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# Minutes of the Columbia SWCD Board of Directors Meeting February 28, 2018

**Directors Present:** 

Kay C. VanNatta, Treasurer Randy Bergman, Secretary Dave Freytag, Director Bill Eagle, Vice Chair Lona Pierce, Chair

**Directors Absent:** 

Craig Ellis, Director Jason Busch, Director **SWCD Staff:** 

Kari Hollander, DM Jennifer Steinke, OA

NRCS:

Don Mehlhoff, DC

**Watershed Councils:** Marilyn VanNatta, LCRWC

Guests:

Claudia Eagle

# CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING: 7:00 PM

**Prior Month's Minutes: Motion** VanNatta/Eagle to approve the Minutes from 01-17-18. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** 

**Financial Report: Motion** VanNatta/Freytag to accept financial Report from 01-31-17. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**.

**Bills to Pay: Motion** VanNatta/Eagle approve to pay the bills. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** 

Ck#				Expenditure Splits	
OK #	Payee	Memo	Amount	CSWCD	GRANT
2200	LCEP	Jenny Dezso and Water Monitoring	\$6,882.53	\$226.59	\$6,655.94
2201	SDAO	Insurance	\$13,177.00	\$13,177.00	\$0.00
		SUBTOTALS >>>>>	\$20,059.53	\$13,403.59	\$6,655.94
		TOTAL REQUESTS >>>>>>>			\$20,059.53

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment

# **AMENDED AGENDA**:

Lona mentioned that she would like to add the topics "Policy Committee/Manager Review" to Old Business and "Personnel Committee" to New Business.

**Motion** Eagle/Freytag to approve amended agenda. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** 

# **REPORTS**

# NRCS

Don's Local Work Group that was held earlier this month had a good turnout of about 30 people. Don mentioned that of these attendees were farmers, city employees, and other employees within NRCS and partnering agencies. He believes it was a good meeting and that there were a lot of positive inputs. Don added that he would really like to focus on the Small Market gardeners and the Nehalem River Pasture but will still have the forestry program due to high interest. Don also discussed possible upcoming projects and added that he has received about 24 EQIP and 4 Carbon Market RCPP applications. Don also mentioned that NRCS is currently accepting applications for Conservation Innovation Grants through April 6.

### LCRWC

KC informed the Board that he is no longer Chair of the Watershed Council. He added that the Council is getting ready to hold interviews for the Council Coordinator Position. Kari added that she will be meeting with Chip Bubl and Ian Bledsoe to interview applicants for the position.

#### UNWC

Kari met with Wade Bullier earlier this month, a director on the Upper Nehalem Watershed Council. He informed Kari that the Council Board would like to work more closely with the District and that he would like to set up a site visit with District Staff for his property. She added that he will most likely be the contact from the Council when it is time to review and update the district/council MOU.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Policy Committee:** Lona mentioned that the Policy Committee should be meeting soon. Kari added that there should be a meeting scheduled in March, she will speak with Craig. Lona also mentioned that she would like to get the Manager's Review scheduled.
- **Board Assessment:** Kari informed the Board that the Board Assessment will need to be rescheduled and asked the Board if there was a specific day that might work for everyone. Brief discussion held. Kari will work to reschedule the assessment and will keep in touch with the Board. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday before the regular board meeting was preferred by all.
- RCPP (Regional Conservation Partnership Program): Kari informed the Board that the Watershed Plan will likely be completed this summer and that the State Office is still working on the economic portion. Randy asked if the District will be digging in Tandy Creek. Kari mentioned that landowners have retained ownership of the property so as of now the area is not on the District's current scope of work. Brief discussion held.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

• **Budget Calendar:** A Budget Calendar handout was given to each Board member. Kari mentioned that May 10 and May 24 are the most important dates on the Calendar for the

Board to remember (Budget Committee Meeting to review and approve proposed budget/tax rate and Subsequent Budget Committee Meeting if needed). Discussion held. **Motion: Eagle/VanNatta** to approve 2018-2019 Budget Calendar. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** 

• Budget Committee/Budget Office: The Board reviewed the Committee Members.

Motion: Eagle/Freytag to approve Budget Committee. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Motion: Eagle/VanNatta** to appoint Kari as the Budget Officer. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** 

• **Fiscal Sponsorship and Employment agreement (LCRWC):** Board Members received a copy of the agreement for review. Kari discussed that the Council Coordinator will be hired and employed under the District with the Council's activities as their priority. Brief discussion and review held.

**Motion: VanNatta/ Eagle** to accept and approve the Fiscal Sponsorship and Employment Agreement between the LCRWC and CSWCD. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** 

- **Equipment Loaning:** Kari informed that Board that the District is interested in loaning equipment to landowners, such as the weed wrenches, backpack sprayers, and other small items. Kari mentioned that the District could charge a \$15 or \$20 deposit to loan the equipment which would be given back to the landowner once the item was returned. Discussion was held. Board does not think that the District needs to hold a deposit for loaning equipment at this time.
- **CONNECT Conference:** Kari mentioned that the Connect Conference is quickly approaching and would like to know who of the Board will be attending. Discussion held. Randy mentioned that he will be presenting on Tide Gates at the conference. Kari added that she will be leading a panel discussion on the Ins and Outs of Fiscal Sponsorship. Kari also mentioned that she will forward the Conference schedule to the Board.
- OACD OCEAN: OACD has a new Executive Director. Kari mentioned that she has had good interactions with him so far. Randy added that he has not met the Director in-person yet but is hopeful that things will work out.

  Kari informed the Board that she has been encouraged to run for the Basin Rep. position for OCEAN. Elections will be held at CONNECT in April. Discussion held.
- **Funding Future Opportunities:** Crystalyn Bush and Kari will be putting in a proposal for EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) education grants ranging from \$50k-\$100k. Kari mentioned that there is a short turn around for the grants but she and Crystalyn have been speaking with the schools to see who may be interested. Mostly elementary age teachers and principals have shown the most interest. Kari believes that the grant work could lead to future projects for the District with the schools.
- **Oregon Wildlife Funding:** A handout was given to the Board to review. Kari briefly explained that by going to <a href="www.OregonScreenSettlement.com">www.OregonScreenSettlement.com</a>, the Board can quickly and easily file a claim and donate the "screen settlement" to ODFW's Nongame Wildlife Fund.
- **Personnel Committee:** Lona mentioned that she would like to appoint Dave for Jason's position on the Personnel Committee. Brief discussion was held.

# New Cooperators:

Thomas Chisholm, Aloha, 44.6 acres Steve Gregg, Wilsonville, 39 acres Joseph Koller, Deer Island, 154 acres Michelle Moline and Frank Monteleone, Vernonia, 1.38 acres

Motion: Eagle/VanNatta to approve New Cooperators. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote

# REPORTS (Cont.)

# **STAFF**

A copy of the Manager's Report was given to the Board. Kari discussed the grant updates, highlighting that the Knotweed treatment Grant was not approved this year but Garlic Mustard treatment will begin late March/Early April. Brief discussion held. Kari also mentioned that Water Quality Monitoring started back up last week with LCEP (Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership) help. Bacteria sampling is temporarily on hold. Randy added that the Ground Water Study is still needed. Kari reminded the Board that there are no funds to do a study at this time. All partners want to see this happen, but funding is what has kept it from moving forward. Kari also informed the Board that she is working on the Work Plan and budget. Brief discussion held.

### **BOARD**

- -Bill discussed the current raffle for Doernbecher Children's Hospital. He also mentioned that he gave out the Annual Reports and has heard a lot of good feedback.
- -Lona mentioned that she attended Don's Local Work Group meeting. She added that she received a Native Plant Booklet from a woman who attended the meeting. Lona also listened in on OACD's conference call and attended the West Multnomah SWCD meeting.
- -KC mentioned that he has noticed a lot of eagles near the Clatskanie River. Brief discussion held.
- -Randy attended the Ocean Acidification class last night at the Lower Columbia College. He discussed a few things that he learned from the class, adding that there was a pretty good turnout of 30-40 people. Brief discussion held.

Eagle/VanNatta moved to adjourn meeting MEETING ADJOURNED 8:35 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

**Jennifer Steinke** Jennifer Steinke, Office Assistant