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Minutes of the Columbia SWCD Board of Directors Meeting May 15, 2024

Directors Present:

Debra Brimacombe, Vice Chair

Bill Eagle, Secretary Michael Calhoun, Chair

leff VanNatta, Treasurer

SWCD Staff:

Malyssa Legg, District Manager

Jennifer Chavez, Operations Coordinator

Amber Kester, Resource Conservationist

Natural Resources Conservation Service

(NRCS):

Hannah Isaacs, District Conservationist

Associate Directors:

Barbara Travis Rachell Meyers

Public:

Claudia Eagle

JP Marchetti-Mendez

CALL TO ORDER OF BUDGET HEARING: 3:33 PM

- -Malyssa explained that the purpose of the budget hearing is to discuss any questions or concerns regarding the approved budget.
- -There was no public comment.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING: 4:00 PM

Prior Month's Minutes: Motion VanNatta/Eagle to approve the Minutes from 03-20-24. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Financial Report& Bills to Pay: Jeff read out the Treasurer's Report from 4-30-24 and the bills to pay. **Motion Eagle/Brimacombe** to accept the Financial Report from 04-30-24 and to pay the bills. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**.

				Expenditure Splits	
Ck#	Payee	Memo	Amount	CSWCD	GRANT
3014	Pershing LLC	Monthly Retirement	\$4,049.61	\$4,049.61	\$0.00
3015	Jennifer Heidrich	Cleaning services 04/07/24 – 04/26/24	\$480.00	\$480.00	\$0.00
		SUBTOTALS >>>>>>	\$4,529.61	\$4,529.61	\$0.00

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

REPORTS

- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS): Hannah presented at the recent Small Woodland's Association meeting to discuss partnership opportunities. She mentioned that NRCS is also working closely with the SWCD on the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)'s Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) site visits. Brief discussion was held.
- **Scappoose Bay Watershed Council (SBWC):** Rachell explained that the council is working on a few large projects and recently hired a part-time intern. Discussion was held.
- **Upper Nehalem Watershed Council (UNWC):** Michael's term has ended with the council. He mentioned that they had their annual meeting earlier this month.

NEW BUSINESS

• Adopt Budget for 2024/2025 Fiscal Year: Malyssa read Resolution No. 23/24-05 aloud to the Board with the Annual Budget totaling \$4,439,952.

Motion Eagle/Brimacombe to approve Resolution No. 23/24-05 as presented. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

- **Staffing Update:** The Senior Resource Conservationist (Selene) was terminated in April with a 3-month severance. The office staff are working to create a new job position that will better fill what is needed. Malyssa explained that she will provide the job description/plan once created.
- **June Board Meeting:** The upcoming Board Meeting is scheduled during a holiday. Discussion was held.

Motion Eagle/VanNatta to approve moving the June meeting to June 26th, at 4:00 PM. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

- **Elections**: A copy of the Board Positions that will be up for re-election in November was given to the board. Every position will be up except for At-Large 2. Deb added that she would really like to see the current Board Members bring ideas of who she could contact and invite to run. Brief discussion held.
- <u>Contract:</u> Noxious Weed treatment contract for \$8,800 05/15/24 04/30/25. **Motion VanNatta/Eagle** to approve the contract. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

BOARD REPORTS

• Jeff explained that he will be providing an opportunity to rural firefighters for structural and wildland fires near Erickson Lake this coming weekend. Discussion was held.

STAFF REPORTS

• Amber explained that the SWCD is working closely with ODA to assist with their SIA. The SIA is mainly along the North and South Scappoose Creeks. ODA recently hosted an open house which had over 100 attendees, where historically there are around 30. Amber explained that site visits have begun. Bill asked if the SIA will be bringing more money into the county. Amber explained that projects from this SIA will have higher priority for certain grant funding. Amber also explained that ODA plans to go digital for reporting. Discussion was held.
Jeff mentioned that there is a new tool coming to market – a remote control lawn mower that he believes would be great to combat noxious weeds.

Motion Eagle/Brimacombe to adjourn the meeting. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:37 PM

Respectfully Submitted by: **Jennifer Chavez Jennifer Chavez Jennifer Chavez**