Minutes of the Columbia SWCD Board of Directors Meeting November 18, 2015

Directors Present:

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

SWCD Staff:

Kari Olsen-Hollander, DM Tyler Joki, RC

Watershed Councils:

Margaret Magruder – LCRWC Lonny Welter - SBWC

Public

Pat Schenk Brian Lightcap, WMSWCD board Crystalyn Bush

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING: 7:30 PM

Financial Report: Both the September and October reports were summarized both had been emailed beforehand. **Motion** VanNatta/Freytag to accept financial Reports from 09/30/15 & 10/31/15. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote** Dave asked why convention checks weren't shown yet. Kari said only mileage shown so far.

BILLS TO PAY (US Bank) November 18, 2015						
Expe				Expendit	xpenditure Splits	
Ck #	Payee	Memo	Amount	CSWCD	GRANT	
1643	Craig Ellis	Mileage	\$24.15	\$24.15		
1644	Crystal Bright	Janitorial Services	\$375.00	\$375.00		
1645	Jason Busch	Mileage	\$101.20	\$101.20		
1646	Kay C VanNatta	Mileage	\$86.25	\$86.25		
1647	Margaret Magruder	Mileage and expenses	\$477.48		\$477.48	
1648	Randolph Bergman	Mileage	\$129.38	\$129.38		
1649	US Bank Visa	payment for expenses in October	\$3,050.47	\$3,050.47		
		SUBTOTALS >>>>>>>	\$4,243.93	\$3,766.45	\$477.48	
TOTAL REQUESTS >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>					\$4,243.93	

Prior Month's Minutes: Motion Bergman/Busch to approve Minutes from 09-16-15. There was no October meeting. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment. Randy gave update on Don Mehlhoff.

• Volunteer Presentation: Crystalyn passed around draft of weed calendar she designed for SWCD outreach. Includes info on 12 invasives, maps and photos from ODA and forestry images website, and monthly meeting dates. Kari said mailing and printing costs would total \$1.80 each. We can restrict mailing to landowners of 1/2 acre or greater. If successful, we can rotate with other topics annually. Due to deadline, suggestions for changes needed to be made by board within the week. No vote taken.

OLD BUSINESS

• **OACD Conference:** Randy, Lona, Bill, Margaret, Kari, and Dave attended at least part of the conference in Eugene. Conference itself and session offerings were good, but OACD annual meeting was poorly run. Could use a parliamentarian. OACD name was not prominent at the event, and there was no president's address. Many watershed councils also attended the event, but only 18 SWCDs sent representatives. We don't send staff because they go to the CONNECT conference. SWCD Commission meeting wasn't well run, either, and no slate of officers had been selected at OACD October meeting. Potential attendees need better advance notice of session topics.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Forest Initiative:** Brian distributed a handout about proposal to partner with West Multnomah and Tualatin districts for a forest imitative that would help secure cooperation and funding for BLM and private woodlands projects. Still very preliminary. Meetings will need to be held to iron out details. The group could look into revitalizing RC & D. Lona/Randy motioned for a staff member to participate in one exploratory session with West Multnomah to see if it's feasible at this time. Staff availability may be limited.
- **SWCD/WC:** Randy talked about the role of watershed councils in the state and how they interact with conservation districts. Funding is now more limited than when councils were formed, and they don't operate the same as districts -- board members aren't elected and don't have same fiscal requirements. He proposed that districts take on an oversight role for council boards, and that they come into compliance with one man, one vote. Lonny and Margaret questioned district's having authority over councils -- they are ruled by state statute and approval of county government. Discussion led to recommending having updated MOUs as a way to increase cooperation and teamwork.
- **LCRWC**: Kari said that Lower Columbia has no real separate identity from CSWCD. All of their grants come through the district and they are fiscally dependant. Kari is waiting to hear from Secretary of State on recognizing work the council accomplishes, which isn't obvious.
- **RCPP:** A comprehensive 5-year RCPP agreement proposal was submitted to NRCS. It would include 13 partners for work on miles of large wood placement, fish passage, erosion and livestock projects, floodplain and riparian projects, and monitoring. Funding would be for technical and financial assistance, for a total of \$8,827,000. Funding will be from state and federal agencies. Favorable tax consequences for landowners, and in special funding pool for CCA. Potential projects include along lower Columbia River but concentrated in north county. So far 40 percent potential landowners on board.
- Annual meeting: Motion Ellis/Pierce to hold meeting in January. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote. Kari said audit is on schedule.
- **Project updates**: Tyler passed around handouts with details on 13 ODA small acreage Ag water projects that Nathan has been working on. This is the time of year when mud and

manure problems become evident and landowners want assistance. Staff is also working with watermaster, and isolating next steps for groundwater studies to get approval. They also met with DEQ for monitoring plan. Kloppman project (photos passed around) has section planted for beaver to give other areas a chance to grow. 56,000 plantings. Brian suggested listing cost involved with each project.

• **Cooperators:** Six new cooperators signed up, one with more than 700 acres. **Motion** Bergman/Busch to accept all. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

<u>REPORTS</u>

BOARD

Jason said Oak Ranch Creek culvert replacement done and did not impede Apiary Road traffic as feared. People used unofficial Weyerhaeuser detour. Craig said the Scappoose Drainage District cleared out two miles of deep sediment from the main Santosh Ditch. Lona was concerned office appeared dark and closed on Friday afternoons. Kari said two staff don't work that day (on 4-day work schedule), and suggested hiring part-time receptionist soon. Lona suggested instead to alternate the days Nathan and Malyssa have off so someone more likely to be in office during open hours. Also should commence policy review committee in January: Kari, Lona, Bill, and Craig.

LCRWC

Margaret handed out coordinator's report. The North Coast Weed Management group will start surveying for weeds of the Columbia River islands and shore after first of year. Boats will be used when needed. ODA has proposed a March 29 English ivy forum. Also mentioned new weed to watch for: mat grass.

ROADS DEPT. /SBWC

Lonny said road dept. completed new Pebble Creek Bridge, and Shaffer Road project completed after Hood to Coast Relay. SBWC October plant sale went well. Meissner/Hinkney Road large wood placement in creek is finished, and Duck Lake project near Scappoose is winding up. Everyone is invited to a SBWC potluck on Tuesday, Dec. 1 at 6:30 p.m. at the marina. Good food, slide show, adult beverages. Please RSVP.

Lona mentioned news story about major foaming incident on McNulty Creek, apparently caused by fire training exercise. Story was in Chronicle newspaper. Foam was 6-feet high.

MANAGER

Handed out report. Clatskanie culverts 5 & 6 applied for. Funding for Nehalem River projects are available, and an appraisal for Carr Slough restoration near Prescott underway. Amber from SBWC has been meeting with Kari for small-grant assistance. Kari and Bill will meet with Port tomorrow about new partnership program. Lona asked if a partnership could impede SWCD opposing Port projects, such as Port Westward conversion of Ag land to industrial. BLM posted new requirements for RAC funds available.

PUBLIC MEETING ADJOURNED 9:45 PM FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION Held pursuant to ORS 192.660 to review and evaluate the performance of the district manager as authorized by ORS 192.660(2)(i).

Brief executive session for Kari's evaluation review. Bill read ORS statute as required **Motion** VanNatta/Freytag made motion for session. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**.

Left executive session 9:55 PM, resumed regular meeting.

Motion VanNatta/Busch made motion to approve executive transaction. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote. Motion Bergman/Pierce made motion to adjourn. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNED 10:00 PM

Submitted by Lona Pierce