

Ph: 503.433.3205

Minutes of the Columbia SWCD Board of Directors Meeting September 20, 2017

Directors Present:

Bill Eagle, Vice Chair Kay C. VanNatta, Treasurer Randy Bergman, Director Dave Freytag, Director Jason Busch, Director

Directors Absent:

Craig Ellis, Chair Lona Pierce, Secretary **Watershed Councils:**

Marilyn VanNatta, LCRWC

SWCD Staff:

Kari Hollander, DM Jennifer Steinke, OA

Guests:

Amelia R., SHHS Cora B., SHHS Sophia E., SHHS

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

Prior Month's Minutes: Motion Bergman/Freytag to approve the Minutes from 8-16-17. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**.

Financial Report: Motion VanNatta/Freytag to accept financial Report from 08-31-17. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**.

Bills to Pay: Motion VanNatta/Freytag approve to pay the bills. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** Randy mentioned that the District should speak with the City of Scappoose regarding water monitoring by the pump house and where there is run-off into the Scappoose Drainage District. Kari will look into this.

					Expenditure Splits	
Ck#	Payee	Memo	Amount	CSWCD	GRANT	
		Project plantings and greenhouse work				
2111	CRYC	Summer 2017	\$5,400.00	\$0.00	\$5,400.00	
2112	LCEP	DEW Water Monitoring	\$3,067.13	\$212.89	\$2,854.24	
2113	US Bank Visa	Charges 08/03/17 - 09/01/17	\$4,122.15	\$4,122.15	\$0.00	
		SUBTOTALS >>>>>>	\$12,589.28	\$4,335.04	\$8,254.24	
TOTAL REQUESTS >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>					\$12,589.28	

PUBLIC COMMENT

Amelia, Cora and Sophia introduced themselves to the Board. They explained that they are attending this meeting for their Civics class at St. Helens High School. Kari asked how they chose to attend the District's meeting; they stated that it appeared the most interesting.

REPORTS

NRCS

Kari informed the Board that USDA is facing a few small changes as staff have been moving positions and that a lot of unknowns are ahead. Randy asked what is going on in Astoria, Kari said that Angie is there permanently and that the Clatsop SWCD's new Field Technician has already been speaking with our office about taking on larger projects together. Randy added that he is worried many offices might have to close.

LCRWC

KC reviewed the LCRWC Coordinator report with the Board. Clatskanie Culvert #5 is complete and #6 has started. The council has been granted a \$2500 PGE Grant for additional control of invasive and native plants for the Clatskanie Floodplain project. They are continuing to work on the RCPP watershed plan-environmental assessment with NRCS and have visited sites with potential projects.

UNWC

Jason informed the Board that he is no longer part of the UNWC. He is unsure why, and said that he has no longer been receiving announcements or invites to meetings. Discussion was held. Kari also informed the Board that Maggie will be paying the District for the SIA Johnson project soon.

SBWC

Kari informed the Board that she met with Pat Welle yesterday and the Strategic Action Plan that the council has been working on is looking good. She mentioned that ODFW is working closely with the council on the plan also. Future meetings are being planned to discuss Milton Creek. The Council and District plan to work together to improve Ag water quality, weed management, outreach, etc. Kari explained that ODFW and landowners will be involved. Kari also mentioned that the Council is waiting on approval for a couple projects in Scappoose.

OLD BUSINESS

- **EWP (Emergency Watershed Protection):** Kari received an email from Deb Dudley that the District should be paid for their work in Rainier by next week. She stated that Nathan and Malyssa will be picking up the check.
- **ODA Capacity Grant:** Kari stated that the grant has come through and is good until the next biennium. She will talk to John Byers to discuss the details such as ag water, etc.
- OACD: Randy informed the Board that some problems seem to be getting worked out with OACD. He added that the Executive Director position is still vacant. He discussed the Eagle Creek fire and he believes OACD could find opportunities from the event. Brief discussion held.

Randy also brought up issues with Sage Grouse. Another discussion was held. He mentioned that the Strategic Planning is going well and that a few members from ODA are doing a great job. But he is wondering how OACD can generate enough income to stay afloat. He added that there are new members on the board and he believes they are making progress, though it will most likely be a long road ahead.

NEW BUSINESS

• Rainier Ag Program – FFA Advisor: Rainier currently has two agriculture teachers. Kari has asked to sit as a FFA (Future Farmers of America) Advisor and expressed her excitement to the Board of learning what their process will be. Kari mentioned that she

would like to pursue the program with CRYC once Rainier gets going. Discussion held on FFA program.

- Fall Grant Proposals: Kari informed the Board that there are five grants through OWEB that the District is planning to apply for by November. She went on to explain that the District plans to work with NRCS's new engineer, Davis, on a few of the projects. She explained that Stewart Creek is one of the proposed areas of interest, adding that the District would like to add Beaver Analog Structures, to encourage beavers to build dams. Randy mentioned that there has been a lot of logging in that area and that there may not be many beavers there. Nathan, Selene and Monica were at the site last week and noticed the logging. Kari explained they might wait to bring out vegetation. Kari met with the County Roads Department earlier this week and informed the Board that she learned the culvert on the Clatskanie river is the #1 fish passage in the state currently. She also discussed the proposed upcoming projects with the Department and believes they are willing to help with some costs. Discussion on proposed projects was held.
- **Project Updates:** Clatskanie Culverts #5 and #6 were completed in the last week of August. Culvert #2 has also finished. Kari explained that the monitoring report for the LA Swamp project is due. She mentioned that Nathan, Jenny, and Selene walked through the area on Monday. They informed Kari that it does not look good from the road but there is a lot of vegetation growing. Kari explained to the public guests that no one lives around LA Swamp (project name for Dike/levees near the highway). She added that on the other side of the dike is Westport Slough, near the Columbia River. She informed them that the District breached the dike in two locations to allow water to flow in for juvenile fish. Kari also informed the Board that by the 30th of this month, the Batwater project will be closed completely. The District did a walk-through in the late summer to check on the area and there are a few questions on whether the area was surveyed properly. Kari also added that the project was over-budgeted for planting, and that the leftover funds were used to patch a path for the cattle which will also help prevent flooding in the area.

 The Armstrong/Johnson project area is looking good. ODA went out last week to check out the property and CRYC is out once a week for weeding.
- **Registered Agent:** ODA called Kari to inform that the last Registered Agent was recorded in 2003 and they would like an updated form.

Motion: Freytag/Busch to appoint KC as Registered Agent. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**.

REPORTS (Cont.)

BOARD

- -Randy discussed the tide gates in Tillamook, explaining that there have been over 50 that have failed in the area. Brief discussion was held.
- Bill informed the Board that he attended the last Coffee and Commerce meeting and gave out the recent edition of "the Dirt" newsletter.

STAFF

Kari mentioned that ODF's in-stream water rights filing process is being updated. She informed the Board that she will forward them the email for further details. She also provided a handout for the West Multnomah SWCD's Annual Meeting which will be heal October 12 at 6pm at the Sauvie Island Grange.

Bergman/Busch moved to adjourn meeting MEETING ADJOURNED 8:26 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennifer Steinke Jennifer Steinke, Office Assistant