

Tenmile Clean Water Project: Meeting Minutes – Mar 14, 2018

Attendees: Bob McWhorter, Alan Chapman, Hank Kastner, Andy Ross, Krista Rome, Marge Laidlaw

Note: Comments annotated to the meeting agenda information are shown in red.

The following changes were requested for the agenda, with topic headings shown in bold type in the body of these notes:

- Coordination meeting for all county entities with **NTA proposals**; see Steering Committee report, below.
- Outreach options for **Tenmile horse businesses & owners**; see Business section, below.

Consent Agenda Approvals: Approved as proposed.

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

Tenmile Clean Water Project Monthly Finance Report

Settled by end of: February 2018

	Budget (12 mo.)	Expended - Current Mo.	Expended - Total	Grant Fund Balance
Coordinator	3000/mo.	1,630.11	4,330.44	28,669.56
Sample Analysis	670/mo.	175.00	1,200.00	6,800.00
Outreach (gross)	3,000.00	0.00		3,000.00
Measurement (gross)	2,400.00	0.00		2,400.00
Discretionary (gross)	3,000.00	0.00	15.00	2,985.00
Grant Admin Overhead	2,600.00		2,600.00	0.00
TOTALS		1,805.11	8,145.44	43,854.56
WECU Balance	=====>			500.00

Announcements

- **WCD Speaker Series:** Proven Westside Pasture Calendar (tool & best practices) speaker from WSU; Thu, Mar 15, Noon, location TBD
- **Next Steering Committee meeting;** Cancelled, due to special work session with the Whatcom Conservation District.
- **WCD annual native plant sale:** Sat, Mar 24, 9a-2p, Whatcom Community College
- **Portage Bay Shellfish Advisory Committee:** next meeting set for Wed, April 25, 3-5pm.

Reports

- **Steering Committee – Jan 3 meeting**
 - Website: Hank has begun the process to select a college student who will develop a new TCWP website; this was budgeted in our grant application and will be supervised through the S/C. Hank has screened 5 applicants to do the work; with Andy, we have agreed on a preferred candidate & will be meeting with her soon to confirm details; Hank will provide the S/C a summary of our process & next steps.
 - Sample Strategy: Andy is preparing a draft document to summarize the TCWP sample strategy; after review by the S/C, this document will be presented for discussion at a future membership meeting. This document now in 2nd draft is being reviewed by the S/C and will be discussed at a future members meeting.
 - **NTA grants:** as discussed previously, Andy has been working to represent our interests in proposals from several entities, which may result in additional funding for TCWP. WCD has now requested we provide (by 3/30) a Letter of Support for their proposal which has seemed one of our better options. At the same time, Erika

Douglas has organized a meeting on 3/16 among stakeholders with proposals in mind, for purposes of sharing information and possibly coordinating to avoid too much overlap or too many gaps in necessary work. Andy will attend the 3/16 meeting, circulate a draft letter of support for S/C approval (for Bob's signature) and ensure our letter is provided to the WCD by the 3/30 deadline.

- **March 1st WCD Forum** – Hank, Andy, Eric, Alan, & Dorie attended and can describe the experience, which was a major part of the day. Afterwards, WCD provided copies of two lengthy documents used in the meeting; see attached for Andy's introduction to these materials; discussion will follow under Business, below.
- **Water Quality** – data report & forward planning; see attached materials.
- **Laurel WID** – March 12 meeting was cancelled, since many members attended the March 1st WCD forum; next WID meeting is April 9th.

Business:

- **Outreach to Horse People:** in response to Hank's inquiry, WCD staff have encouraged TCWP to include offers of WCD support if/when we contact horse people. Specifically, with a sponsor, they are promoting a design competition for horse operation improvements, with an entry deadline of 3/30, and invites us to get the word out. We had a lively, positive discussion of the potential benefits of reaching out, with horse owners, feed stores, horse veterinarians & horse businesses in the area. Andy will pick up flyer copies from WCD and distribute as many as possible in the next week or so (along with copies of our fine new handout (*email attachment*) – thanks Andy!
- **Upcoming WCD work session:** In late March all members are invited to participate in this meeting where staff from the WCD will brief us on the detailed data now available from their watershed characterization & landowner survey, all accomplished last year. Then, we will work together to consider in detail what land use operators & areas may be best candidates for focused attention to improve water quality; and what approaches may be most successful. This will be a three-hour session, during business hours, sometime between March 19 to 29; location will be identified after we have a date and participant list. **Please notify Hank if you are interested in participating;** we need a confirmed attendance list to plan facilities. **This meeting is now set for March 28, with 4-5 TCWP members participating.**
- **What do we mean by outreach?** This is a continuation of conversation from our last meeting. This month, we will focus discussion on the outreach opportunities presented by the work at WCD on the **National Water Quality Initiative** (NWQI.) See the attached introduction to materials from the March 1st meeting as a starting point for this discussion, including the WCD's **Tenmile Watershed Assessment**, and the presentation used at the meeting. As an idea-generator, the document from last month, '*What Do We Mean by Outreach?*' is again attached. **This discussion focused on hypothetical examples speculating on possible next steps after our 3/28 work session with WCD; i.e. where do we begin with a sustained outreach effort in our watershed? Following are some comments noted; reviewers of these notes are encouraged to add to this list!**
 - We should keep in mind & emphasize ways we can **coordinate** with the Laurel WID in this effort;
 - Planning should include ways to **measure** the effectiveness of actions in actually improving water quality;
 - Generate a list of individuals & businesses willing for their names to appear as **TCWP supporters** on our website & outreach materials (no donation required!);
 - Our purpose in building a network of support should always be focused on **education & action** to improve water quality, not attending meetings!
 - Additional ways to **focus** our outreach:
 - specific, small-area '**neighborhoods**' (depending on local definition)
 - specific **affinity groups** (same animals; same schools; pinocle players)