35285 Millard Road St. Helens, OR 97051

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# Minutes of the Columbia SWCD Board of Directors Meeting October 19, 2022

**Directors Present:** 

Jeff VanNatta, Treasurer Debi Brimacombe, Vice Chair Bill Eagle, Secretary Sonia Reagan, Director (via Zoom)

Soma Reagan, Director (via Zoom)

**Associate Directors:** 

Michael Calhoun (via Zoom)

Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

Hannah Issacs

**SWCD Staff:** 

Malyssa Legg, Interim District Manager Jennifer Chavez, Outreach Coordinator

Oregon Dept. of Agriculture:

Don Kloft, Regional Water Quality

Specialist (via Zoom)

**Lower Columbia Engineering:** 

Emelia Reardon, Engineering Tech (via

Zoom)

**Public:** 

Claudia Eagle

Alison Charbonneau

### CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING: 4:02 PM

**Prior Month's Minutes:** Motion Eagle/VanNatta to approve the Minutes from 09-21-22. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** 

**Financial Report**: **Motion Eagle/VanNatta** to accept financial Reports from 09-30-22. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**.

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

				Expenditure Splits	
Ck#	Payee	Memo	Amount	CSWCD	GRANT
2859	Ash Creek	Carr Slough and Clatskanie PUD Projects	\$10,962.50	\$0.00	\$10,962.50
2858	Jenkins Painting	Final Invoice for building painting	\$8,247.50	\$8,247.50	\$0.00
2857	Jennifer Heidrich	Cleaning services	\$480.00	\$480.00	\$0.00
2856	Heritage Seedlings	Seeds for projects	\$12,385.00	\$0.00	\$12,385.00
2855	Stillwater Sciences	Lamprey project	\$667.00	\$0.00	\$667.00
2854	Pershing LLC	Retirement	\$2,008.98	\$2,008.98	\$0.00
		SUBTOTALS >>>>>	\$34,750.98	\$10,736.48	\$24,014.50
TOTAL REQUESTS >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>					\$34,750.98

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **REPORTS**

### NRCS

Hannah explained that Kacey, the new Small Farm/Organic Specialist, is now in the office. He will be on paternity leave soon but will join a board meeting when he returns. Hannah is also expecting a Soil Conservationist to be hired within the next year or two, discussion was held. Hannah is hopeful that the CSWCD will join in on the upcoming Local Work Group, which she plans to have in February.

# • Upper Nehalem Watershed Council (UNWC)

Michael mentioned that the upcoming council meeting will be held on the 27th. A brief discussion was held.

## • Lower Columbia River Watershed Council (LCRWC)

Jeff mentioned that he saw the Perkins Creek project site, adding that it looks good. Crystalyn will present the project at the next board meeting.

# • Scappoose Bay Watershed Council (SBWC)

Deb said that the council's plant sale was successful and very busy. Brief discussion held.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Audit:** Malyssa is still working with the auditor. She mentioned that the board should have been emailed a questionnaire from the auditor.
- Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP): Malyssa explained that all of the RCPP projects with NRCS are complete. Crystalyn will present at November's board meeting, and Selene will present on the Carr Slough project in December. The final funding request has been submitted, so everything is done on the district's end for now.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **CSWCD Meeting Room Use:** Malyssa explained that the district used to rent the room to groups and the public. Before it was closed due to covid, the room was so busy that it was often difficult for staff to utilize the space. The SWCD and NRCS staff had a meeting yesterday and the room was discussed. Staff agreed that the room should still be available to partners. Jeff explained that the district purchased expensive HEPA filters for the office, and renting the room like before would require extensive sanitizing after each use. Past issues and worries were also discussed. The meeting room will reopen to partners only.
  - **Cooperators:** The Board received copies of the cooperator agreements.
    - David and Megan Evenson, 131 acres in Clatskanie
    - David and Gale Hicks, 80 acres in Clatskanie
    - Deborah Riverhawk. 2.2 acres in St. Helens

Motion: Eagle/VanNatta Approve new Cooperators Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.

## REPORTS (cont.) BOARD

- -Jeff is looking forward to the rain. The meadows and fields are still dry, so there isn't a lot for the livestock and wildlife.
- -Bill would like publications to hand out at the Coffee and Commerce events. He would also like an "elevator speech" about the District. Brief discussion was held.
- -Deb said that the Salmon Festival was a lot of fun. She discussed pollinators with a lot of people and the seeds seemed to be a hit. She also has two volunteers to help at Ruley Trailhead. They plan to begin after the rain when the ground is softer.

VanNatta/Eagle moved to adjourn the meeting MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:43 PM

Respectfully Submitted by: Jennifer Chavez Jennifer Chavez, Outreach Coordinator