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# Minutes of the **Columbia SWCD Board of Directors** Meeting January 18, 2017

## **Directors Present:**

Bill Eagle, Chair Jason Busch, Vice Chair Kay C. VanNatta, Treasurer Lona Pierce, Secretary Randy Bergman, Director Dave Freytag, Director Craig Ellis, Director

**Public:** 

Margaret Magruder Claudia Eagle Craig Allison

**SWCD Staff:** 

Kari Olsen-Hollander, DM Jennifer Steinke, OA

SBWC:

**Lonny Welter** 

LCRWC:

Marilyn VanNatta

## CALL TO ORDER OF ANNUAL MEETING: 6:30 PM

## ANNUAL MEETING

Introductions were made

**Annual Report:** All attendees were given a copy of the report. Kari reflected on the District's highlights from this last year and what her plans are for this coming year. Majority of work this past year has been emergency projects, a lot more outreach has been done in the last year as well for weeds. Post cards and calendars have been sent out and she hopes to get a deeper focus this year so the district can address weeds in a different way. **Motion** Bergman/Freytag to accept Annual Report. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion Bergman/Ellis to adjourn Annual Meeting. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.

# CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING: 6:50 PM

**Prior Month's Minutes: Motion** VanNatta/Ellis to approve the Minutes from 12-21-16. **Approved** Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Financial Report: Motion VanNatta/Freytag to accept financial Report from 12-31-16. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Bills to Pay: Motion** VanNatta/Freytag approve to pay the bills. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** 

				Expenditure Splits	
Ck#	Payee	Memo	Amount	CSWCD	GRANT
1927	Craig Ellis	Mileage	\$7.56	\$7.56	\$0.00
1928	KC VanNatta	Mileage	\$81.00	\$81.00	\$0.00
1929	Kynsi	Fox Creek	\$2,802.47	\$0.00	\$2,802.47
1930	LCEP	Jenny Dezso	\$4,626.63	\$0.00	\$4,626.63
1931	Randy Bergman	Mileage	\$81.00	\$81.00	\$0.00
1932	SDAO	Insurance	\$14,433.00	\$14,433.00	\$0.00
1933	US Bank Visa	Charges 12/02/16 – 01/03/17	\$7,562.26	\$7,562.26	\$0.00
		SUBTOTALS >>>>>>	\$29,593.92	\$22,164.82	\$7,429.10
TOTAL REQUESTS >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>					\$29,593.92

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

# **REPORTS**

## NRCS

Kari informed the Board that Don's Local Work Group will be on February  $9^{th}$  at 1:00 PM. He is also setting up a small market garden network meeting.

#### SRWC

Lonny discussed current projects that the SBWC is working on. He stated that they are working on a culvert on Robinette Road and have some projects opening up in Veteran's Park on the stream. They plan to move the stream banks back, allowing more access to the stream and will help prevent flooding.

# **LCRWC**

KC mentioned that two men with Columbia Land Trust attended a previous meeting to discuss a dairy barn in Deer Island that was built in 1922. He said there had been previous discussion to tear the building down, but due to the age of the building, it is considered an antique. KC said there is still discussion being had about whether or not to preserve the building and how the city would do so. Randy included that the barn likely covered in lead paint, so they would not be able to burn the building and would have to tear it down. Brief discussion was held.

#### <u>UNWC</u>

Jason stated that in February or March they will have a professor from Oregon State University come out to discuss spraying and it's effects. He said that it seems like spraying has become a "hot topic" for the county lately with questions rising such as whether or not the spray mixtures can cause cancer. Lonny mentioned that more people are becoming sensitive to the spraying and it's smell. Brief discussion was held.

# **OLD BUSINESS**

• **EWP (Emergency Watershed Protection):** Kari stated that the EWP projects are still moving forward. She and the Contractor with Fox Creek have came to an agreement and are now awaiting NRCS' payment.

Other projects should end by June, funds will not go past June 15th.

KC mentioned that Merrill Creek looked dirtier than expected when he drove by tonight. Discussion was held regarding the creek and recent weather.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Phone System:** Kari notified the board that we have been having issues with our phone system. The district's phones are currently through NRCS' system which is upgraded about every 2 years, getting worse each time. The most recent upgrade was switching everyone to their own direct line/number. The District has received many complaints from landowners, the senator, and partners. Kari informed the Board that she would like to look for a new phone system for the District, a company separate from NRCS. Randy expressed that he has not had any issues getting through to someone when he calls. Kari reminded the Board that the public does not have a copy of everyone's direct numbers. She just wanted to inform the board that she will be looking around for new options to propose at a later time. Randy mentioned that it may be easier to have one person as a point of contact who can transfer calls as needed so that callers do not feel ignored and can actually speak with someone. Kari said that this has been discussed and is something she will look further into.
- Oath of Office for Newly Elected Directors: Randy administered the oath of office to Jason Busch, Bill Eagle, Craig Ellis and Dave Freytag.
- **Election of Officers:** Randy called for nominations for Chair. Dave moved to keep Bill as chairman. KC moved to elect Craig, Bill seconded the motion made by KC. Secret vote was taken; **Craig: 5, Bill:2. Motion Approved.** Randy then turned the meeting over to Craig. Craig called for nominations for Vice Chair. Dave moved to elect Bill. **Motion:** Freytag/KC to cast ballot for a unanimous vote for Bill for vice chair. **Approved.** Craig called for nominations for secretary. Bill moved to keep Lona as Secretary. **Motion:** Eagle/VanNatta to cast ballot for a unanimous vote for Lona for secretary. **Approved.** Craig called for nominations for Treasurer. Dave moved to keep KC as Treasurer. **Motion:** Freytag/Pierce to cast ballot for a unanimous vote for Kay C. for treasurer. **Approved.**

## **REPORTS**

## **BOARD**

- Randy asked what the District will do about the frozen pipes. Kari said that last time they had to bring a heater out and manually thaw the pipe. She stated she is unsure where the issue is this time so she wants to wait until everything is thawed before investigating. Last time the issue was close to the building, Kari believes it is closer to the street this time.
- -Lona attended a bird count at Sauvie Island on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. She said that there were a lot of different groups and that it was very interesting and enjoyable.
- -Craig mentioned that he will be leaving soon to go back to Germany, and plans to stay there for about 7 weeks. He also mentioned that he recently saw some white tail deer on his property which was nice, he doesn't see as many as he used to.

# **KARI/Staff**

Kari explained that it's been a little busy at the office due to inclement weather and that the District is just trying to keep EWP going. There have been a few site visits within the last few weeks, one being near Rock Creek which Kari would like to engage with UNWC for some aspects. She also mentioned a possible project along the Clatskanie River which might involve OWEB. She also reminded the board that we are nearing Budget season. She said that the Work plan and Budget for the council is being worked on.

Eagle/Pierce moved to adjourn meeting

**MEETING ADJOURNED 7:40 PM** 

Respectfully Submitted by:

**Jennifer Steinke** Jennifer Steinke, Office Assistant