



**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Margaret explained that she volunteers with the LCRWC (was previously the coordinator for about 20 years) and would like to discuss the partnership between the council and the SWCD. The council is trying to become a 501(c)(3) and has funding questions, as well as they would like clarity with recent frictions that have arisen with Selene volunteering with them. Bill explained that there are current legal obligations that make the partnership difficult. Margaret asked if there is an active lawsuit, Malysa explained that there has not been communication to say otherwise. Malysa explained that when Selene left, a lot of files/information was removed from her District cell phone and laptop. Most of the projects that Selene was working on when employed with the district were within the Lower Columbia River Watershed. Discussion was held.

Mike recommended that for now, communications be limited to between board members of the district and council. Brief discussion was held regarding files and information that the council is looking for to help apply for the 501(c)(3).

*Chip left at 4:20 pm.*

**REPORTS**

- **NRCS:** Hannah explained that it has been a bit of a hectic year. She is still gathering information to report for her annual feedback. She added that there is a new focus area around the Nehalem River watershed and provided a handout with further information. Discussion was held.
- **Staff:** Amber and Crystalyn gave a PowerPoint presentation to provide updates on what staff have been up to, including projects, events, volunteer work parties, workshops, and more. Brief discussion was held.

*Margaret and Mike left at 5 pm.*

Malysa added that the office is getting a new phone system through Comcast.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **October Meeting:** In July, the board decided to move the October meeting due to a conference and to wait to decide whether or not the meeting should be canceled instead.

**Motion Brimacombe/Eagle** to approve cancelling the October board meeting. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

- **DEI (diversity equity, and inclusion) Statement:** About a year ago Michael brought up that he would like to see the District adopt a DEI statement. He and Malysa recently created one based off of other local SWCD's statements. Malysa read the statement aloud.

**Motion Eagle/Brimacombe** to adopt the DEI Statement into the Columbia SWCD's program. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Annual Meeting:** Malysa explained that the date for the annual meeting will be approved at November's meeting. Michael mentioned that the Upper Nehalem Watershed Council had a speaker at their annual meeting and believes the SWCD should try to have a speaker as well. Malysa suggested that the meeting time be earlier in the day, perhaps around the lunch hour so that more partners might attend. Discussion was held.

**BOARD REPORTS**

- Bill mentioned that Dave's birthday is on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

**REGULAR MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:12 PM for EXECUTIVE MEETING**

Respectfully Submitted by: *Jennifer Chavez*  
Jennifer Chavez, Operations & Outreach Coordinator