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Minutes of the Columbia SWCD Board of Directors Meeting November 16, 2016

Directors Present:

Bill Eagle, Chair Kay C. VanNatta, Treasurer Lona Pierce, Secretary Dave Freytag, Director Jason Busch, Vice Chair

Directors Absent:

Craig Ellis, Director Randy Bergman, Director

Watershed Councils:

Marilyn VanNatta – LCRWC Lonny Welter – SBWC Greg Pettit – SBWC **SWCD Staff:**

Malyssa Legg, ADM Nathan Herr, RC Jennifer Steinke, OA

NRCS:

Don Mehlhoff

Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership:

Jenny Dezso

Public:

Lynne Pettit

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

Changes to the Agenda: Motion Pierce/VanNatta to move Other Agency Reports before discussing Old Business and adding LCRWC Coordinator Position to New business. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Prior Month's Minutes: Motion VanNatta/Busch to approve the Minutes from 10-12-16. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Financial Report: Motion VanNatta/Pierce to accept financial Report from 10-31-16. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**.

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

1892 (Payee US Bank Visa Contech	Memo Charges 10/04/16 – 11/01/16	Amount \$5,818.99	CSWCD	GRANT
1892 (\$5,818.99	ФE 040 00	
	Contech			\$5,818.99	\$ 00.00
4000 1		Merrill Creek Culvert Replacement	\$38,085.49	\$0.00	\$38,085.49
1893 Ł	Kynsi	Fox Creek EWP	\$3,350.00	\$ 0.00	\$3,350.00
1894 N	Margaret Magruder	Mileage/Expenses	\$391.59	\$0.00	\$391.59
1895 N	McNulty Water	Quarterly Water Bill	\$82.50	\$82.50	\$0.00
1896	Sound Native Plants	Knotweed Treatment & Batwater Maintenance	\$4,349.75	\$0.00	\$4,349.75
		SUBTOTALS >>>>>>	\$52,078.32	\$5,901.49	\$46,176.83
		TOTAL REQUESTS >>>>>>>>			\$52,078.32

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

LCEP - RESTORATION ECOLOGIST

Jenny Dezso introduced herself to the Board and discussed her current projects. She is a Field Restoration Ecologist with LCEP and has been working with the Columbia SWCD for about 6 months. She has been involved with projects on Duck Lake, Stewart Creek and West Port Slough. Discussion was held regarding current projects.

<u>REPORTS</u>

NRCS/Don:

Don explained that he has been working with Randy Bergman to get Dr. Barry Sutherland out to the area to discuss changes, such as sediment issues. Don believes the issues are tied to the flooding but would like Dr. Sutherland's opinion.

Don also mentioned that he was out in Mist today to discuss Coho with a landowner. Discussion was held regarding the area of the property.

Don briefly discussed the programs he has been working on, such as the Carbon Markets in Forestland (which is county-wide), the Water Quality and Stream bank Stabilization, Forest Diversity, Conservation Stewardship, and the White Tail Deer program (which are no longer considered endangered, now listed as threatened).

Don also stated that the NRCS Local Working Group will be on February 9 1:00 – 3:00 PM.

SBWC

Greg stated that the Plaque from the SWCD was presented at their last Board Meeting, which sparked conversation of how the SBWC can strengthen their partnership with the SWCD. He said that the SBWC would like to coordinate with the SWCD on developing strategies for setting priorities for watershed restoration initiatives. The SBWC would also like to coordinate better on developing and implementing monitoring strategies, to measure success and so everyone knows who is doing what, where. He also stated that they would like to coordinate better on the development of project proposals and funding requests, rather than competing against each other. The SBWC would also like to coordinate and integrate on supporting functions such as technical assistance, nursery stock, large wood sources, contractors, etc.

UNWC

Jason informed that there will be a presentation at 7:00 PM tomorrow evening at the Vernonia Grange regarding clear-cutting. Discussion was held regarding what to expect.

LCRWC

Kay C. stated that Margaret is in Eugene for her Commissioner's Training and that he is currently on a lookout for a new Coordinator. He also mentioned that the LCRWC has begun a project in Clatskanie near Alder Grove Road. Brief discussion held.

OLD BUSINESS

• **EWP (Emergency Watershed Protection):** Nathan informed the Board that the SWCD is finished with the projects in Scappoose and OK Creek is completed.

They are still working on Merrill Creek and Nathan explained that the culvert is in and there is now bedding and that the road should have been placed today. He believes it should be finished before Thanksgiving.

Fox Creek has been experiencing many "bumps" along the way. Nathan explained that this should have been a 3-week project, but that they are now 3 weeks behind. There have been many surprises so far so the SWCD is hopeful for a smooth outcome.

The Aulbach site's final designs were received today; construction should hopefully begin next week.

Carcus Creek Reed/Holmes Bridge and Wallace-Phillips projects have been postponed. The water level is rising.

The Tallman Project should be done this week. Culvert is in; they just need to finish the top roadwork.

• **Director's Compensation Policy:** Policy was reviewed and a brief discussion was held. **Motion: VanNatta/Freytag** to approve Compensation and Reimbursement Policy. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

NEW BUSINESS

- **LCRWC Coordinator Position:** Discussion was held regarding the LCRWC's Coordinator Position opening up. Kay C. mentioned once the EWP projects end, one of the District's RC's might be able to work half time with the LCRWC. He stated that Randy is another option as well. The Board also discussed OWEB's requirements and what to expect with the upcoming change.
- **Audit:** The Board was given a copy of the audit. Will review and discuss/approve at next month's meeting.
- **Policy Review:** Lona wanted to check in regarding the policy review. Discussed briefly with Malyssa to plan another meeting. She informed the Board that she hopes to have it finalized by January, or February at the latest.
- Native Plant Nurseries: Lona volunteers with the SBWC nursery and wanted to discuss the other local nurseries to get an idea of what is going on. Nathan informed the Board with how many classes each school in the county has working in the nurseries. Greg mentioned that if the District hires an employee to coordinate weeds/greenhouse, the SBWC would like to be included. Discussion was held regarding the nurseries and seed collection. Lona mentioned that she would like to coordinate seed collecting and to add the topic to next month's Agenda.

• New Cooperators:

Tamera Barth, Deer Island 37 acres Kelly Cox, St. Helens 49 acres Justin Morgan, St. Helens 16 acres

Motion: VanNatta/Pierce to approve New Coordinators. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote

REPORTS (Cont.)

BOARD

Bill mentioned that the Personnel Committee had met to do the District Manager's evaluation. The final review will be ready for the Board to review in January.

STAFF

No additional reports at this time.

VanNatta/Busch moved to adjourn meeting

MEETING ADJOURNED 9:05 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennifer Steinke Jennifer Steinke, Office Assistant