

## City of Lafayette

### Watershed Citizen Advisory Board (WCAB) Minutes

May 8, 2001

6:30 PM at Lafayette City Hall

**Attendance.** Members Present: Gary Johnson, Ron Ross, Kathi Futornick, Dave Breneman, Travis Johnson, Stan Hill. Non-Members Present: Celeste Viau-Navetta., Phil Lieberman, City Administrator, Bozeb Beckwith.

1. **Minutes from April 10, 2001.** Corrections/changes to the April 10<sup>th</sup> minutes were made by Gary Johnson: 4<sup>th</sup> bullet, fire hazard would exist until the trees reached 20-30 years of age. The hazard exists because the lower limbs are close to the ground until the trees mature. Gary motioned to adopt the changes, and motion was seconded by Dave Breneman. The motion passed unanimously.
2. **Note:** Peter Gladhart's well at the southern edge of the watershed was disallowed by the Department of Water Resources. More information is needed for Domaine Serene's well (? Sp).
3. **Scott Ferguson's Proposal.** Clarification is needed to know whether the \$7,650 is or is not inclusive of the timber inventory. Travis raised concerns that the focus of the proposed work is on forest management. Phil stated that ¼ of the water mains in the City were replaced with watershed dollars from the last harvest. The focus is intended to be on water quality and quantity; timber resources is not the primary focus. Kathi Futornick stated that she attended a walk-through with Scott where he mentioned that he would be inclined to remove some of the smaller trees to allow the larger trees to grow more fully. Phil commented that decisions as to which trees remain or are removed, is more of an art. Kathi stated with respect to Scott's proposal, he is looking more at policy level decisions rather than specific actions. Phil commented that Dean had concerns about milk thistle. This was removed by the City staff manually. Chemical management recommendation has yet to be made by the WCAB; therefore, manual approaches are being used. Gary commented that a survey needs to be done to determine which weeds to be removed. Phil reaffirmed that there is a need for follow through. Phil explained the concept of climax lawn in the Willamette Valley, which would require less water and result in a sustainable eco-system. But since Oregon has changed in the past 100 years, grasses and weeds need to be managed. Phil mentioned that Scott was uncomfortable beginning the project without a contract. Any comments to modify the scope of work would be sent to Scott from the WCAB. Kathi commented that Scott included in the scope, both tours and meetings with the public.
4. **Note:** Phil commented that the City Council extended the WCAB through to November 1, 2001.
5. **Easement.** Dave presented information on the easement issues. Winter Hill Road is a private road as determined by the County Surveyor. It is maintained by the property owners. The road extends to the watershed boundary. The road was established when the parcels were divided. Gary commented that gaining access to the watershed through an alternate route was the main point of investigating the easement. Dave commented that this route was not a likely alternate route. Dave further stated that this approach would likely not be accessible to the public. The City would have prescriptive rights to access the watershed to meet specific City business needs in order to cross the Blanco's property. Gary commented that there may be structured periodic tours of the watershed that could be incorporated into an agreement. Dave stated that if there is regular access, this would need to be discussed with the Blanco's and an agreement formalized. The City needs access to the watershed; it can't be landlocked. Phil commented that from the perspective of the City, water supply and safety were the dominant issues. Unsupervised public access is not good. Kathi commented that poachers have entered the

watershed as recently as 2 weeks ago. Phil commented that he would approach the Blanco's when the management plan is completed. Dave stated that the easement issue is in part complicated by the way the deeds are written. Gary commented that when Hillberry bought his property, he purchased the property and access at the corner. The City might want to purchase the road as an access road, which would open up access to the watershed more than just the road through the Blanco's property. Phil again stated that completion of the management plan was the first step prior to making a decision on access. Gary commented that Hillberry is considering moving the fence over to the property line and not leaving a buffer strip as he has done.

6. **Water Quality/Quantity BMPs.** Phil mentioned that there is a budget item (\$220K) from loan and the remainder from bonds. There is a need to raise pH so there is no lead or copper leaching out. Soda-ash injection is being applied. If this works, then in the long term the system will be replaced with a hypochlorite system with soda ash. There is a relief valve uphill from the reservoir. A telephone line will send data to the City about water levels etc. The City will have automatic controls, overflow information and will be ahead of the chlorinator. There is an additional \$75K (Perkins Park) for manganese and brown water treatment. A filtration system is needed.
7. **Applicants to WCAB.** Bozeb submitted an application and was in attendance. Fred Rodley also submitted but was not present. Ron asked what would be the point at this late date in bringing on new members? An additional applicant, Emily Gladhart was also interested and reapplied recently. Bozeb stated that his interest was to bring positive input to the WCAB. He wanted to attend meetings and learn what the WCAB was about and even if not a voting member, he is still interested in attending. Travis commented that the new people could fill John Yaskovic's and Susan's positions. Gary made a motion to replace both positions with Bozeb and Emily with the caveat that we didn't want to bog down the process at this late date. When the Plan was put together, the public would see a larger representative membership. Phil stated that he would like to have more City residents. Emily had not been contacted; Walter has not completed an application. Celeste commented that Bozeb and Emily have a long-term interest. Travis noted that John's position was not filled for more than one year. Dave agreed with Ron and that now is not the time to change representation. Walter and Carol have had positive impact and have attended from the beginning. Travis made a motion to remove John's and Susan's positions. Gary seconded the motion. Discussion focused on Andy Bryant. Kathi mentioned that Andy would make the meetings as he had time. There are now 10 members. Susan will be asked to reconsider her resignation. An amended motion was considered pending next meeting regarding Susan's position. Gary seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
8. **Chemical Management.** Gary mentioned that under the Forest Practices Act, chemicals are allowed. The preference is to remove plants manually unless species is not possible to control except by chemical means. Eventually control enough plants. We don't want to write a Plan that prohibits chemical management. Phil commented that we need more narrow guidance than what is in the FPA. Gary mentioned that in agriculture, can't spray chemicals on running water. Phil mentioned that chemical use was acceptable to Division of Health. Stan commented that 3 chemicals were safe to use. If absolutely necessary, these would be good tools to have in the Plan. Gary commented that these chemicals may not be appropriate or approved in 5 years as more is known about them. Biological control e.g. cinnabar moths and tansy. As controls are put in place they sometimes backfire. Travis commented that we should look to Scott Ferguson for recommendations. Based on Dennis Nelson's presentation, if use of chemicals is outside the recharge area then that would be acceptable.

Meeting closed at 9:10 PM.

Next Meeting: June 12, 2001.