



## **WATERFRONT ORGANIZATIONS OF OREGON - Dec. 6, 2023**

Noon WOOO Board Zoom/Live/Hybrid Meeting

<https://waterfrontoregon.com/>

### **Call to Order / Ron Schmidt**

Thanks and recognition of PYC for their Support - Asia Von Sonn

**Board Roll Call / Maura Hayes** QUORUM PRESENT (4 minimum)

## **WOOO 2023 OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### PRESIDENT

X Ron Schmidt (The Planning Group/Oarboard)

### VICE PRESIDENT

X Kelly Butler Holtz (Oregon Yacht Club)

### SECRETARY

X Maura Hayes (Macadam Bay Moorage)

### TREASURER

X Stan Tonneson (Rocky Point Marina)

### TECHNOLOGY OFFICER

X Kellyn Gorman (Bridgeton Harbour)

### DIRECTORS

X Doug Romjue (CRYA)

X Harry Braunstein (Portland Yacht Club)

Marlon Bump (Riverplace Harbormaster)

Mark McCuddy (McCuddy's Marinas)

Pascal Le Guilly (Schooner Creek Boat Works)

Justin Teutsch (Columbia Crossings, Inc.)

X Don Gire (Tomahawk Destiny)

## **Welcome & Introductions / Ron Schmidt**

Thank you to all who recently mobilized against the Rain Tax!  
Special thanks to Tim Gorman of Bridgeton Harbour, George Whitney of Jantzen Beach Moorage, Steve Harkins from West Hayden Island Moorage, and Rick Buck of Sundance, PR firm Leverage & Associates, and attorney Maren Clavert of Schwabe.

A **Motion** was made and seconded to approve November's meeting minutes. Previous Meeting Minutes Approved.

### **Treasurer's Report / Stan Tonneson:**

Annual Dinner Expenses were \$2000

Annual Dinner Income \$920

Current WOOO Account Balance: \$12,419

Pending WOOO Insurance Bill: \$1200

### **Kellyn Gorman, Chair Technology Officer-(CTO):**

All: Check WOOO Website, send in any contact updates.

<https://waterfrontoregon.com/board-members>

<https://waterfrontoregon.com/links-and-professionals>

## **NEWS AND INFO FROM OUR GOVERNMENTAL ALLIES**

### **Laura Jackson, Chair of Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB)**

[laura.jackson@boat.oregon.gov](mailto:laura.jackson@boat.oregon.gov) 503-754-1480

She notes that she is not an employee, but has been on the board for 5 years. She is filling in during staffing transitions and can field any concerns that we may have. A new employee candidate is starting on January 2, 2024. Dorothy Diehl's position will be filled at a later time.

### **Sgt. Steve Dangler, Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO)**

503-988-6788 MCSO River Patrol

They will have fewer staff members for help from OSMB (while moving over to Department of State Lands (DSL)).

ADVAC Report: Twenty boats are out to bid, most are in the Multnomah Channel. About 60 boats have been recently removed from the waterways. Metro contributed \$350,000 towards boat removal. Laura Jackson (OSMB) has been out on the water with him during the last vessel tagging. Sergeant Mack Adams will be replacing him when he retires, starting on March 3rd. High water, debris, sewerage flows, and Christmas Boats are all happening right now; there are more hazards on the water right now. Several boats are grounded.

Paul Buscher, of West Hayden Island reports a grounded boat nearby which is taking on water. Sergeant Dangler has that one targeted for removal by the end of next week. Boats can be tracked, but not the people on the boats.

The red sailboat will be the next one removed.

High water dangers resulted in a recent drowning at Johnson Creek and a capsized boat at another location.

Deputy Matt Adams was previously a marine deputy and is now transitioning to the marine unit. Some OSMB personnel are switching to Department of State Lands (DSL). Sergeant Dangler is assisting with some of the teaching at the Marine Academy until his retirement.

### **Sean Whalen, Harbormaster**

Many of his reports for today have already been covered by Sergeant Dangler. The current high water is a danger. Secure all boat and home connections.

### **The Rain Tax Debrief:**

The City Council Meeting just officially removed the Rain Tax at this time. Tim Gorman said, "We won the war but lost the battle".

The ordinance in 2018 was based on a certain definition of impervious surfaces. This ordinance has changed the terminology. In the future, BES can repeat the Rain Tax initiative again. This has forestalled the tax for now.

Kelly Butler Holtz asks: Can we thank them, but have them change the terminology to prevent a re-do of this?

Tim Gorman said that they suggested this after a recent meeting. They have a verbal assurance, but it is not yet in writing.

BES had a fictitious process of “public outreach”.

We should all thank Commissioner Mapps for creating a good compromise.

Steve Harkins thanked all who helped with this issue, WOOO and Ron Schmidt really advocated and lined up people and resources in a timely way, thank you Ron!

Stan Tonneson: WOOO was formed in the 1990's to come together as a group for issues that concern the waterways.

Tim Gorman thanked the groups that contributed to the legal funds.

Ron listed the amounts.

**MOTION:** Kelly made a MOTION for WOOO make a contribution of \$1000 to fund The (RAIN TAX) Fund. Motion seconded by Stan Tonneson.

**Motion Unanimously Approved.**

This Rain Tax defeat just saved the community a lot of money. A million dollars a year!

Someone suggested that a money request be sent to each waterfront organization that would show what they saved, requesting a voluntary contribution—like 3 months worth of savings to be used for fighting this issue (past and future).

\$100,000 + a year was an average estimate of what it was going to cost if the rate increase had passed. Some larger moorages would have had a much larger *permanent* bill.

Don Gire: his moorage was willing to contribute 3 months towards the fund if it went to court. \$5000.

A “rainy day fund” is needed for these kind of situations for a legal defense fund. \$4500 a year is our usual WOOO income. It would not be enough for such a fund.

More discussion ensued on how much to ask moorages to contribute to The Fund. Someone suggested asking floating home owners to contribute \$25. WOOO would be *promoting* the fund by requesting the money, but not managing the monies. Showing a list of the recent contributions would encourage others to contribute.

**MOTION** Stan Tonneson made a motion that WOOO members *will attempt* to support Rick Sundance for met expenses from the Rain Tax through a committee of three. **Motion Seconded and Approved.**

WOOO Rain Tax Committee will send an email summary of the recent events, and the need for reimbursement of certain contributors.

Ron suggested a Committee of three to work out the numbers. Don Gire, Kellyn asked whether a Go Fund Me format for reimbursement might be a good medium because the contributions would be transparent.

**Kellyn Gorman, Chair Technology Officer-(CTO):**

Utilizing her knowledge of website design, she plans to update the WOOO website, re-arranging content and format. These changes will be rolled out incrementally, with input from the Board.

**Other Committees**

**Old Business**

### **Floating Home Insurance**

See this month's Best Practices Meeting for updates. There are significant upcoming changes in Floating Home insurance policies that are currently held with United Heritage Insurance.

### **Social Committee-Jane Gire:**

The Annual Meeting was a great success.  
Start thinking about a Summer Social event.

### **New Business**

**MOTION**-Stan Tonneson made a Motion to make a \$600 donation to The Christmas Ships and a \$600 donation to The Nautical Safety Board. Motion seconded and **PASSED**.

**MOTION**-Kelly makes a Motion to make a \$250 Appreciation Tip to the Portland Yacht Club for the many services that they provide to support the WOOO meetings. **Motion seconded and Motion Approved.**

### **Open Board Discussion**

**Meeting Adjourned at 1:48**

**Next Board Meeting first Wednesday of the Month**

**Best Practices Meetings precede each monthly Board Meeting at 11 AM**

**Notes submitted by WOOO Secretary, Maura Hayes**