

SOUTH SLOUGH RESERVE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

AGENDA

South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve
South Slough Interpretive Center
61907 Seven Devils Road - Charleston, Oregon

July 16, 2015

143rd REGULAR MEETING 1:30-4:00 P.M.

I. Call-to-Order

II. Introductions

III. Review of the 142nd regular meeting minutes

IV. Public Input*

V. Old Business

VI. New Business

1. Commission Volunteer Recognition
2. Management Commission Recruiting

VII. Presentations

VIII. Information Reports

1. Administration/Facilities
2. Education
3. Science

IX. Adjourn

*Limited to 5 minutes each unless arranged in advance of the meeting.

** This meeting is being held in a facility that is accessible for persons with disabilities. If you need some form of assistance to participate in this meeting due to a disability, please notify Pam Wilson at 541-888-5558 ext. 34 at least two working days prior to the meeting.

**SOUTH SLOUGH NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE
MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**

Oregon Institute of Marine Biology
Charleston, Oregon

Minutes of the 142nd Regular Meeting
March 19, 2015

Commission members present:

Mary Abrams, Chair	Nicole Jackson, Vice Chair
Bree Turner- <i>via conference call</i>	Trent Hatfield
Bob Cowen- <i>via conference call</i>	Craig Young
David Kronsteiner	

South Slough NERR staff and others present:

Gary Cooper, Manager	
Pam Wilson	Bree Yednock
Tom Gaskill	Colleen Burch Johnson
Ed Oswald	John Bragg
Kathy Andreasen	Don Smith
Adam DeMarzo	Ali Helms
Lonne Mays, FOSS	Nate Damewood

Patrick Juarez

The meeting was called to order at 9:16 a.m. by the Chair of the Commission, Mary Abrams.

INTRODUCTIONS

Everyone present at the meeting introduced themselves. Patrick Juarez was introduced as the new contract and procurement assistant on the South Slough NERR staff.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Chair Abrams asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Kronsteiner moved to approve and Commissioner Hatfield seconded. The minutes were approved with all in favor.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Cooper asked if there were any comments from the public. There was no public input.

OLD BUSINESS

Reorganization

Regarding the proposed transfer of the Reserve's state partnership from the Department of State Lands, Chair Abrams reported that the conversation with administrators from the University of Oregon and Oregon State University was continuing and they were considering a potential partnership to serve jointly as South Slough NERR's state partner.

Fredrickson House and Barn

Chair Abrams reported that the \$19,635 funding proposal submitted by the Friends of South Slough and the South Slough NERR to the Coquille Tribal Community Fund for the Fredrickson structures was not accepted.

Gary Cooper explained that at present the South Slough Reserve has no staff or funding available to dedicate to the Fredrickson structures. He added that members of the Coquille tribe came out and looked at the site. Tom Gaskill said the Coquille Tribe's historic preservation officer Kassandra Rippee is looking at more grant funding opportunities. Commissioner Jackson requested that staff keep the Commission informed if there is further vandalism to the structures. Chair Abrams suggested the Reserve could contract for some grant writing staff.

Commented [MMA1]: If she is from the Coquille, please specify that so we know who she is.

NEW BUSINESS

Fees

The Commission discussed the state requirement to review the fee rules adopted for the Reserve every five years. The purpose of the fees was to promote financial self-sufficiency of the Reserve. The fees that have been collected to date are primarily from the rental of the Spruce Ranch facility and are not of sufficient value to offset the costs of operating the Reserve. The Commission agreed that the current fee schedule is too complicated and offered some suggestions to simplify it. Staff will prepare a recommendation for a new fee schedule for the Commission to review at the November regular meeting and approve for adoption in 2016.

Disaster Plan Update

Gary Cooper reported that the Reserve has received funds from NOAA to develop a Disaster Plan. Stewardship coordinator Hannah MacDonald is putting the final edits on the plan. The development of the plan has included a public meeting and consultation with OIMB and various other stakeholders in the community such as the Port of Coos Bay. Mr. Cooper said that staff safety issues have been addressed and a training drill needs to be scheduled. He added that Reserve staff will benefit from the incident command training that is included in the plan. The Commission approved and commented positively on the effort.

South Slough NERR Management Plan Update

John Bragg thanked staff for writing the chapters of the Management Plan and he said the first draft has been submitted to NOAA. He expects the draft to be returned with comments from NOAA about the end of May. The Commission agreed to review the document together in the middle of June and to reserve most of the July regular meeting to discuss the plan, after which the plan would be made available for public comment. Bree Turner (NOAA) recommended that the Management Commission approve the plan after the public comment period. In consideration of this, the Commission agreed to hold a tentative meeting in October to approve the plan in advance of the November regular meeting. There was concern that the November regular meeting would be too late for final approval given the grant timeline from NOAA.

Updates

A state budget scenario and report on the progress of the Legislature was provided by Chair Abrams. She said the Department of State Lands staff is experiencing construction and remodel contractors on site in Salem.

Tom Gaskill and Bree Yednock briefed the Commission on recent staff activity in the Education and Science programs.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Abrams adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.