

REPORTS

- **NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Services)**

Hannah explained that NRCS will be offering forest management plans throughout Columbia County next year, instead of only in the Scappoose area. She added that they were approved for the submitted proposal for additional forestry help in Scappoose as well.

OLD BUSINESS

- **RCPP/Perkins Creek:** Nathan explained that the Regional Conservation Partnership Program financial assistance funds were received from NRCS. However, the current designs for the project were deemed unsuitable to implement. Nathan explained further that the District could hire a private engineer for new designs, instead of going through NRCS. Discussion was held. Nathan mentioned that it is unlikely that the project will begin this summer.
- **Budget Hearing:** Nathan reminded the Board that the Budget Hearing will be held on June 16th, before the regular Board Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Project Updates - Selene:** Selene explained that the District contracted the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership (LCEP) for water quality monitoring between 2017 - 2020. She added that LCEP has created a findings report, which a virtual meeting will be held over, and the report will become public later this year. The findings were from 13 different sample locations within Columbia County. Selene provided a brief over the findings. Discussion was held. Selene added that LCEP plans to apply for funding to monitor for one more additional year. Selene provided a brief update on the Nature's Acres project. The district received match funding from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) to begin designs. The project is set to begin in 2022. Selene also provided a brief update for the Clatskanie PUD project, which the bidding period just closed for, and the Carr Slough project, where she has been in contact with Ducks Unlimited to facilitate acquisition of the site. Discussion was held.

REPORTS (cont.)**BOARD**

- Jeff informed the board that he purchased the pyroweeder that was discussed at last month's meeting to hold a demonstration for this summer's fair. Brief discussion was held.
- Sonia explained that she enjoyed this year's CONNECT conference. She added that the Oregon State University Extension Office recently hired a Regional Fire Specialist, Aaron Groth, who will be in the Clatsop office but serving Columbia County as well. Sonia expressed her excitement.
- Deb mentioned that she has learned of someone interested in becoming a Board Member. Brief discussion was held. Deb plans to reach out to the interested party and invite them to an upcoming board meeting.
- Michael gave a brief update for the Upper Nehalem Watershed Council. They did not have a quorum for their last meeting, but he has recently heard of a possible culvert replacement project on Beaver Creek in Vernonia. He plans to discuss the possibility of daylighting the culvert at the council's next Board meeting.
- No other Board reports.

STAFF

Nathan gave an update to the Board on the recent CDC (Center for Disease Control) guidelines and OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) recommendations regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Discussion was held. Bill would like Nathan to look further into the District's insurance coverage with these suggested guidelines.

Eagle/VanNatta moved to adjourn meeting

MEETING ADJOURNED 4:55 PM

Respectfully Submitted by: *Jennifer Chavez*

Jennifer Chavez, Outreach Coordinator

APPROVED 6.16.21