

**South Santiam Watershed Council**  
**Approved Meeting Minutes**  
Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Present: Eric Andersen, Laurie Nicholas, Lee Peterman, Nancy Gilmore, Robert Waller, Ko Knurowski, Nancy MacHugh, Katie Kohl, Ken Crouse, Sandy Nelson, Dan Nelson, Steve Rodriguez, Lance Gatchell, Diane Kaldahl, Norm Kaldahl

The meeting started at 3pm with welcome and introductions.

Laurie Nicholas of the Army Corp of Engineers presented on the Willamette Basin Review Reallocation Study, which outlines scenarios for dam operations in future years. She gave a presentation on this 30 year long process. The study was authorized in September of 1988 to determine if modifications were need in the future for the different reservoirs. The dams were initially created to control floods, generate hydropower, and improve navigation on the Willamette, increase water supply for agriculture and other use, increase low flows to provide pollution abatement and to provide recreation opportunities at reservoirs. The study is need because the vast majority (70%) of the state's population lives in the Willamette basin. The study occurred with assistance for the Oregon Water resources Board. Stakeholders include federal agencies, state agencies, tribal nations, municipalities, farm bureau, Water Watch (a non profit) and other local interests. The process for the study initiated in 1991, but was placed on hold shortly after Endangered Species Act (ESA) listing in 1999. Over the next several years the Willamette Biological Assessment, Supplemental Assessment, Biological Opinion, Integrated Water Strategy and other studies occurred. The current study is expected to be completed in 2018 with a decision made by congress in 2020 or later.

Four alternatives were considered and each had constraints and considerations. The primary constraints were to provide flood protection, use existing rule curves, limited allocation to 1.6 million acre feet and have no construction new facilities. Some considerations are that 100% reliable water source is not possible, BiOP flow targets must be met, recreation impacts should minimized and impacts to hydro power generation must be minimized. Alternatives evaluated different options for providing water to users (municipal/industrial, ag, fish) at the times needed. Alternative three is the preferred rout and states "meet Municipal and Industrial, Fish and Wildlife and Agricultural water supply needs through Willamette Project storage." The study projects water needs and availability out to year 2070. It is estimated that in 2070 the needs of fish and wildlife will be 1,590,000 acre feet (76.5%), municipal and industrial will be 159,750 (7.7%) and agricultural irrigation will be 327,650 (15.8%). There is a challenge in predicting the climate and when there will be dry years, or successive dry years that will make implementation challenging. During dry (e.g. deficit) years there may not be enough water to meet the needs of all the users. When that occurs, there will need to be discussion among stakeholders to determine who gets what quantity of water.

There was a short break from 3:55 to 4:05.

February meeting minutes were approved.

The SSWC held it's annual board elections. As per our by laws, half the board members are voted on annually. The board members that were running for positions include:

Lee Peterman - President  
Ken Crouse - Vice President  
Scott Marlega - non officer position  
Richard Bates - non officer position  
Nancy MacHugh - non officer position  
Katie Kohl - non officer position  
Sandy Nelson - non officer position  
Dan Nelson - non officer position

All members were voted in and will serve for 2 year terms. Lee Peterman and Ken Crouse will serve for 1 year because they are in the middle of their terms. They will be eligible to run in winter 2019. Board members will be presented with a copy of bylaws, policies and other information relevant to their position.

Board members with signing authority on the Council Key Bank account include: Eric Andersen, Lee Peterman and Nancy Gilmore.

Board members with signing authority on the Council Linn County Federal Credit Union account include: Eric Andersen, Lee Peterman and Katie Kohl.

Eric gave a brief update on the upcoming World Water Day, March 22. The SSWC will be participating by posting the flyer on our website and by posting a statement to the Oregon World Water Day website. The purpose of the event is to raise awareness about Oregon's water resources and ways that citizens can take action to protect, enhance and or conserve water.

Eric gave a brief update on projects and grants. JP continues to oversee projects. He and Eric have been working together to get him familiar with sites and plan activities for the year. In April it is expected that plant establishment activities will start.

The next SSWC meeting will be a board only tour of the LaComb irrigation district. The tour will be of the irrigation intake area and the powerhouse. The powerhouse generates electricity during certain times of the year. The irrigation intake is sourced from the Crabtree Creek. The Council has several projects in the Crabtree creek watershed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15pm.