

REPORTS

NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service)

Don mentioned that the NRCS Server had been down this week due to an accident on Millard with a power pole. He informed the Board that he is in the process of updating the County Long Range plan, adding that it was built in 2008 so there is a lot out of date. He has asked Randy to help review the plan. Brief discussion held. Don also stated that the CREP renewals are finished for Clatsop County and he is continuing to help work on the Lower Columbia RCPP plan.

LCRWC (Lower Columbia River Watershed Council)

KC informed the Board that the Council is still working on putting a Business Plan together. He expressed his discontent that the past year has been spent on mostly paperwork, and not fish or waterways as it should be. Kari added that the council is putting in for 3 grants, for projects on Page Creek, Carcus creek and for a Rapid Bio Assessment. Allen also spoke with OWEB today regarding possible future planting on the Clatskanie Floodplain project. KC also mentioned that DEQ has a monitoring site, at the bridge in Clatskanie off Hwy 30, that they publicize data from. The data shows that the Clatskanie River is too warm and too turbid, KC states this area is tidal influenced and therefore is not showing all the information for this site. He has asked them when the data is collected, but DEQ is unsure what time or day of the week it was collected. He added that he has tried speaking with DEQ for many years regarding the issue and believes the meter is not being labeled correctly. He plans to bring this issue to legislature if the problem continues. Discussion was held. Kari informed the Board that the District's water quality monitoring meets DEQ standards for reporting and next year there will be enough data for DEQ to share from these sites on the Clatskanie further upstream.

SBWC (Scappoose Bay Watershed Council)

Lona said that the Council is getting ready for their Fall Plant Sale, which is on October 13. She added that their Veteran's Park project looks really nice, they still plan to plant trees. Brief discussion held.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Caring for Your Backyard Program:** Kari said that the CFYBY program is still pushing to get sponsors but plans to run a modified version this year to help lower the cost and get the program started. They plan to kick-off in January.
- **Weeds Update:** Crystalyn presented a slideshow presentation to give a brief explanation of what she has been up to this year. She explained that the District performed Garlic Mustard Treatment again this last Spring with funding through the Oregon State Weed Board (OSWB). The District worked with a new contractor this year, Ash Creek Forest Management, who Crystalyn was pleased with. She also took the Columbia River Youth Corps. (CRYC) out for manual removal of Garlic Mustard for a total of 3-4 days. She also had CRYC's help with removing Scotch Broom from McCormick park for the Noxious Weed Awareness Week. There was also a report of Policeman's Helmet out in Goble that Crystalyn had worked on and believes it will be fully eradicated by next summer. Crystalyn also mentioned that the District was asked to assist out at Nob Hill with Blackberry treatment. She and Kari discussed the request and plan for the District to cover the cost to have someone come out to spot-treat the Blackberry as well as some Shiny Geranium. This is scheduled to take place next week. Crystalyn is hopeful that this will spark more partnerships and further weed control within the county and is hopeful the District will have the funds to continue to assist in similar projects in the future. The other open grant that she has right now is for the Columbia Invasive Weed Control Partnership (CIWCP) revitalization. The funding is through OSWB, with most of the funds targeted toward outreach, but also for workshops. There was a Weed ID workshop held in July with Chip Bubl and the Parks and Rec. Crew which went really well. She added that

there is another workshop scheduled with the Roads Department for October. Crystalyn has also been doing some weed surveying around the county, such as on Crown Zellerbach trail, where the city plans to place kiosks. Crystalyn plans to have outreach material at the kiosks as well as boot scrubbers for walkers to prevent carrying in/out noxious weed seeds or fragments. The CIWCP will be meeting again sometime in November. Crystalyn is also working on the District Calendar again and plans to have them out to print by November. Brief discussion held.

Crystalyn also recently submitted a proposal to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for Weeds-Prevention, to go hand-in-hand with the NRCS' Forest EQIP Program. She would like outreach materials sent to land owners about noxious weeds and possibly send seedlings of fast-growing natives for sensitive areas to prevent establishment of weeds. She added that she won't know if the proposal is approved until next year.

Crystalyn would also like to see the District develop a budget to help fund weed removal in the future. Discussion held.

- **RCPP – Watershed Plan:** Kari stated that the plan is still moving forward. The specialist at the State office, who handles The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), has finished the guidance comments which Selene is putting into the document. Kari is hopeful that the plan will be submitted to the National Watershed team near the end of next month.
- **Contracting:** Kari has been meeting with the attorney to discuss contracting rules. A draft was presented to her last week and she informed the Board that there will be a copy of the draft available for review at October or November's Board meeting, adding that it will be sent out well before the meeting for the Board members to go over first. Lona asked Kari if she is finding the attorney useful. Kari responded that it has definitely been useful so far. Kari went on to explain that she and the attorney also discussed a timeline for the contracts. December-January they plan to review the personal services contracts as well as begin revising construction contracts, which will be brought to the Board also. She added that the District won't need Construction and Engineering contracts until closer to March.
- **Education Tuition Assistance:** Kari asked if the Board has had time to discuss the proposal from last month's meeting, regarding her request for tuition assistance from the District. She added that training is paid for the rest of the staff throughout the year. Jason asked for a brief review due to missing last month's meeting. Kari explained that she is going back to school to finish her business degree and had asked the Board if they would be willing to provide some tuition assistance. She added that they had asked the amount at last month's meeting, which she had left open but mentioned \$1,000.00, adding that it is for the Board to discuss and she understands if it is not something that they want to do. Discussion was held. Lona explained that she understands why Kari wants to do this, she just doesn't believe it would be right to ask tax payers to help with this, adding that it bothers her. Lona explained that she can see why this would help Kari, but the District already pays for trainings, and the degree is valuable but doesn't think the District is obligated to pay for it. Kari added that she is only asking for \$1,000 and said that it will take about 18 months to complete. KC asked what the gross tuition will be, about \$9,500.00. Kari added that she isn't going back for her Bachelor's Degree for the notoriety of having a degree. Bill added that he doesn't see why this would be an issue. Jason asked if there is a specific class that would directly correlate to Kari's position. She mentioned there were three classes that stuck out to her as pertinent to the District: Strategic Planning for Organizations in the state of change, Finance, and Facilitation with Partnerships. Jason asked if it would be reasonable for the District to only pay for the classes that directly correlate to the job. Lona added that she believes these lessons are taught at the conferences that the District already pays for, but Jason doesn't believe they cover the course as in-depth as a college-level course. Further discussion briefly held.

Motion: Busch/Eagle to approve financial assistance to Kari for classes pertinent to the District, up to \$1,000.00. **Approved 4, Pierce Opposed. Motion passed.**

NEW BUSINESS

- **Archives and Museum Association:** Kari informed the Board that Dave Parsons was in the office speaking with Don about his property and they began discussing the photographs and aerial images the office has. The archives were mentioned to Dave and the possibility of having volunteers come over from the Museum association to help sort and catalog the files and get them in order so they are usable. Kari and Don wanted to run this by the Board to ensure it is okay with them. Lona asked if he is aware that the OSU Extension Service office also has aerial photos, Kari said yes. Dave Freytag asked how far back the images go, Kari believes the 1940's. Kari explained she will help them get set up and see what the schedule will look like for them. Copies might be made for the museum, but all originals will remain at the SWCD.

Motion: Busch/Freytag to approve archived photos/aerials be shared with the Archives and Museum Association. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

REPORTS (Cont.)**BOARD**

-Bill handed out The Dirt Newsletter at the recent Coffee and Commerce meeting.

-Lona mentioned that the OACD meeting is coming up but since she plans to step down from the Board, she is wondering if she can send the newly elected member in her place. At the time of the meeting, the new member will have been elected, but not yet sworn in to the Board. Discussion was held.

Motion: Eagle/VanNatta approve the newly elected Board Members attend the OACD meeting if they would like to go. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

-KC explained that he will not be at November's Board Meeting, he will be on vacation. He also discussed stepping down from the District Board of Directors. Jason asked if he will be stepping down from other Boards that he is involved in, KC isn't sure yet.

-Jason asked if anyone knew why ODA has been driving around Vernonia. He also added that he learned that the large Hemp field off hwy 47 is intended to process CBD oil. Brief discussion held.

STAFF

Kari provided the Board members with a packet from OACD and asked if they had anything to share with OACD, outside of the questions asked in the packet. She added that the questionnaire can be completed online. Bill mentioned that he would like OACD to prioritize SWCD's again. Discussion was held. Lona asked what would change, or be different, if OACD wasn't present. Kari believes the voice to the legislature will be gone and statewide Director trainings likely go away over time with no one pushing for them to continue. Discussion held.

Eagle/Busch moved to adjourn meeting
MEETING ADJOURNED 8:52 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennifer Steinke

Jennifer Steinke, Office and Outreach Coordinator