

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

REPORTS**NRCS**

Don stated that most of his time is being spent on conservation planning and contracting. He mentioned that the Forest Diversity Program has been extended for another two years which he is happy with, adding that he believes it is an important program for the area. Don also mentioned that he had attended the Connect conference this year and that it was "OK". He said that there wasn't really any new information and that he had hoped to hear more about the OACD budget and staffing. Don has also been working with a landowner who is part of a Wetland Reserve Easement Program. Discussion was held. Bill asked Don when the new engineer would be in the office, Don believes sometime between June – July, adding that the new engineer is excited to do stream restorations.

SBWC

Greg provided a handout of the SBWC's budget. He reviewed the budget and discussed the SBWC's upcoming projects. Pat Welle will be working with ODFW and multiple other agencies to come up with a strategic plan to prioritize projects. Greg believes this should be finished by next fall. Greg also mentioned that the nursery is doing very well.

LCRWC

Kari informed the Board that Selene would be in Salem next week to meet with OWEB. K.C. mentioned that he thinks OWEB is concerned why the SWCD and Council get along so well. Discussion was held. The LCRWC will be working with the SWCD on the Wallace project, an EWP project from last year that was extended. It should be completed by the end of July. There are also a few bridges that need to be put in. Discussion was held. A bridge repair was completed on Page Creek in 2004, discussion held regarding possible culvert repair in the area also.

UNWC

Kari explained to the Board that the SWCD is assisting the UNWC with writing monitoring for Coastal Coho. Monica has been working with Maggie helping her with GIS work. She also mentioned that the SWCD and UNWC are co-managing the Johnson-Anderson SIA Projects. Randy asked if anything is being done with the knotweed. Kari is hopeful that the Strategic Action Plan will help narrow treatment options and that the SWCD is coordinating with Tillamook and Clatsop also. Discussion was held regarding knotweed treatment and Coastal Coho.

Crystalyn

Crystalyn gave a brief explanation on her ideas for the SWCD 2018 Calendar. She stated that she would like to keep the focus on weeds and still include native plants. She mentioned she would like to add the "A" list weeds as well as keep the Early Detection Rapid Response information. Crystalyn also mentioned that she would like to try something new with the calendar, adding business sponsorships/ads to the calendar and possibly coupons for local businesses as well. She believes that these ads would help lower the cost of the calendar by about half. She also mentioned that the SWCD now has a weeds email/hotline: weeds@columbiaswcd.com and 1-800-741-6105. Discussion was held.

OLD BUSINESS

- **EWP (Emergency Watershed Protection):** Kari informed the Board that phase two of Fox Creek began this month. She expressed her appreciation with the new contractor, mentioning that they are working very efficiently and are moving quickly. Kari believes that they will be laying pipes in next week. She stated that the Wallace-Philips project is put on hold until the weather is better and the ground is dry. Carcus Creek should start soon also. Kari also mentioned that the SWCD is interested in going back to the Scappoose Pump Station project, but will know more information in a couple weeks. Further discussion was held regarding Fox Creek; Randy expressed his concern for the Coastal Coho.
- **Ag Building:** Kari provided a handout that explained the Ag Building Agreement between the CSWCD and the Columbia County Fair Board. Kari noted that the agreement is valid for 20 years. Randy explained that he is concerned what will happen if the Fairgrounds sold during that time. Discussion held.

Motion: VanNatta/Pierce to approve Ag Building Sponsorship. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

NEW BUSINESS

- **OACD Dues:** A handout was given to the Board regarding the OACD Membership Dues. Short discussion held.

Motion: Pierce/Bergman to approve paying OACD Dues. **Approved Motion Passed by unanimous vote.**

- **Audit:** Dennis Conner called Kari this week, knowing that the SWCD needs a single audit done due to the amount of federal dollars brought in this year. He will give the District an estimate but believes it should be put out for proposals, as this is not something his office does a lot of. Kari mentioned she will contact Patrick Carney who has completed a single audit for the District in the past. Kari added she should know more by next month's Board Meeting.
- **Adopt Budget for 2017/18 FY:** Bill read the resolution to the Board. Total Appropriations: \$3,037,128.00

Motion: VanNatta/Bergman to Approve the Budget. **Approved Motion Passed by unanimous vote.**

- **Membership to NWC:** A handout was given to the board. Kari informed the Board that she believes the District would benefit from becoming a member of the National Watershed Coalition. She stated that the District is doing a good job but believes the membership would help further understand the program.

Motion: Pierce/VaNatta to approve NWC membership. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**

- **Clatsop SWCD IGA:** An Intergovernmental Agreement has been drafted between the Clatsop SWCD and the Columbia SWCD. A copy was given to the Board for review. Discussion was held. Kari noted that Clatsop SWCD will pay \$50/hour plus mileage for Columbia SWCD staff to assist them one week per quarter.

Motion: Bergman/VaNatta to approve IGA between the Clatsop SWCD and Columbia SWCD. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

REPORTS (Cont.)

BOARD

-Lona expressed her concerns why the District is using so much money to help the Fairgrounds when she believes it should be used to help local Watersheds or further work on controlling weeds in the county. She stated that she thinks the District should balance their monies better so that they can help partners when needed. Kari mentioned that she would like to collaborate with partners earlier so that the District can plan and budget accordingly. She also asked Lona if she would like to be a part of the Weed Partnership Committee, Lona expressed interest.

Lona informed the Board that she had a Honey Bee swarm in one of her fir trees. She said that the swarm stuck around long enough for a beekeeper to come by and collect them, adding that the keeper had been low on colonies.

-KC attended a Board Meeting in Eastern Oregon last week. He mentioned that the fields aren't dry and that Eastern Oregon was surprisingly green.

-Randy would like a workshop to discuss where to go next in the county that needs attention. He mentioned that he would like a full Board present for this. He also added that he believes Nathan would be a great person to include and that the Ground Water Study needs to be followed up on. Discussion was held.

STAFF

Kari stated that she attended Connect. She added that it was different from past OACD and Connect conferences and that it could have been better. She mentioned that it is hard to connect with other people when everyone is staying at different hotels. Discussion was held regarding the price differences of past OACD and Connect conferences. She provided a copy of the Manager's Report to the Board and reviewed it with them. She also mentioned that grants are in. Randy asked if the plan for the Wallace-Phillips project is to keep the property safe, Kari said that it is being looked into and plans are being made. Discussion held.

Bergman/Pierce moved to adjourn meeting

MEETING ADJOURNED 9:03 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennifer Steinke

Jennifer Steinke, Office Assistant