2018-06-07 USR RWAG Minutes

Plan update meeting called to order at 10:13 by Bob Blankenship

Present: Bob Blankenship (Trout Unlimited), Courtney Laverty (USR RWAG), Mike Quinn (McCloud Service District), Blake Michaelson (City of Dunsmuir), Angelina Cook (McCloud Watershed Council), Rico Tinsman, Phoenix Lawhon-Isler (Cal Trout), Raven Stevens (W.A.T.E.R.), Roslyn McCoy (W.A.T.E.R.), Juliana Lucchesi (City of Mt. Shasta), Muriel Terrel (City of Mt. Shasta), Ben Wallace(Pacific Forest Trust), Pat Velines (Department of Water Resources), Ed Stanton (Shasta Valley RCD), Andy Fusso (Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center), Dennis (RCD), Mark Miyoshi (Winnemem Wintu Tribe), Luisa Navejas (Winnemem Wintu Tribe/Modoc Nation representative)

Phone participants: Joanna Lessard (Cramer Fish Scientists)

**Plan Update:**

Angelina presented a power point overview of the plan update. Rico provided additional information as needed.

The plan update:

1. Is required for state funding through Prop 1
2. Addresses Disadvantage Communities (DAC)
3. We are part of Region 7
   1. There are 6 sub-basins
   2. There is $37 million in funding
4. Plan update to address revised 2016 standards
   1. Water Quality
      1. Rico shared that the water quality aspect of the plan update is based on state monitoring; the data and standards are drinking water specific. Currently there are no issues in our region.
      2. Discussion regarding holding our area to higher standards as a headwaters region; suggestion of a non-degradation policy; is there a process by which we can add to the list of contaminants; is there a mechanism for communities to report issues (City of Mt. Shasta nitrate issues); can we influence a change in state standards;
      3. Rico’s responses: We must follow state standards, but we can put forth projects that meet our own higher standards. These standards would not be enforceable by the state, but cities could adopt standards.
      4. Consensus of the group: We are a source region for 60% of the state, therefore it is incumbent upon us to protect these resources
   2. Climate Change
      1. Need to make sure our plan is compliant
      2. Plan needs a more robust rewrite
      3. Update the analysis in our plan
         1. More support materials
            1. Planning documents
            2. Cal Fire
            3. USFS
         2. CA transition zone?
         3. What are our vulnerabilities and what projects will mitigate them?
         4. We need to propose projects that address a variety of climate change issues.
         5. We don’t have any specific climate change OBJECTIVES in our plan
   3. Stakeholders
      1. Meet with other IRWM groups in NorCal. Collaborate for implementation on a broader scale.
      2. Address data gaps
      3. Re-engage with previous stakeholders
      4. Summarize difficulties in getting input – resources available to address these issues.
      5. Tribal engagement
   4. Integration
      1. Historic preservation (Tribal concerns)
      2. Timber Management
      3. Project compliance – will proposals be implemented?

**Regular Meeting:**

Regular meeting called to order at 12:48 by Vice Chair, Bob Blankenship

Present: Bob Blankenship (Trout Unlimited), Courtney Laverty (USR RWAG), Mike Quin (McCloud Service District), Blake Michaelson (City of Dunsmuir), Angelina Cook (McCloud Watershed Council), Rico Tinsman, Phoenix Lawhon-Isler (Cal Trout), Raven Stevens (W.A.T.E.R.), Roslyn McCoy (W.A.T.E.R.), Juliana Lucchesi (City of Mt. Shasta), Muriel Terrel (City of Mt. Shasta), Ben (Pacific Forest Trust), Pat Velines (Department of Water Resources),

Ed (Shasta Valley RCD), Andy Fusso (Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center), Dennis (RCD), Mark Miyoshi (Winnemem Wintu Tribe), Luisa Navejas (Winnemem Wintu Tribe)

Phone participants: Joanna Lessard (Cramer Fish Scientists), Chief Jefferson Greywolf (Modoc Nation)

1. Review and approve agenda
2. Motion to approve minutes from February 26, 2018 meeting: Phil Dietrich moved to accept minutes from the previous meeting except for Item #1. Barbara Wagner 2nd. Motion approved unanimously
3. Administrator report and request for funds to rent PO Box, purchase a conference call speaker, and get accounting software. Angelina Cook made a motion to allocate funds not to exceed $370 for the rental of PO box through Dec., purchase of speaker, and purchase of accounting software. Barbara Wagner 2nd. Motion approved unanimously
4. Request to add bylaws to the agenda at our next meeting. **Action item: Courtney will contact Kathleen Hitt.**
5. Juliana Lucchesi described the City of Mt. Shasta’s participation in the Civic Spark Water Fellow program. There will be 2 full time AmeriCorps Volunteers assigned to the city to assist with the assessment of the city’s water infrastructure and other projects. We could have them work on projects as well. Bob Blankenship made a motion to support the Mt. Shasta Civic Spark bid and to have Courtney Laverty complete the survey on behalf of the USR RWAG. Luisa Navejas 2nd. Motion approved unanimously with the City of Mt. Shasta abstaining
6. Mark Miyoshi discussed the “lost” Tribal funds for plan update. $86,000 was allocated for the plan update. Phil suggested that there was a “misunderstanding” of original/draft/final budget. Muriel clarified that travel cannot be reimbursed through state funds, but the RWAG could set a travel policy stipend in the future. **Action item: Phil and Mark will meet to discuss the issue and put it on a future agenda.**
7. Bob Blankenship opened the discussion of public access to the Soda Springs property. Ben gave an overview of the conservation easement process and goals for PFT and property owners in general. Key discussion points:
   1. The project was chosen by this group to be included in the grant proposal with a goal of public access. The project narrative included “recreational opportunities”.
   2. Public access to Soda Springs property is subject to a permit process. Ben is handling this process. The Property Management Plan includes a “Public Access” section but that does not guarantee access.
8. Roslyn McCoy expressed W.A.T.E.R.’s desire to join the USR RWAG and shared their mission to look at projects and encourage thorough environmental review. Mark made a motion to accept their application for membership. Bob Blankenship 2nd. Motion approved unanimously with the City of Mt. Shasta abstaining.
9. Joanna Lessard gave a status update on Small Water Systems (SWS) Data Collation and Maps for Upper Sac-McCloud IRWM.
   1. Phase 1 Task is complete (identified small water systems in our area)
   2. Phase 2 Work plan development.
      1. Developing workshops to determine and address the needs of small water systems (5-3,299 hookups)
         1. Financial sustainability
         2. Volunteer, low capacity boards
         3. Out of compliance and untrained staff
         4. Tribal Outreach
10. Discussion of DACI Coordinator Position
    1. $25,000 allotted for this position
    2. Angelina has been acting in that capacity without a directive from the group
    3. Coordinating Council should choose the coordinator – Ben Wallace made a motion for the CC to select the DACI coordinator. Phil Dietrich 2nd. Motion unanimously approved. **Action Item: Courtney will send job description to members to share with their lists, post position on Indeed job site, and set up a conference call for CC to discuss.**
11. We will revisit Prop 1 Proposal Solicitation Package at the next meeting when the package is available**. Action Item: Courtney will send out a Doodle Poll for the next meeting to be held at the end of August.**
12. Meeting adjourned at 3:17 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Courtney Laverty