

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

Gail Stinnett – FSA

Gail informed the Board that the County Committee Elections are occurring. She stated that the ballots will be mailed out November 6th and will be due December 4th. She also added that the ballots will be counted on December 7th, which will be open to the public for viewing at the Hillsboro Service Center at 11:30 AM.

Gail provided the Board and meeting attendees with a Farm Loans Overview handout and briefly reviewed. She mentioned that they also provide a youth loan up to age 21 which would help teach finance. Staff would also assist with filing and education. She also discussed the importance of landowners filing a loss level for crops with the department before destroying them, so that the crops can be accounted for. She added that there would be multiple inspections needed and a final when the new crops go in. She also added that the crops can be changed, too.

Gail also discussed the Tree Assistance Program and Disaster Assistance. She added that the EFRP (Emergency Forest Restoration Program) works with ODF (Oregon Department of Forestry) and recommends producers take photos of downed trees since an inspection will be needed. She mentioned that they will remove trees and replant or seed. Randy asked what would happen if the downed trees were logged and sold. Gail explained the producer would be ineligible for the program. Gail also explained that previous years' damage is ineligible and that she is trying to get the word out to local producers so they are aware. She added that the FSA offers training to service foresters as well.

REPORTS**NRCS**

Don provided a copy of the Mutual Agreement and Cooperative Working Agreement between the SWCD and NRCS to the Board and meeting attendees. He reviewed the agreements and the Farm Bill and a brief discussion was held.

Don also provided a Civil Rights handout and checklist for the Board and reviewed. Discussion was held regarding the attached sexual harassment form and workplace violence.

Motion: Eagle/Busch approve to sign NRCS Civil Rights for Partners Checklist. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

LCRWC

Discussion was held regarding the OWEB Board Meeting. KC stated that the council was approved financing for one year. Randy mentioned that there are three new members to the council from Clatskanie and that the LCRWC monthly meetings will most likely be moved to Clatskanie. He added that all of the new members seem enthusiastic to do something about the river that runs through town.

Randy also mentioned that the LCRWC is facing an issue with Olson Creek. He stated almost all projects will be held up until the creek can be fixed. He mentioned that there are cracks in the road and he has pictures he would like to try to forward.

OLD BUSINESS

- **EWP (Emergency Watershed Protection):** Kari informed the board that she received an email and phone call from IFA (Infrastructure Finance Authority) regarding the Fox Creek Payment. She mentioned that the City of Rainier has a meeting on Monday that she will be attending in hopes of receiving payment for the project. Kari requested that the Board approve Staff bonuses for the work put in during the EWP projects. She explained that the quantity and size of these projects were quite extensive, and that she would like to reward the staff for seeing the projects through to the end and working so hard on these projects while continuing to do the typical work load of the district. Brief discussion was held. Bill suggested that a bonus be given in about 3 months, near Christmas. Lona asked if there was over-time given, only during the last two weeks but staff mostly worked within their normal hours. Randy added that he agrees with Bill and

would like to wait until closer to December. He would like to ensure the District is paid for the work on Fox Creek.

Motion: VanNatta/Freytag approve to table discussion until November's Board meeting.
Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Water Use/marijuana/development:** A copy of the Article "The Pot Farmer Next Door" from the Capitol Press Ag Weekly Newspaper was handed out. Kari informed the Board that Pat Schenk was not able to make the meeting but had hoped to discuss where the water is coming from for pot farms and where the Water Right is. Brief discussion was held. Randy asked what was being done at the county level for waste water management. Discussion postponed for a later meeting.
- **Project Updates:** Kari explained that Culvert Crossing #5's water is now free flowing. She added that one lane of the road is open and they are getting ready to gravel the roadway on Monday. They are planning to do Fish Salvage at Culvert Crossing #6 tomorrow and hope to begin digging on Friday. Culvert Crossing #2 is a repair from the December 2015 flood. Large wood will be installed and a large concrete slab is to be removed, and footings will be. **RCPP-** Selene, NRCS, and Biohabitats are working on a Watershed Plan. Kari mentioned that the draft is near completion and will be open to the public before the final draft is published. She added that the plan is focused on fish passage, riparian zones and large wood. Discussion was held.

REPORTS (Cont.)

STAFF

A copy of the Manager's Report was given to the Board. Kari explained that the Strategic Planning Committee is looking for an executive director, two people have been interested so far.

Kari also mentioned that SBWC is waiting on approval for a project that the District could assist with on Scappoose Creek.

Knotweed treatment will begin at the end of this month on North and South Scappoose Creek and a few spots in North County.

The SWCD Calendar business sponsorships are coming along nicely. Brief discussion held.

Kari also mentioned that the South County Chamber of Commerce will be meeting at the SWCD on the 25th of this month for a Coffee and Commerce meeting.

BOARD

-Randy wanted to make the Board aware of the Coastal Coho issue on the Nehalem slope. Brief discussion was held. Randy added that he read a research article by Jim Lichatowich which discussed his ideas of solutions. Randy mentioned that not everyone will like these solutions but that they could possibly work. Discussion on Coho was held.

-KC shared that he witnessed otters fishing in the Clatskanie River. He added that it makes sense why he hasn't seen many fish lately. Brief discussion held.

-Bill mentioned that he attended the Port Westward meeting on the second. He said that the opinions were pretty balanced. He gave a speech to express his concerns and believes he received good feedback.

-Lona is planning to watch the upcoming eclipse and is hopeful that traffic isn't bad. Discussion held.

Eagle/Pierce moved to adjourn meeting

MEETING ADJOURNED 9:02 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennifer Steinke

Jennifer Steinke, Office Assistant