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## Minutes of the Columbia SWCD Board of Directors Meeting November 20, 2019

# **Directors Present:**

**Directors Absent:** 

Craig Ellis, Director

Jeff Van Natta, Treasurer Jason Busch, Chair Randy Bergman, Vice Chair Bill Eagle, Secretary Debra Brimacombe, Director Dave Freytag, Director **SWCD Staff:** Nathan Herr, SRC Jennifer Steinke, OC

**SBWC:** Dana Pricher, Council Coordinator

NRCS: Don Mehlhoff, DC

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

**Prior Month's Minutes: Motion Eagle/VanNatta** to approve the Minutes from 10-16-19. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** 

**Financial Report: Motion Eagle/Brimacombe** to accept financial Report from 10-31-19. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**.

**Bills to Pay:** Motion Freytag/Brimacombe approve to pay the bills. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote. Randy asked who Ash Creek is. Nathan explained they assist with plantings and weed maintenance. Randy asked if the Calhoun project is finished. It is not, implementation starts this summer. Discussion held.

				Expenditure Splits	
Ck #	Payee	Memo	Amount	CSWCD	GRANT
2512	Ash Creek	Calhoun project	\$1,235.00	\$0.00	\$1,235.00
2513	Elevator Solutions	Quarterly billing for maintenance	\$367.50	\$367.50	\$0.00
2514	Paulsons Printing	Business cards	\$38.00	\$38.00	\$0.00
2515	Scappoose Bay Nursery	Plants for Fishhawk weed grant	\$1,320.00	\$0.00	\$1,320.00
2516	US Bank Visa	Charges 10/03/19 - 11/01/19	\$8,044.10	\$8,044.10	\$0.00
2517	Whiting Environmental	LCRWC Charges 10/01/19 - 10/31/19	\$5,122.50	\$0.00	\$5,122.50
		SUBTOTALS >>>>>>	\$16,127.10	\$8,449.60	\$7,677.50
TOTAL REQUESTS >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>					\$16,127.10

# PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

# <u>REPORTS</u>

# SBWC (Scappoose Bay Watershed Council)

Introductions were made. Dana Pricher introduced herself and gave a brief of her background. She is the new Scappoose Bay Watershed Council Coordinator and expressed her interest in working with the CSWCD and building the partnership. She added that the council has submitted grants for a few projects in the area that they are awaiting funding on. Jeff informed Dana of a possible project in Milton Creek that he would like to take Dana and Nathan Herr to see. Discussion held. Dana also informed the board that the SBWC's Annual Meeting will be on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at their office.

# NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service)

Don explained to the Board that there have been over 250 contracts within the last 10 years, with 32 currently active. He went on to explain the contracts that are currently active, brief discussion held. He added that the RCPP plan is finally finished, just awaiting final approval. Don also explained that he met with Amanda Moore, the new Oregon NRCS State Resource Conservationist, yesterday with Nathan and Crystalyn Bush. He also explained that a new program for planning tools will be starting next month. Discussion held. Don informed the Board that the next local work group is tentatively scheduled for January 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1-3 pm.

# LCRWC (Lower Columbia Watershed Council)

Randy explained that the council met last Tuesday. He added that Margaret Magruder attended the meeting to discuss a rebuild of the Fox Creek culvert in Rainier. Brief discussion was held. Randy also mentioned that Monica Blanchard, with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, attended the meeting last week to also discuss Fox Creek. Randy believes it would be best to let ODFW and Rainier handle the Fox Creek culvert. Jason explained that he is worried the District will look bad no matter what, as there have already been at least two news articles. Discussion held.

## OLD BUSINESS

- **District Manager Recruitment:** Jeff explained that the hiring committee met last Tuesday to review 7 applications. They picked their top four applicants which they plan to interview on December 10. Jeff added that Tyler Joki is one of the four applicants that will be interviewed, as well as Nathan Herr and a woman that went to high school with Malyssa. The other applicant is an MIT graduate who is into micology. Discussion held. A copy of the hiring process will be sent to the board.
- **RCPP (Regional Conservation Protection Plan):** Nathan explained that the plan is still awaiting approval, as Don mentioned earlier. He added that the project and designs are ready to go. Brief discussion held.
- Education Program: Nathan explained that the program has had strong success so far. Project Learning Tree held a class on November 1<sup>st</sup> for teachers to obtain books for themselves. There is still a lot of interest in the education boxes. Nathan added that the education committee has spent \$1500 for the first set of boxes. Some feedback provided has explained that colored paper is the most expensive. There are 36 boxes currently, some that have items that aren't reusable. Discussion held.

**Motion: Eagle/Freytag** to approve the committee works within the existing budget to implement the education program. **Approved motion passed by unanimous vote.** 

## NEW BUSINESS

• New Cooperators:

Robert Andreotti, Scappoose, 39.5 acres Matthew Feinkind, Warren, 2.4 acres Troy Parke, Portland, 50 acres Hugh Meshell, Scappoose, 60 acres Future Farm & Flowers, St. Helens, 4.75 acres **Motion: Bergman/Eagle** to approve New Cooperators. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** Brief discussion held.

## <u>REPORTS</u>

#### **BOARD**

-Jeff explained that he attended the OACD (Oregon Association of Conservation Disctricts) annual meeting earlier this month. He added that he was most impressed with learning about Envirothon. Brief discussion held.

-Randy explained that the Ground Water Study needs to "get going". Nathan explained that he would like to reconvene the committee, adding that Ground Water Study isn't in the approved budget for this fiscal year, but would like to add it to next year's budget. Discussion held.

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

Nathan had a meeting with the Columbia County Roads Department today, stating that it was a good meeting and is hopeful the partnership will strengthen. Discussion held.

VanNatta/Freytag moved to adjourn meeting MEETING ADJOURNED 9:05 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

**Jennifer Steinke** Jennifer Steinke, Office Assistant