NRCS:



9/051 Ph: 503.433.3205

Minutes of the Columbia SWCD Board of Directors Meeting September 18, 2019

Directors Present:

Jeff Van Natta, Treasurer
Jason Busch, Chair
Randy Bergman, Vice Chair
Sill Eagle, Segretory

Bill Eagle, Secretary Debra Brimacombe, Director

Dave Freytag, Director Don Mehlhoff

Directors Absent: Public:

Craig Ellis, Director Claudia Eagle

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING: 7:09 PM

Prior Month's Minutes: Motion Eagle/Brimacombe to approve the Minutes from 08-21-19. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Financial Report: **Motion Eagle/Freytag** to accept financial Report from 08-31-19. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**.

After reviewing the report with the Board, Jeff commented that the accounts seem to be getting smaller and asked if this was due to the end of the year approaching. Nathan added that the district has also received a few grants which has lowered the account totals as well.

<u>Bills to Pay</u>: Motion Bergman/Eagle approve to pay the bills. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote. Randy asked why the district is still paying Robert Salisbury. Discussion held.

		Expen			ure Splits
Ck#	Payee	Memo	Amount	CSWCD	GRANT
2485	Biohabitats	Reach 10 Project	\$727.50	\$0.00	\$727.50
2486	Clatsop SWCD	Fishhawk Lake Weed grant	\$84.33	\$0.00	\$84.33
		Summer weed removal, planting, mowing,			
2487	CRYC	SWCD lawn maintenance	\$3,000.00	\$600.00	\$2,400.00
2488	Institute for Applied Ecology	Columbia County Weed Guide	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00
2489	LCEP	Water Quality Monitoring	\$11,229.89	\$4,911.90	\$6,317.99
2490	Scholls Valley Nursery	Plants for Fox Creek Planting	\$1,905.90	\$0.00	\$1,905.90
2491	US Bank Visa	Charges 08/03/19 - 09/03/19	\$2,773.14	\$2,773.14	\$0.00
2492	Whiting Environmental	LCRWC coordinator July 2019	\$4,437.50	\$0.00	\$4,437.50
2493	Robert Salisbury	Legal Services 07/03/19 - 08/27/19	\$1,180.00	\$1,180.00	\$0.00
		SUBTOTALS >>>>>	\$28,838.26	\$9,465.04	\$19,373.22
TOTAL REQUESTS >>>>>>>>>>>>>>					\$28,838.26

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

REPORTS

NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service)

Don informed the board that Gail Stinnett with FSA (Farm Service Agency) has retired, FSA currently has a temp. filling in the Executive Director position. Don also stated that he has received 30 EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) applications, with 23 getting funding. He mentioned that 18 of the applications were of historically underserved farmers, adding that 6 of the 23 approved for funding were women, which he finds as a positive. Don also explained that he is proud of the Forestry Diversity Program that ended in the Clatskanie area earlier this year. He added that there were about 100 Forest Management Plans and about 60 implementation plans created in the program's area. The Forest Diversity Program will now be offered in the Milton Creek to Scappoose area.

Randy believes Paul Nys would be a great landowner to hold a seminar for new farmers to get their business set up. Discussion was held.

Jeff asked if there has been interest in biochar. Don hasn't had many inquiries, but the Tualatin SWCD is putting on a seminar. Brief discussion held.

LCRWC (Lower Columbia River Watershed Council)

Randy explained that the council met last night. There was a presentation given by Chip Bubl and Allan Whiting on Invasive Species. Discussion was held. Discussion regarding a potential project on Conyers Creek was also had.

UNWC (Upper Nehalem Watershed Council)

Jason mentioned that the council has their board meeting next week, adding that Maggie is currently out of the office for a few weeks.

Jason also discussed a news article he read regarding the draining of Fishhawk Lake. Discussion held.

OLD BUSINESS

• **District Manager Recruitment:** Nathan explained that Malyssa has only received one completed application so far. She has received many email inquiries, but has had to respond to inform them that their application packets are incomplete. Nathan added that the deadline is still 6 weeks out. Brief discussion held.

NEW BUSINESS

• Watershed Plan Agreement (RCPP): A copy of the agreement was given to the board. Nathan explained that once approved, the plan can be completed. He added that the resolution states approval with no substantial changes. Brief discussion held. Jason read the resolution aloud to the board.

Motion: Eagle/VanNatta to approve Resolution No. 19/20-003. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Brief discussion was held.

<u>REPORTS</u>

BOARD

- -Bill explained that the Chamber of Commerce has a new Executive Director, Chrissy Marquardt. He added that the chamber is now having the Coffee and Commerce meetings again. Brief discussion held.
- -Jason discussed a piece of property in the Mist area that he believes was meant to be a hemp farm that was shut down a few months ago. Discussion held.
- -Jeff began a discussion regarding a splash dam on Milton Creek that he believes could be a potential project, adding that he would like to take Nathan out to see the property.

Motion: Bergman/Eagle to approve the District write a letter to the landowner to offer assistance. Approved motion passed by unanimous vote. Jeff added that he can obtain the contact information. Randy suggested copying Scappoose Bay Watershed Council on the letter. Brief discussion held.

STAFF

Nathan explained to the board that the district's account with US bank has been sorted out. Discussion was held.

Bergman/Eagle moved to adjourn meeting MEETING ADJOURNED 8:23 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennifer Steinke Jennifer Steinke, Office Assistant