



**Columbia
Soil & Water
Conservation District**

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**Minutes of the
Columbia SWCD Board of Directors
Meeting February 21, 2024**

Directors Present:

Debra Brimacombe, Vice Chair
Bill Eagle, Secretary
Jeff VanNatta, Treasurer
Dave Freytag
Michael Calhoun, Chair

CSWCD Staff:

Malyssa Legg, District Manager
Jennifer Chavez, Operations Coordinator
Amber Kester, Resource Conservationist
Crystalyn Bush, Resource Conservationist
Selene Keeney, Sr, Resource Conservationist

**Natural Resources Conservation Service
(NRCS):**

Hannah Isaacs, District Conservationist
Bekah Gaxiola, Soil Conservationist

Public:

Dwayne Meisner
Jason Legg
Claudia Eagle
Margaret Magruder, Columbia County
Commissioner
Andrea Kreiner, Executive Director

**Scappoose Bay Watershed Council
(SBWC):**

Rachell Meyers, Council Coordinator, CSWCD
Associate Director

CALL TO ORDER OF ANNUAL BOARD MEETING: 4:0 PM

ANNUAL REPORT:

Malyssa introduced the annual report and copies were provided.

AUDIT: A copy of the Audit was provided to the directors. A brief discussion was had.

STAFF ANNUAL REPORTS:

- Crystalyn presented on the Perkins Creek/RCP (Regional Conservation Partnership Program) project and the 2022-23 weed projects.
- Amber gave a presentation on the Small Grant program through OWEB (Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board). The district oversaw 6 small grant projects in the 2022-23 fiscal year.
- Selene presented the Carr Slough Phase 1 project at Prescott Beach and discussed the plan for Phase 2.

Annual Board meeting was adjourned at 4:55 PM

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING: 5:44 PM

Officer Nominations and Approval: Motion Eagle/Brimacombe to cast a unanimous vote to maintain the current slate of elected officers as they stand. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

- Michael Calhoun – Chairman
- Debra Brimacombe – Vice-Chair

APPROVED 03.20.24

NEW BUSINESS

- **April Board Meeting Date:** Malysa explained that the April board meeting is scheduled during the Oregon Conservation Education & Assistance Network (OCEAN) Connect+ Conference that she and most CSWCD staff will be attending. She asked if the board would like to reschedule April's meeting or skip it. Michael suggested skipping the meeting. Bill recommended waiting to decide until next month's meeting.
- **2024/2025 Workplan:** A copy of the work plan was given to the board for review. A brief discussion was held.
- **Budget Calendar:** A copy of the budget calendar was given to the board.

Motion Eagle/VanNatta to approve the budget calendar as presented. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

- **Budget Committee:** Malysa explained that there is one seat that needs to be filled. Discussion was held.
- **Budget Officer:**

Motion Eagle/Brimacombe to elect Malysa as the budget officer. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

BOARD REPORTS

- Bill attended the coffee & commerce meeting and highlighted the CSWCD.
- Deb mentioned that she has been volunteering with the CSWCD staff. She added that there is a large oak tree at Chief Concomly Park in Scappoose that the District and SBWC are interested in obtaining historical recognition for. Rachell mentioned that an arborist working with the City had confirmed that the tree is over 300 years old. Deb would like board members to volunteer to help make this a heritage tree. Discussion was held.
- Jeff has been watching the culvert at the Clatskanie River that the county put on hold. He added that he is curious how the district could help fix Apiary Road. He is unsure if it is classified as a fish-baring stream, but a lot of woody debris needs to be removed and about four more culverts added. Discussion was held.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:18 PM

Respectfully Submitted by: *Jennifer Chavez*
Jennifer Chavez, Operations Coordinator