



KC asked why the bill for the attorney was so high. Kari said that she and the attorney have started working through all of the District's contracts and contracting rules, which were very outdated and why the District hired him. She added that this was something that came up in the Best Practices Assessment with Eric Nusbaum, to work on our contracts, and that over the past year she had also brought different risk situations to the Board that the District needs to be aware of and why the contracts need to be updated including the contracting rules, to ensure the District is covered when different things may or may not happen.

Lona asked if the District has a policy in place for having an attorney, or if they need a policy. Kari explained that they do not have a policy in place, but that the Board approved her request to have an attorney assist with contracts and also approved the attorney's proposal. Brief discussion held. Randy asked if the contracts will help cover RCPP projects, Kari explained that they are working to have the contracts protect the District through all projects. Discussion held. Randy also asked if this is the final payment to Robert Salisbury, or if this will be a monthly occurrence. Kari said that it will not be monthly, this charge was for his time spent to get the contracting rules drafted. As the approved proposal stated bills will be sent monthly if work was done that month. She also mentioned that he will be attending a meeting in the future to review the contracting rules and the new landowner agreement/permit. He has stated he will not charge to come to the meetings. Randy asked if the Board will have a chance to read them before the meeting, Kari said yes and that she will have them out well ahead of the meeting with enough time to review before the meeting.

**Bills to Pay: Motion** VanNatta/Eagle approve to pay the bills. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment

#### **REPORTS**

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

Pat Welle gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Board to explain what she and the Council have been working on over the last year. She stated that one of the biggest projects completed this year was the Strategic Action Plan (SAP), which she explained was a two-year effort with many people involved. She created the SAP because she wanted a more reasonable direction for the Council to move forward with in the watershed.

Pat also provided a brief update on the Council projects over the last year, the biggest being South Scappoose Creek at Veteran's Park. She explained that this had been an ongoing effort over the last decade. The Council also had a culvert replacement project on Dart Creek this summer. She mentioned it took a couple years to get going but moved quickly once started. They removed a 5-foot failing culvert and replaced it with an open arch structure. This project helped restore fish access to creek waters above Robinette road.

Another project completed this summer was in Upper Milton Creek. SBWC placed about 350 large wood pieces over 2.5 miles of the creek.

Lower Milton Creek was a project awarded through OWEB for planting and designs. Pat explained that there are a lot of landowners in this area so she is working closely with Nathan Herr to schedule a landowner meeting toward the end of November to discuss the data collected and hear landowner interest.

Amber is still running the Council's Native Plant Nursery, with volunteer days every Thursday. This year most of the plants from the nursery will go toward the restoration projects, about 13,000 over the next 6 months. Pat mentioned that Amber's goal is to have the Nursery built back up in time for their Annual Spring sale.

**Jason in at 7:30 pm.**

Brief discussion held.

### **LCRWC (Lower Columbia River Watershed Council)**

Randy informed the Board that Allan Whiting, Council Coordinator, has been working on finding options in the estuary part of the Clatskanie River, near Beaver Slough, to enhance fish passage. He added that there is room for the Council to start expanding their outlook to other areas, since there are quite a few needing attention. He also added that they have been wondering where the sedimentation in the Clatskanie River and Beaver Creek has been coming from and believes it is coming from the Columbia River. Discussion was held.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **OACD Meeting in November:** Kari asked if any of the Board Members plan to attend the OACD planning/Annual meeting on Nov. 14-15. Bill and Randy will be going, and possibly newly elected Board Members. Brief discussion held. Kari also asked the Board if there is anything else they would like to have discussed at the meeting. Randy mentioned that the Basin realignment topic on OACD's agenda appears almost every year, though not much changes. Kari added that a lot of people feel the same. Lona added that if anyone is concerned about what OACD is doing they should attend the meeting. Discussion held.
- **Grants/Projects:** Kari mentioned that all of the grants are due November 3<sup>rd</sup>. She explained that the District is currently working on writing a Water Quality Monitoring Grant to submit to OWEB to further continue monitoring and add macro-invertebrates and possible bacteria testing. The project will include more sites and chasing down the source of the bacteria loading on Beaver Creek and Milton Creek. She added that we won't know if the grant is approved until sometime close to April. Brief discussion held.

Kari added that another Grant will be submitted to OWEB for project W146 (Flash Creek culvert replacement). She explained that the landowner is paying for engineering and we will pay for the installation of the culvert. Jason asked where the project is located, Kari stated she will have a map of the project locations to the Board within the next month.

The District has submitted a grant to NFWF for the Rock Creek Project, where they plan to enhance the floodplain with large wood and riparian plantings.

Kari also added that 2-3 grants will be submitted from the LCRWC which the District will be Fiscal Sponsors for. The projects are for Carcus Creek, a Rapid Bio Assessment and Page Creek. Brief discussion held.

- **RCPP – Watershed Plan:** Selene and Kari made a few updates today, they are confident the plan will be submitted to the National Watershed Team near the end of the month. KC asked if the Board can have a copy of the plan.
- **Best Practices Assessment – 60 days:** Eric Nusbaum reached out to Kari for the Board's 60 day check-in point to see what progress has been made on the suggested actions. Kari explained that she responded to Eric to inform that the District is almost complete with the draft contracting rules and that financial policies will be reviewed and updated this winter. She also asked Eric to attend the February Board Meeting to conduct a Board Training for the newly-elected members.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Tide Gate Coastal Program:** Kari explained that the Tide Gate Committee reached out through OACD Executive director via phone to the SWCD manager's to explain what is going on in the program and asking what each district might add to the process. The main points made were how cost prohibitive replacing a lot of the tide gates would be, and landowner questions about new restrictions on maintaining ditches and sloughs if fish are allowed through new gates. Discussion held.

- **Ag Building Sponsorship:** Kari is bringing together the Granges and others that use the Ag building to discuss what the interior of the building could be, if there should be new displays, what the new displays would look like, and how the building could be more useable. She added that they will also be discussing adding a raingarden outside of the building to reduce the existing mud problem, which would be a grant project. Additional improvements will be community partnerships and grant funded. Lona also asked how much it cost the District to add the building to the District's insurance, Kari said it was minimal \$20-\$40. Discussion held.
- **Website – Function and additions:** Kari explained that the District website is not the most user-friendly. She is looking to see how it can be better in the future and plans to bring a proposal to the Board early Spring/late Winter. Would like all major changes to happen at once. Any comments the board may have they can email Kari directly. Brief discussion held.
- **Ag Water Quality – Milton Creek:** Kari informed the Board that there will be a joint meeting with SBWC to discuss Ag Water Quality within Milton Creek. She explained that Nathan will be attending the meeting to discuss Ag Water Quality, and Crystalyn to discuss Weeds. The meeting will either be held at the CSWCD or the Yankton Grange. Randy stated that the District needs to get going on ground water study. Kari explained there aren't enough funds. Discussion held. Lona recommended adding Ground Water Studies to future CSWCD budgets.
- **New Cooperators:**  
Merry Callahan, Vernonia, 2.53 acres  
**Motion: Eagle/Busch** to approve New Cooperator. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** Brief discussion held.

### *REPORTS (Cont.)*

#### **BOARD**

- Lona mentioned that her yard has been getting filled with Doug Fir, Maple, and Birch seeds. Brief discussion held.
- KC stated that there needs to be changes made to the Board Policy.
- Randy wanted to compliment Marilyn on the neat picture of a Douglas squirrel sitting on a stump eating a Douglas Fir cone that she shared online. Brief discussion held.

#### **STAFF**

Kari stated that Rainier was fined by DEQ and explained there is a program that will allow them to put those funds towards restoration projects in the local area. She met with Rainier's attorney, Cable Houston, a couple weeks ago to discuss using the funds they are required to pay be used in the Rainier watershed. The amount to go on the ground is nearly \$19,000. Crystalyn will be designing and implementing a project to rip out noxious weeds and replanting native plants from highway 30 down to the Columbia River. Two interpretive signs will be placed near the project site to explain the project and other smaller signs will be placed in the project area reminding maintenance crews of no mowing or spraying. An operations and maintenance agreement (O&M) will also be drafted. Discussion was held.

Kari also mentioned that Crystalyn is making final edits on the calendar and it will have a final review by all staff in the next couple of weeks. Crystalyn also put on another weeds workshop, with the County Roads Department. She and Kari were also on the local KOHI radio station last week. A link of the recording was given to the Board.

Alex Tardif and Natasha Parvey (Keep it Local) have asked Kari and Don to reconvene the small market group but they believe the CSWCD and NRCS have taken the group as far as they can. They will be reconvening the group sometime in November-December with Alex and Natasha's help. The Safety Committee will be submitting for a matching safety grant to SDIS within the next couple

weeks. The office and District vehicle are equipped with basic first-aid kits, but the committee would like to have a go-bag and a trauma/first-aid bag in the truck as well as trauma training for staff who would like to take the course. The committee would also like to have a first aid kit and defibrillator downstairs, as the Meeting Room is rented out weekly, almost daily, outside of the normal office hours when staff are not present and the upstairs is locked. It is a matching grant, so the District will be asking for roughly \$1,000.00, with the rest of the funds needed coming out of the Training budget. KC mentioned a new surveyor's vest that he found that holds paint cans but would be a great option for water. Brief discussion held.

The District is near completion on a maintenance plan to lay out what needs to be done on a frequent basis. Nathan currently performs monthly inspections but the Safety Committee is working to have a maintenance checklist for weekly, monthly, annual, and bi-annual inspections. Crystalyn has been speaking with the County Facilities Department to assist with building maintenance and basic repairs. The department has very reasonable rates and seem to have an easy system to submit maintenance requests. The Facilities Manager is currently working with County Counsel. Once ready, Kari will be presenting an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the Board's review to begin the partnership.

***Eagle/VanNatta moved to adjourn meeting***  
***MEETING ADJOURNED 8:53 PM***

Respectfully Submitted by:

***Jennifer Steinke***

Jennifer Steinke, Office and Outreach Coordinator