

Tenmile Clean Water Project: Meeting Minutes – Dec 13, 2017

Attendees: Bob McWhorter, Alan Chapman, Hank Kastner, Andy Ross, Lee First, Marge Laidlaw, Dorie Belisle, Linda Burns, Krista Rome, Shane VanderVeen, Jocelyn Leroux, Michael Isensee

The following Consent Agenda was approved with no changes; one addition (in italics) to the explanation of ‘consent agenda’ has been added based on discussion.

“Consent agenda is a meeting practice that groups together routine business & reports into one agenda item. It can be considered and approved in one action, and thus moves routine items along quickly so meeting time is spent on more important issues. *If a member requests discussion or explanation - ahead or at the meeting - any consent agenda item must be put on the same meeting’s regular agenda. After discussion, the members may be able to resolve the questions, or refer action to a committee or future membership meeting.*”

Consent Agenda Approvals:

1. Previous Meeting Minutes (see meeting packet)
2. Financial Report:

Tenmile Clean Water Project Monthly Finance Report

Settled by end of: November 2017

	Budget (12 mo.)	Expended - Current Mo.	Expended - Total	Grant Fund Balance
Coordinator	\$3000/mo.			\$ 35,600
Sample Analysis	\$670/mo.	\$ 675	\$ 675	\$ 7,325
Outreach (gross)	\$3,000			\$ 3,000
Measurement (gross)	\$2,680			\$ 2,400
Discretionary (gross)	\$3,000			\$ 3,000
TOTALS		\$ 675	\$ 675	\$ 51,325

WECU Balance =====> \$ 500

3. Establishment of a process to track member volunteer hours, to support future grant applications and enable NSEA liability insurance eligibility.
4. Establishment of a Consent Agenda approval process for membership meetings.

Announcements

- **WCD Speaker Series:** Happy Healthy Horses - Proven Strategies for Horse-keeping on Small Acreage; Thu, Dec 14, 6-8pm, Bellewood Acres
 *** **Volunteers Needed** *** to promote our work at this meeting!
<http://www.whatcomcd.org/node/212>
- **Next Steering Committee meeting;** Jan 3, 5-7pm, at NSEA’s meeting room, 3057 E. Bakerview Road.

New Business: Andy & Alan suggested TCWP seek partners for a joint effort to seek funding from the Puget Sound Partnership ‘Near Team Action’ grant program. The group agreed that the WCD might be our best option given our existing project coordination with them. The grant’s ‘initial interest’ deadline is Dec 22; given the urgency, Andy will follow up & see if we can meet it. Read more here:
http://psp.wa.gov/2018_AA_solicitation_for_NTAs.php

Reports

- **Steering Committee** – Nov 21 meeting report (formerly ‘subgroup’); Hank explained that for this month the highlights are represented in the Consent Agenda and the two decisions framed under “Business.”
- **Water Quality** – Andy & Bob discussed latest results; **see Addendum** appended below.
- **Laurel WID** – their Dec 11 meeting was cancelled so there was no report.
- **Water Supply Forum** – ending 2hrs earlier; five TCWP members attended the jam-packed and informative meeting; too much to discuss in our meeting!

Business:

Review & approve the following proposals or resolutions:

1. Revision of **Tenmile Charter** (attached.) As discussed at the Nov 21 subgroup meeting, including a thorough ‘read-through’ of the Charter, further edits to the Charter are proposed for approval, as attached. These include: simple word usage to clarify intent; addition to “Who we are”; description of policy for usage of personal data; explicit requirement for ‘special meeting’ notes (e.g. subgroup or Steering Committee); further definition of “significant decisions.” **Approved** as recommended.
2. **Steering Committee** – establishment of regular participants & meeting schedule:
 - a. A continuing but not-permanent TCWP ‘Steering Committee’ (S/C) should guide TCWP activities during the grant period, replacing any need for a ‘subgroup’ in the meantime;
 - b. a temporary S/C can be established under the current Charter by keeping it open to all members & providing on-going notice to members of meeting time & place, and meeting notes;
 - c. if participants at any time see a need for the S/C to become a permanent TCWP fixture, such must formally be proposed to the membership as a Charter amendment;
 - d. in order to strengthen its work, we desire continuity in S/C participation, so we request willing members to volunteer for regular meeting attendance & specific tasks to advance TCWP objectives;
 - e. the S/C will have no more authority than that derived from regular participation of Chair & Co-Chair as defined in the Charter;
 - f. the S/C will support Chair & Co-Chair in their responsibilities to grantor and fiscal sponsor for grant administration, including direction provided to our contract Coordinator.

Approved as recommended.

Program:

*Washington State Department of Agriculture Inspector **Michael Isensee***

Michael described WSDA’s Dairy Nutrient Management Program, effectively using ‘case studies’ to illustrate how he uses water quality sampling to identify and address fecal coliform sources. He listed 4 main areas of farm practices that determine safe & successful use of manure: collect, store, apply & manage. See these links to sample data (<http://arcg.is/1qDjSa>) and the ‘story map’ (<http://arcg.is/1irH8i0> - like a blog?) that show recent results of his work.

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Addendum: Data Report, Nov/Dec highlights, provided by Andy after the meeting summarizing both results & discussion.

Overall, learning how watershed responds during the onset of the rainy season.

Routine sampling on 11/14/2017 showed relatively low fecal coliform counts, except for two sites, Tenmile Creek at the Guide Meridian (NWIC-T3) and at Tenmile Creek and Chasteen Road (TM 235). Overall good news.

Follow up sampling about a week later (11/22/2017), under similar conditions, yielded elevated counts at NWIC-T3 and TM 235, as well as upstream at Tenmile Creek at Hannegan Road (TM 236). For the follow-up sampling, E. Coli counts were below fecal coliform counts, but still elevated, though at TM 235, the E. Coli count was about 60% of the Fecal coliform count. E. Coli is a more specific indicator than fecal coliform bacteria of animal fecal matter.

December routine and some follow-up sampling occurred the day before the 12/13/2017 Tenmile Clean Water Project monthly meeting. The follow-up sampling upstream of TM 235 generally showed relatively low counts. The routine sampling results were not available before the meeting. Further sampling and investigative work about the hydrology is needed.

On 11/22/2017 additional sampling was also conducted at two sites in Deer Creek where sites were flowing that previously had been dry or were a trickle, as well as one background site. Fecal coliform and E. Coli counts at the North Fork of Deer Creek at Aldrich Road were elevated as well as counts in the swale that joins Deer Creek just downstream of the South Fork of Deer Creek at SFDC3. SFDC3 bacteria counts were relatively low. In hindsight, it would have been good to collect samples at DC 3 and the South Fork of Deer Creek at Aldrich road at that time.

Learned that about 7" of rainfall (measured at Bob's house) is needed at the onset of rainy season for the North Fork of Deer Creek to flow at Aldrich Road.

The field east of DC 3 may be a good place to conduct sampling to examine waterfowl impacts. It appears there is a discrete discharge to Deer Creek from that field. Tenmile Clean Water Project members will keep an eye on the site to see if sampling may be warranted.

Lower Deer and Tenmile creeks weren't sampled in November due to access issue and beaver dams limiting the ability to bracket within those reaches.

