



**Minutes of the  
Columbia SWCD Board of Directors  
Meeting June 20, 2018**

**Directors Present:**

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

**Directors Absent:**

Jason Busch, Director  
Craig Ellis, Director  
Lona Pierce, Chair

**SWCD Staff:**

Kari Hollander, DM  
Jennifer Steinke, OA

**Watershed Councils:**

Marilyn VanNatta, LCRWC

**Guests:**

Claudia Eagle

***CALL TO ORDER OF BUDGET HEARING: 6:30 PM***

No public comment.

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

Introductions were made.

**AMENDED AGENDA**

Guest speakers, Kristin and Chris McGlothen, attended the Board meeting to discuss an education program for a possible fiscal sponsorship opportunity for the Columbia SWCD.

**Motion: VanNatta/Bergman** to approve moving the Fiscal Sponsorship discussion to the top of the Agenda. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**Possible Fiscal Sponsorship:** Kristin explained the 'Caring for the Kenai' program that she assisted with when she was working as a teacher in Kenai, Alaska. The program began in 1990 to prompt high school students to become involved with taking care of their environment, or "backyard", by inventing or creating solutions to help the area's preparedness for a natural disaster. Kristin explained that the program would take on a new name, 'Caring for my Backyard', and is hopeful it will spread to other states, and possibly other countries.

She explained that both Science and English teachers work together to assist students in inventing solutions and creating essays that the students will have a chance to present to a panel of judges for a chance to win monetary prizes. Kristin explained that with the number of sponsors they had in AK, the first-place winner received \$1600.

Chris and Kristen mentioned that they are hoping to target the Lower Columbia Basin schools, adding that it would be fun to have the Oregon and Washington sides of the river compete against each other. They envision adding Kenai into the local competition down the road to show students the differences and similarities of both local and global issues.

Chris and Kristen explained that the Partnership between the program and the Columbia SWCD would include the use of the District's Meeting Room, assistance in the judging process and accounting



**SBWC**

Kari mentioned that the Veteran's Park project is moving forward. She added that the marketing and outreach partnership with the SWCD and SBWC is growing and she is excited for the fair booth which is a collaboration of all 3 watershed councils, the district and NRCS. Bringing the local natural resource organizations together in one place. Kari also mentioned that the SBWC's Strategic Action Plan is complete and that Pat would like to come present it to the SWCD board in the fall. Brief discussion held.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **2018 Director Elections:** Kari reminded the Board that KC, Randy and Lona's positions will be up for re-election this year, adding that the appropriate paperwork to run should be available next month. The paperwork will be due toward the end of August.
- **Legal Counsel:** Coming back to the board with additional information. Kari informed the Board that she reached out to several different attorneys in the county and asked other Special Districts/County/City members who they use. She said that those who have the experience with local government are either not familiar with special districts or their existing clients are agencies/municipalities that we work with on a regular basis. Other options would be to look at attorneys in Portland. Kari recommends accepting the proposal from Robert Salisbury.

**Motion: Bergman/VanNatta** to approve Robert Salisbury as SWCD Legal Counsel. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

- **Board Assessment/Manager Evaluation:** Kari reminded the Board that next month's meeting will begin one hour early (6pm) for the Board Assessment, with a short meeting after, followed by executive session for district manager's evaluation.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Adopt Budget for 2018/19 FY:**

**Motion: VanNatta/Freytag** to approve resolution and adopt the budget for 2018/19 Fiscal Year. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

- **Job Descriptions:** Kari explained that Crystalyn's former job title was Field Technician/Outreach Coordinator. She has taken on more field work and the weed program while still handling a bit of outreach (weed mailings, annual calendar, etc.). The District would like to update her job description to reflect the work she is doing and change her title to Riparian Specialist.  
Jennifer's former job title was Office Assistant. She has taken over a majority of the outreach including the quarterly newsletter, annual report, social media sites, and more. The District would like to change the Office Assistant job title to Office and Outreach Coordinator. Randy mentioned that he would like the Board to wait to approve these changes until more Board Members are present.

- **New Cooperators:**

Mark Galbraith, Clatskanie, 9.25 acres

**Motion: Bergman/VanNatta** to approve New Cooperator. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

- **Fair Booth:** Kari reminded the Board that the District, Watershed Councils, and NRCS are partnering to host a booth at the County Fair and are in need of volunteers. Kari asked that the Board members let her know when they would be available to assist.

## REPORTS

### BOARD

-Bill attended the SDAO (Special Districts Association of Oregon) training last month. He said it was the best training he's been to, adding that it covered more than was covered at the OACD (Oregon Association of Conservation Districts) conference.

-KC attended the Ag-PAC Education Committee's tour yesterday to visit a Plywood Plant and logging operation and was given the opportunity to interview legislators. Brief discussion was held.

-Randy mentioned that the OACD Director that was hired early this year has resigned. He asked the Board if they had any suggestions for OACD. Brief discussion was held.

### STAFF

A copy of the Manager's Report was given to the Board. Kari mentioned that the RCPP Public Scoping meeting was held on June 7 and the comment period ends this Friday, June 22. She updated the Board on the SWCD's current grants and upcoming projects set to begin July 15 and also discussed the weed removal workgroup that Crystalyn held on May 17 at McCormick Park. Discussion was held.

*VanNatta/Freytag moved to adjourn meeting*  
*MEETING ADJOURNED 8:27 PM*

Respectfully Submitted by:

*Jennifer Steinke*

Jennifer Steinke, Office Assistant