

CITY OF SILVERTON

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND URBAN TREE COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

City Shops 830 McClaine St.

April 16, 2024

**I. OPENING CEREMONIES - Call to Order & Roll Call**

Present	Absent	
X		Eric Hammond
X		Heather Desmarteau-Fast
X		Susan Carter
X		Elyce Hues
	X	Ronald Thompson
X		Lori McLaughlin
X		Tammie Sakia
X		Travis Sperle, Ex Officio Member, City of Silverton
X		Travis Comfort, Ex Officio Member, Republic Services

**STAFF PRESENT:** Public Works Director, Travis Sperle and Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor, Brad Jensen.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Carter motioned to approve the minutes from March 19, 2024, meeting as presented. Chairman Hammond seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT-** The Monarch [Butterfly] Habitat representative, Joe Aerne, presented a proposal to lure the monarchs during their migration to Willamette Valley. Joe Aerne proposed that Silverton develop a plan to establish several native butterfly/pollinator gardens on public lands and a public relations campaign to encourage homeowners to do the same.

Committee members were in favor of the idea, yet expressed concern for the staffing requirement the city would need to maintain the monarch gardens. Jo Aerne supported the committee's concern with gardening groups and businesses in town that would volunteer to adopt one of the gardens and help with maintenance.

Chairman Hammond recommended Jo Aerne return to the committee with additional information on the size, and locations of the gardens. Additionally, Chairman Hammond requested information on supporting and maintaining the gardens.

**IV. DISCUSSION/ACTION**

4.1- Water Quality Report- WWTP Supervisor Brad Jensen provided an update to the committee, there

were no violations through March 2024. The City of Silverton is now on their Summer Permit and is now pumping water to the Oregon Gardens to help with thermal loading at the WWTP plant. Brad Jensen then updated the committee with current projects at the WWTP.

4.2- MAO & SEP- WWTP Supervisor Brad Jensen presented an update on the ordinance change and the Pudding River Watershed project required by DEQ due to the City's wastewater discharge violation.

SEP [Supplemental Environmental] project with the Pudding River Watershed Council approved by DEQ. One requirement of DEQ is to receive updates on the project. The project is expected to be completed October 31,2025, and submit a final SEP report to DEQ by October 31,2025.

Brad Jensen shared the update sent to DEQ- The project will be located at Coolidge McClaine Park along the Salamander Island trail. Ivy and blackberries will be hand pulled and removed. 4 acres along the creek has been completed. The goal is to have this area completely eradicated with these two invasive species. The area will be used as a role model for the community by adding a plaque identifying native plants.

## **V. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS**

Chairman Hammond updated the committee on the Tree Code. The planning department is currently reviewing the development tree code.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Member adjourned meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

/s/ Melinda Orozco, Public Works Administrative Assistant