

# Wahkiakum County Marine Resources Committee (WC MRC)

## May 28, 2024, Committee Meeting Summary

The Wahkiakum MRC committee meeting was held via Zoom videoconferencing and in person in the River Street Building meeting room in Cathlamet, WA. Those in attendance were as follows:

Sam Shogren, Chairperson Paula Culbertson Jeanne Hendrickson, Vice Chairperson Diana Zimmerman Sandra Staples-Bortner Mike Backman Carol Ervest	Chris Waldbillig, WDFW (Zoom) Carrie Shofner , MRC Coordinator Shari Parker, MRC Assist. Coordinator <u>Absent:</u> Brett Deaton/Todd Souvenir <u>Guests:</u> MD Johnson with three WHS students. Ing-Marie Putka
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- **Confirm a Quorum - Chairperson**
- **Call Meeting to Order – Chairperson**
- **Welcome & Introductions**

Upon confirmation of quorum, Chairperson Sam Shogren called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **Guest Speaker**

1) MD Johnson with students from WSD shared a photo slideshow and presentation on Task 7: Marine Science/Estuary Education Field Trips which is funded with MRC grant funds. He shared the sites visited, student involvement and highlights. He emphasized the incredible opportunity this is for our youth, as most have never taken part in activities like this; clam digging, observing fish and wildlife, fishing, and preparing catch and exploring our PNW estuaries. Also noted was the positive social interaction between youth. Students joined in the conversation, expressing positive feedback. Members had the opportunity to ask questions and interact with the students. MD shared the positive coordination with WFW staff and the ability to access free Educational Fishing Permits for the youth. A great presentation and discussion showcasing the importance of the MRC funds for the project.

### **OPENING BUSINESS:**

2) Approval of Agenda and April Meeting Minutes/Summary – Motion to approve Sandra; Paula 2nd, motion passed. Request to include Absent MRC members with attendance.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

3) Quarterly Reports; Shari shared copies of the Quarterly Report with updates on Tasks, financial documents, and an updated contact list. No questions or discussion.

4) COHORT update; Sam shared The Coastal Hazards Organizational Resilience Team (COHORT) grant, prepared by Carrie, Sam and Sandra, was approved at \$15,000.00, the total amount requested. This will include community education in the form of public lectures and workshops, hiring of an Intern to work with various related programs to build relationships, share information and create some type of directory. They will be gathering input from community forums and will take interested people on “field trips” to see firsthand the issues, concerns and positives affecting our communities. Suggestion that Dan Cothren be involved as he has does this with forestry on-site visits. Carrie shared feedback from the Sea Grant reviewers.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

5) Sandra shared the final draft of the Project Application that her, Paula and Jeanne have worked on. She asked for feedback and Shari will put this on the Agenda as a placeholder. A discussion on MRC priorities with Shari to send Wahkiakum MRC priorities to members.

6) Sandra has asked Steve Manlow, Executive Director, Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board, (who accepted) to present at our July 22<sup>nd</sup> MCR meeting. Shari will touch base with Steve prior to the meeting.

### **REPORTS:**

7) Coordinator's Report: Carrie talked about ways to make MRC reports a better representation of impacts. She asked Sam to be part of a panel presentation at the Coastal MRC Summit in October.

8) Coastal MRC Updates: Reminder of dates of Coastal Summit. Oct 16-19, with the Film Festival Friday night 18<sup>th</sup> and a Maritime History event on Saturday.

9) WCMAC update: Paula submitted a five page written Quarterly report that was distributed to all members.

Updates/Announcements – The last meeting of the Grays Bay flood and sea level workshop will be held June 5<sup>th</sup>. Shari will forward any information from Jackson regarding the meeting.

10. General Discussion: Discussed ways to get more members. Chatted with guest Inga-Marie Putka, spending summer on Puget Island and interested in what the MRC is/does. A discussion regarding canceling June MRC meeting as several members will be unavailable. Shari will follow up.

### **Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM**

The next regular Wahkiakum MRC meeting will be held \* July 22nd, 2024, at 5:30 pm in the River Street meeting room with the option to join the meeting via Zoom online meeting.

\* June meeting canceled.

Respectfully submitted by Shari Parker, MRC Assistant Coordinator