

35285 Millard Road St. Helens, OR 97051

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Minutes of the Columbia SWCD Board of Directors Meeting July 21, 2021

Directors Present: Jason Busch, Chair Jeff VanNatta, Treasurer Debra Brimacombe, Vice Chair Bill Eagle, Secretary Sonia Reagan, Director SWCD Staff:

Nathan Herr, District Manager Jennifer Chavez, Outreach Coordinator

NRCS: Hannah Isaacs, District Conservationist

Directors Absent:

Dave Freytag, Director

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING: 4:03 PM

<u>Prior Month's Minutes</u>: Motion Eagle/ Brimacombe to approve the Minutes from 06-16-21. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

<u>Financial Report</u>: Motion Brimacombe/ Eagle to accept financial Report from 06-30-21. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**.

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

BILLS TO PAY (US Bank) May 19, 2021					
				Expenditure Splits	
Ck #	Payee	Мето	Amount	CSWCD	GRANT
2717	Jennifer Heidrich	Janitorial Services	\$480.00	\$480.00	\$0.00
2718	Native Plantscapes	Hazel Road & Womack Projects	\$974.84	\$0.00	\$974.84
2719	Ash Creek	Calhoun Project	\$1,446.25	\$0.00	\$1,446.25
2720	SDIS	Workmans Comp 07/01/21 – 06/30/22	\$1,089.57	\$1,089.57	\$0.00
2721	Waterways	Engineering Service RCPP Projects	\$12,205.00	\$0.00	\$12,205.00
2722	Pershing	Retirement Payment June	\$3,266.82	\$3,266.82	\$0.00
2723	US Bank Visa	Visa Charges 06/02/21 – 07/01/21	\$2,645.88	\$2,645.88	\$0.00
		SUBTOTALS >>>>>>	\$22,108.34	\$7,482.27	\$14,626.07
TOTAL REQUESTS >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>					\$22,108.34

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

<u>REPORTS</u>

• NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Services)

Hannah provided an update on the new Conservation Implementation Strategy program, adding that signups closed last week. Columbia County had four signups. Discussion held.

NEW BUSINESS

• **OACD Dues:** The Board received a copy of the OACD (Oregon Association of Conservation Districts) dues form, message, and list of services. Bill mentioned that he would like to see OACD make a better effort to communicate with board directors, and would still like to have someone from OACD attend a meeting to speak with the CSWCD board. Discussion was held.

Motion VanNatta/Eagle approve to pay OACD dues for the 2021 fiscal year. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **Personnel Reviews:** Nathan explained that he is working on developing a new way to perform employee reviews and has contacted Deb for assistance on the reviews. He would like to have 360° reviews, where each employee is reviewed by their supervisor, a peer, and themselves. Brief discussion held.
- **Personnel Policy Update:** A copy of Chapter 2 from the Personnel Policy was provided to the Board. Nathan walked through the recommended updates made by the Policy Committee. He mentioned that he is hopeful to have a new chapter of the Personnel Policy for the Board to review every 3 months. Brief discussion was held.

Motion Eagle/VanNatta approve to adopt "Chapter 2: *Work hours, Compensation, Benefits, and Time off*" section of the Personnel Policy. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

• Cooperator: Ingrid Stuckenberg, St. Helens, 5 acres

Motion VanNatta/Brimacombe to accept new cooperator as presented. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.

• Contracts: The Board received copies of three contracts.

-Natures Acres contract for \$113,263.00

-Perkins Creek Fish Passage & Habitat Enhancement Project contract for \$75,191.76 -Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership water quality monitoring contract amendment for \$20,000.00

Discussion was held.

Motion VanNatta/Brimacombe approve the three contracts as presented. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.

<u>REPORTS (cont.)</u>

BOARD

-Bill mentioned that Margaret Magruder called him regarding weed control. Brief discussion held. -Sonia explained the Farm to School grant that the OSU Extension Service is offering in Columbia County to provide garden-based education, adding that they have started building a "Discovery Garden" at Lewis & Clark elementary school and are looking for volunteers to help with stage 2. Sonia also mentioned an outreach idea for local parks. Brief discussion held.

-Jason explained that he attended the Columbia County Fair and was disappointed to see the district's banner over raised beds full of weeds. Brief discussion was held regarding ownership of the beds. Jason added that he would like to see the district have more of a presence at the fair in the future. Discussion held. Jason also mentioned that he is battling Tansy Ragwort on his property. *-No other Board reports.*

STAFF

Nathan informed the Board that the districts auditor has retired and that a Request for Proposals has been published. He added that the office is currently having issues with the internet which also affects the phones. Discussion was held.

Jason added that he would like to see more staff presence at the Board meetings since the time had been adjusted. Brief discussion held.

Eagle/VanNatta moved to adjourn meeting MEETING ADJOURNED 5:38 PM

Respectfully Submitted by: Jennifer Chavez Jennifer Chavez, Outreach Coordinator