

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment. Bill mentioned he would like to see someone from OACD (Oregon Association of Conservation Districts) attend a board meeting. Malysa said that Andrea, the new executive director has expressed interest in attending. Malysa will invite her to an upcoming meeting.

REPORTS

- **Upper Nehalem Watershed Council (UNWC):** Michael mentioned that Claudia the Chinook is moving forward with her “makeover” and will be getting painted soon. He added that the council is looking into adding markers to storm drains around Vernonia, there will be an article in the Vernonia Voice regarding this soon.
- **SBWC:** Rachell explained that the council had their advisory board meeting, which seemed to be successful. The council is pursuing signage for the E.coli issues near some of the local public waterways and are looking forward to projects happening next summer. The council is also hoping to expand the water quality monitoring program with Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership (LCEP) to incorporate eDNA testing. Brief discussion held.
- **SWCD Staff:** Crystalyn explained that the district is looking into the SIA (Strategic Implementation Areas) program through ODA (Oregon Department of Agriculture), a new program through ODA’s Agricultural Water Quality Program that will focus funding on making sure landowners know what the rules are, and that they are following them. SWCD’s are non-regulatory, so they would assist voluntary landowners needing to make changes to be compliant with ODA’s guidelines. Discussion was held. This program is still in the very early stages, mostly mapping and outreach will kick off next year.
Jenn is beginning to compile the Annual Report and looking into upcoming community events for this fall, such as the Vernonia Salmon Festival and Kiwanis Children’s Fair.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Lower Columbia River Watershed Council (LCRWC) Status:** Malysa informed the board that the LCRWC did not receive funding for the next biennium. Council member Margaret Magruder asked the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) if the council could use the leftover funding from the closing biennium to re-establish the council in this new biennium which OWEB agreed to. Brief discussion was held. The council is still holding monthly meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Clatskanie PUD.
- **Contracting Committee:** Malysa explained that Selene will be reaching out to the Board in September regarding interest in joining/forming the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

- **OACD Conference:** The conference will be held October 16-18 in Redmond. Board members are encouraged to attend. Malysa explained that this is the same week as the October Board Meeting. Brief discussion was held. Michael plans to attend the conference.
Motion Eagle/Brimacombe to reschedule October’s Board meeting to the 4th Wednesday of the month (October 25th, 2023) at 4 p.m. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**
- **OACD Board Elections:** Malysa wanted to remind the board of the upcoming election in case anyone is interested in joining OACD’s Board.
- **SDAO (Special Districts Association of Oregon) Insurance Discount:** Malysa explained that the CSWCD receives a 6% discount on their insurance right now but should be getting the full 10% this year. Brief discussion was held.

- **SDAO Trainings:** The board was provided a copy of upcoming director trainings through SDAO, including one that will be held virtually.

BOARD REPORTS

- Deb mentioned that she felt that the fair went much better this year. However, she believes the booth would have had more traffic had it been closer to most of the other vendors. Brief discussion held.
- Jason explained that the Nehalem Valley is very dry right now, making it difficult to farm. Discussion held.

Motion Eagle/Busch to adjourn the meeting. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:41 PM

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