and office supplies. These costs would be covered in part by the amount usually provided to CH2M HILL's budget and by a portion of the available carry-over from previous years (about \$46,000 total). It would involve a one-year contract with the ED, and future years would be contingent upon available funds (and hence fundraising success). CH2M HILL would continue to provide technical support as requested by the board (budget of \$30,000).

Option B would include hiring a person to do only a business plan and fundraising (\$12,000 salary), with other facilitation activities and technical support continuing to be done by CH2M HILL. Option C would be the status quo approach, consistent with previous years.

Lee put an additional option on the table (which became referred to as Option D) based on a suggestion by Liz Paul in an email to the board prior to the meeting (Liz was unable to attend). This would involve hiring person on a 3-6 month exploratory basis with an initial salary of \$4,000-6,000. This person would then do a business plan and explore how much funding might be available from which sources. If the outlook is promising, then the person could be retained for the full year.

Johanna noted that she has researched the question of whether an ED should be a staff person of the LBWC or contracted by the board. She thought that a contract approach would be best to manage the council's liability and insurance issues.

The pros and cons of the four options were discussed at length by all board members present and other participants at the meeting. Most thought it worth the risk to invest some of the carryover to see if fundraising can be enhanced. If it doesn't work out in the first year it can be stopped. Others thought Option D best to determine the chances for success without making a full-year commitment. It was noted that it would be hard to attract a qualified candidate for such a short period, and that it would likely take a full year to really establish if this can be a success.

It was also noted that the different board members and the interests they represent have different perspectives on the issues that LBWC deals with. Which interests would the ED

represent? Dan noted this is a typical issue for any association with an ED, and that the authority of the ED does not extend beyond what the board directs.

It was noted that the duties of the ED are very broad, and it may be difficult to find a person qualified to do all those things. Dan said that going forward with Option A would depend on finding the right person. If that person cannot be found, then Option B could be pursued if a person specializing in fundraising can be found. If not, we can always go on with Option C (status quo).

Dan made a motion to approve Option A, then B if a qualified person for A is not found, then C if a qualified person for B is not found. The motion was seconded. There were 5 yes votes (Helen, Henry, Bob, Andy as proxy for Alan, and Robbin), 3 no votes (Lee, Lee as proxy for Liz, and Erica) and one abstention (Johanna).

Dan and Henry then volunteered to be on a hiring committee. Dan suggested that someone be on the committee to represent the board members who voted no. Erica agreed to do it if Liz declined. Dan said the ED position would be posted in the paper and the LBWC website. The goal of the hiring committee would be to interview candidates before the October 13th meeting so a decision can be made at that meeting.

Tom noted that a decision on who would support the 319 grant administration still needs to be made (ED or Sherrill or some other way), but that can be further discussed at the upcoming 319 TAC and at the next board meeting.

USGS Announcement and 319 TAC

Johanna announced that USGS has developed a draft long-term monitoring plan (2012-2016). Alex provided a hand-out and briefly summarized initial USGS thoughts on the plan. Johanna will schedule a separate monitoring TAC to discuss the long-term plan.

Johanna also noted that a 319 grant TAC is also needed and will be scheduled.

Meeting Adjourned at about 9:00 p.m.

Lower Boise Watershed Council

Meeting Title: Regular Meeting
 Meeting Date: 9/8/11

Attending?	Name	Affiliation	Email
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