

Skagit Watershed Council
Meeting of the Board of Directors – Final Notes
May 1, 2014, Conference Call

(* indicates action item; indicates decision)

Attendance: Chair Ken Dahlstedt, Dave Pflug, Carolyn Kelly, Steve Hinton, Brenda Cunningham, Margaret Fleek, Bob Everett and Richard Brocksmith. No absences

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am, with quorum. After adding the riparian habitat strategy draft SRFB application to today's meeting topics, the agenda was approved.

The Board reviewed draft April 16, 2014 meeting notes. Carolyn moved to approve the meeting notes as final as presented and Margaret seconded. Steve proposed a friendly amendment for a slight correction to the process for hiring the Watershed Coordinator. Both received unanimous approval.

The Board reviewed the March financial reports. Richard noted two points of interest. First is that March is one of two months of the year where there are 3 biweekly payrolls, which has the effect of increased expenses relative to other months, though not necessarily income. Richard also noted that the indirect rate recuperation seems to be moving out of the red in this third month of that process, but we will just need to keep tracking it for awhile to be certain of its effectiveness. ***Brenda asked for Richard to begin providing a "check report" (showing checks written for each month) from Quickbooks so the Board can track that level of detail.** Bob moved to approve the March financial reports and Carolyn seconded, with unanimous agreement.

The Board reviewed the Nominations Committee recommendation to forward Loren Everest, US Forest Service, to the Watershed Council full membership for potential election to the Board of Directors. Carolyn moved to approve, Dave seconded, and there was unanimous agreement.

Richard relayed the status of the hiring process for the Watershed Coordinator to date.

The Board briefly discussed the upcoming Watershed Council agenda. Several topics for potential presentations were discussed, including Barnaby Slough Restoration and the recent steelhead agreements between WDFW and Wild Fish Conservancy. ***The Board also requested there be written updates for topics like the committee reports. *More work will be needed to flesh out the agenda in coming days.**

The Board reviewed the Audit Type and Frequency memo and potential actions. ***The topic was tabled until the next Board meeting so Richard could work with Carolyn to recommend a simple, cost effective approach that meets and/or exceeds our obligations for accountability and money management.**

Richard provided a history of the letter of interest and draft application that he submitted for a potential update to the Watershed Council's riparian habitat strategies. There is a meeting being scheduled, likely for May 27, with an expanded group of stakeholders to include the major landowners and practitioners to provide input on the concepts developed to date.

***There was agreement that Richard should provide the updated version of the draft final application as soon after May 27 as possible for the Board to review and discuss at the June 5 Board meeting.**

There were some points of view that it should be more detailed than previous versions to adequately assess its merit and staff/funding implications. If there are significant concerns, the Board could agree to not submit the application, or pull the application if already submitted given the impending June 4 deadline.

The Board meeting was adjourned around 10:00am.