

Depoe Bay Near Shore Action Team
Regular Meeting - Thursday, September 15, 2011 - 6:00 PM
Depoe Bay City Hall

PRESENT: Chair L. Goddard (arrived 6:09 pm), J. Grant, J. O'Brien, L. Robison, G. Snyder
ABSENT: R. Hageman, T. Ray, M. Roberts
ADVISORY COMMITTEE: T. Thompson
STAFF: Pery Murray
ODFW: none

Chair Goddard called the meeting to order and established a quorum at 6:10 pm.

Approval of June 16, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: O'Brien moved to approve the minutes as written. Robison seconded the motion.
VOTE: Motion passed
AYES: Goddard, Grant, O'Brien, Robison, Snyder

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES

There were no reports from Otter Rock Marine Reserve Working Groups. Goddard asked Snyder to report on the OWET Conference he'd attended last month. Snyder said the conference was well attended and there was much information presented, noting that while implementation is occurring in Europe there is none here yet, although the Reedsport project is in process. Topics discussed included implementation and power delivery issues, power companies' purchases of power generated, selling back power (wind farms), and the permitting process. Discussion ensued, with the following being mentioned: Bonneville Power is not buying wind generated power this year; European technology includes large floating towers with wind generators on top (need large areas of flat-bottomed ocean for these); grant funding for test sites is drying up; county vs. state control relating to view shed issues and regulations which are being discussed (meeting tomorrow); shifting control in the permitting process; the Territorial Sea Plan must be in place for the state to have regulatory control.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS –

Otter Rock Marine Reserve Scientific Data Report – Alix Laferriere
Alix was unable to attend the meeting tonight, this item is postponed.

Wild Salmon Policy-Mike Sorenson, Salmon Advisory Subpanel-Pacific Fishery Management Council
Goddard had invited Mike Sorenson to attend the meeting to discuss the Wild Salmon Policy and how changes could be implemented to the policy. He introduced Sorenson and thanked him for coming. Sorenson said the place to start for policy change is at the federal level (NOAA, PFMC). New policies are being implemented, the Natural Spawning Fish (formerly called Native Fish) Policy is to reduce intermingling of hatchery and naturally spawned fish. There has been an uproar over fin-clipping, missed fin-clips of hatchery fish. Some tribes PIT tag and don't clip adipose fins. Policy is set by the federal government, Alaska has approached the issue differently and the state is producing salmon, as opposed to the lower 48 which are not. There are ongoing efforts in stream enhancement and habitat renewal and a lot of Oregon rivers are coming back. He encouraged people to get involved and voice their opinions. There are many meetings and no one from the recreational fishery attends to discuss policies and changes. He advised that making phone calls and writing letters are excellent alternatives to attending meetings. Go to the Pacific Fishery Management Council website for contact information. Thompson asked why hatchery fish are going into the Coos River

system and not the Yaquina River system since both rivers are ranked the same. Sorenson said he would find out and noted that ODFW uses prehistoric (pre-fishing) fish counts to compare with today's counts. He again encouraged involvement, writing letters. He said the Council members are sincere and concerned and they welcome input. He noted that environmental groups have paid staff persons that continually provide input. He has not ever had input from the Pacific City dory fleet, which he assumed was entirely commercial. Goddard mentioned contacting the Salmon River group, which is very active, to encourage their involvement.

Thompson reported on his 56 days aboard the cable-laying ship. Two cable lines out of Pacific City were laid in the 56 days, 7 million pounds of cable. This a 3 year, half a billion dollar project funded by the National Science Foundation U of W and federal stimulus money. Types of monitoring will include oceanographic, seismic and geological. He cautioned fishermen to give the cable-laying ships a wide berth, they have the right-of-way, there are times when the cable is at a 45 degree angle off the ship, and their maneuverability is limited, particularly while laying cable.

Member and Public Comments

Grant thanked Sorenson for his work on the PFMC Salmon Advisory group. Snyder said he'd seen an online ad by ODFW for boat work for the Otter Rock Marine Reserve with a short turn around (Labor Day weekend) to submit proposals. The offered contract is to begin September 15, and they are looking for a boat out of Newport. Sorenson said he was aware that ODFW is looking for a Newport boat and suggested contacting Alix Laferriere for information. Goddard said Mark Roberts still has hours remaining on his contract and he hasn't worked for some time. He thanked Sorenson and congratulated Snyder on the recent termination of his bachelorhood.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Chair Loren Goddard

Pery Murray, City Recorder