

FINAL MEETING MINUTES
Russian River Watershed Council

September 17, 2005, Veteran's Memorial Hall, Cloverdale, California

A total of 8 voting members were needed to make a quorum and 8 voting members were in attendance at the start of the meeting. Quorum equals 40% of voting member attendance at the last three meetings + 1. Total meeting attendance was 20.

Approve Agenda of September 17, 2005 - ACTION ITEM

Agenda approval – 9 ayes, 0 nays, 2 abstentions

Approve Minutes of July 9, 2005 - ACTION ITEM

Minutes approval – 9 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions

Agency Announcements - DISCUSSION

Derek Acomb – Dept. of Fish & Game is working on allocating funds for the 2005 Fisheries Restoration Grant program recipients.

Karen Rippey – Army Corps, the Watershed Management Plan Technical Advisory Committee has scheduled another meeting for Monday, October 24th at 1:00pm at the Healdsburg Public Library.

Workgroup Announcements & Steering Committee Report – DISCUSSION

Jody Hymes – Steering Committee at their 8/24/2005 meeting reviewed, and with minor changes, approved Fiscal Policies and Procedures drafted by Jody Hymes, Secretary/Treasurer. These policies must be in place prior to opening a bank account.

Other Announcements – DISCUSSION

Victoria Wikle – Russian River Keeper is having their annual Riverfest fundraiser on September 18th in Forestville.

David Berman – Watershed education map finally complete! Map of lower Russian will be delivered to all schools in lower watershed and available on RRIIS for download.

Tara Athan – Photo's depicting different uses of river are needed for the RRWC website update. Please send any photo's to Michelle at Steward@RRWC.net or PO Box 3908, Santa Rosa, CA 95402.

Jody Hymes – The Children's Village of Sonoma County is looking for partners to enhance green design and sustainability features in its new facility soon to be constructed in Santa Rosa. Contact Jody for more information.

Colleen Fernald – Graton Day is September 24th at the Oak Grove School and the Eco Fest/GE- Free Sonoma County event is October 8th @ 6:30, the Sebastopol Community Center.

Coordinator's Report

Watershed Stewardship Celebration Event Update

Event is Thursday, October 27th from 6:30pm-9:00pm at the LBC in Santa Rosa. Nominations for stewardship awards are due by Sept. 21st. Nomination forms and other event information is posted at www.RRWC.net.

Organizational Development Grant Update

We are currently undergoing an organizational development process. We have worked with Conservation Impact and today with Joan Riback to help us determine the future strategic direction, organizational goals, mission, and structure of the Council. Summary of 9/10 workshop was distributed to full Council.

Appoint Review Committee for Current Grant Contracts – ACTION ITEM

Motion: Appoint current officers to a Review Committee to approve the completion of tasks on current grant contracts on behalf of the Council, so reimbursements can be processed in a timely manner, with approval needed from any two officers.

Amendment: Colleen Fernald asked to also serve on the committee.

Proposed By: Michelle LeBeau

Motion Approval: 15 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions

RRWC Organizational Direction Mini Workshop – Joan Riback

Force Field Analysis Exercise on Incorporating as a Nonprofit

Pro	Con
501c3	Fear of loss of control
Voting & paying membership	Commitment & capacity for active board
Liability	Carrying forward baggage from past
Decision making structure	Mind set & skills for developing programs/focus
Fiscal accountability	Fear of becoming exclusionary
Access to expanded funding sources	Increased legal responsibilities for office operations
Maintain all earned funds (no admin fees)	
Own bank account	
Manage staff	
Tax benefits	

Nonprofit Incorporation – ACTION ITEM

Motion: To become a nonprofit organization.

Proposed By: Peggy Maddock

Motion Approval: 10 ayes, 3 nays, 2 abstentions

Note: Motion passed with the understanding that the specific structure will be developed in the upcoming Steering Committee meetings with an invitation for any member to participate (Incorporation Workgroup) and the proposed structure to be approved by the full Council at the November 12th general meeting.

Next Steps & November Agenda items - DISCUSSION

Potential agenda items for November 12th meeting

- 1) Carry over the following action items:
 - a. Report an/or recommendation from Incorporation Workgroup on proposed org. structure
 - b. 20-30 minute presentation on an active watershed improvement project

Adjourned.

Draft minutes produced by Michelle LeBeau 9/21/2005

Revised 9/29/05 due to comments submitted during review period.