

#### Minutes of the Columbia SWCD Board of Directors Meeting August 15, 2018

**Directors Present:** 

**Directors Absent:** 

Craig Ellis, Director

Jason Busch, Director

Kay C. VanNatta, Treasurer Randy Bergman, Secretary Bill Eagle, Vice Chair Lona Pierce, Chair Dave Freytag, Director **SWCD Staff:** Kari Hollander, DM Jennifer Steinke, OA

Watershed Councils: Marilyn VanNatta, LCRWC

**NRCS**: Don Mehlhoff

**Guests**: Claudia Eagle

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

**Prior Month's Minutes: Motion** Eagle/Bergman to approve the Minutes from 07-18-18 with minor spelling adjustment. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** 

**Financial Report: Motion** VanNatta/Bergman to accept financial Report from 07-31-18. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**.

**Bills to Pay: Motion** VanNatta/Eagle approve to pay the bills. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** Kay C. mentioned that he would like to see further details on the Comcast bill. Kari will have the details at the next Board Meeting.

Ck #	Payee	Мето		Expenditure Splits	
			Amount	CSWCD	GRANT
2296	US Bank Visa	Charges 07/03/18 – 08/02/18	\$5,313.10	\$5,313.10	\$0.00
_		SUBTOTALS >>>>>>	\$5,313.10	\$5,313.10	\$0.00
					\$5,313.1
TOTAL REQUESTS >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>					

PUBLIC COMMENT No public comment

### <u>REPORTS</u>

## NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service)

Don informed the Board that there have been 30 applications completed for the EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program), with about 24 being contracted. Don also mentioned that he already has about 10 land owners interested in applying for 2019. Don added that NRCS has been working to open an office in Clatsop or Tillamook County. Brief discussion was held.

Don is continuing to assist with the RCPP Lower Columbia River Watershed Plan, explaining that it is a joint effort to reach completion which he hopes will happen within the next month.

Don has also noticed a lot of the older generation landowners are selling their land and moving on. Brief discussion was held.

### LCRWC (Lower Columbia River Watershed Council)

Randy stated that there has been a real change happening within the Council. Brief discussion was held. He also mentioned that there is a plug in Westport Slough at the mouth of Olson Creek. Kari added that ODFW finds the creek as a high priority. Randy believes the District should be assisting with ODFW on managing the creek. Discussion held.

### SBWC (Scappoose Bay Watershed Council)

Kari mentioned that Veteran's Park is nearing completion. Lona added that the Strategic Action Plan is finished.

### UNWC (Upper Nehalem Watershed Council)

Jason stated that Apiary Road will be shut down near Oak Ranch after Hood to Coast for about one month.

#### OLD BUSINESS

- **Caring for Your Backyard Program:** Kari attended the CFYBY meetings with Keep it Local, St. Helens Credit Union, and the Columbia PUD. The couple leading the program were also on the KOHI radio station in Clatskanie last week discussing the program. There are three schools on board with the program so far.
- **Summer Projects:** Kari informed the Board that the Dribble Creek project finished a few weeks ago, adding that it was a very quick project. Kari, Monica and Selene will be meeting with Hancock Forest Management at the end of September to discuss possible future projects to remove more culverts. Brief discussion held. The Fishhawk Creek large wood project finished last week and Geotech surveying will begin this week for the Stewart Creek Project.
- **Fair Booth:** Kari asked the Board what they thought of the booth. Bill thought it looked really nice. Kari hopes to have the Watershed Council's highlighted more in the future. She added that there was a lot of great feedback regarding the Ag Building/floors and a lot of landowners wanting assistance. KC mentioned that he was also able to speak to a few landowners. Discussion held.
- **County Payment for Clastkanie #2 Project:** Kari informed the Board that the County payment was received. All of the Emergency Work is now paid for.
- **Elections Zone 1, Zone 3, At Large 2:** Reminder to the Board that petitions are due in a week and a half. If the deadline is missed, the paperwork to be a write-in will still need to be filled out. Lona mentioned that she may not re-apply but is looking for a replacement. Brief discussion held.

- **RCPP Watershed Plan:** Kari informed the Board that the plan is done, there is just basic editing left to do. A lot of the employees who helped start the plan are no longer working on it but Kari hopes the Plan will be completed in 4-6 weeks.
- **Updating Contracts:** Kari met with the attorney yesterday to work on getting the ORS's complete. She added that the Board should have a couple to approve within the next couple weeks.

#### NEW BUSINESS

• Education Tuition Assistance: Kari would like to go back to school in the fall to finish her business degree and is asking the Board for financial assistance from the District. Bill asked how much she would need and how much time it will take. She is requesting \$1,000 - \$1,500 and expects to be finished within 18 months. Lona asked where she plans to attend. She is planning on attending the Western Governors University and can take online courses. Randy believes that a degree from University of Oregon or Oregon State University would have more validity. Kari added that the larger goal is to obtain an MBA degree at a four-year university. Discussion held.

#### **<u>REPORTS (Cont.)</u>**

#### **BOARD**

-Lona mentioned that she had been traveling in Washington and took the Amtrak back into town before tonight's meeting. Brief discussion held.

-KC explained that when a logging operation is complete, they normally create a brush pile and leave a piece sticking out for eagles, owls, etc. During a site tour, a member from ODF mentioned that he thought the brush piles looked like beaver houses. Brief discussion held.

-Randy will be attending a meeting tomorrow in Tillamook to discuss the next steps for the North Oregon Coast. Discussion held.

#### <u>STAFF</u>

A copy of the Manager's Report was given to the Board. Kari also added that Sonia from OSU Extension Service is wanting to host a 40 year anniversary party for Chip Bubl. Crystalyn will be attending next month's meeting to discuss the Weeds program and the next year – 2-year plan. Pat Welle will be attending October's meeting. Kari also reminded the Board that the OACD Fall Strategy/Annual Meeting will be held November 14-15. She added that Next Thursday (23<sup>rd</sup>) is the OACD conference call at 10 am. Kari will forward the phone number to the board.

Eagle/VanNatta moved to adjourn meeting MEETING ADJOURNED 8:20 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

**Jennifer Steinke** Jennifer Steinke, Office Assistant