



**Columbia
Soil & Water
Conservation District**

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**Minutes of the
Columbia SWCD Board of Directors
Meeting November 16, 2016**

Directors Present:

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

Directors Absent:

Craig Ellis, Director
Randy Bergman, Director

Watershed Councils:

Marilyn VanNatta – LCRWC
Lonny Welter – SBWC
Greg Pettit – SBWC

SWCD Staff:

Malyssa Legg, ADM
Nathan Herr, RC
Jennifer Steinke, OA

NRCS:

Don Mehlhoff

**Lower Columbia
Estuary Partnership:**

Jenny Dezso

Public:

Lynne Pettit

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING: 7:00 PM

Changes to the Agenda: Motion Pierce/VaNatta to move Other Agency Reports before discussing Old Business and adding LCRWC Coordinator Position to New business. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Prior Month's Minutes: Motion VanNatta/Busch to approve the Minutes from 10-12-16. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Financial Report: Motion VanNatta/Pierce to accept financial Report from 10-31-16. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

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

Approved 12.21.16

UNWC

Jason informed that there will be a presentation at 7:00 PM tomorrow evening at the Vernonia Grange regarding clear-cutting. Discussion was held regarding what to expect.

LCRWC

Kay C. stated that Margaret is in Eugene for her Commissioner's Training and that he is currently on a lookout for a new Coordinator. He also mentioned that the LCRWC has begun a project in Clatskanie near Alder Grove Road. Brief discussion held.

OLD BUSINESS

- **EWP (Emergency Watershed Protection):** Nathan informed the Board that the SWCD is finished with the projects in Scappoose and OK Creek is completed. They are still working on Merrill Creek and Nathan explained that the culvert is in and there is now bedding and that the road should have been placed today. He believes it should be finished before Thanksgiving. Fox Creek has been experiencing many "bumps" along the way. Nathan explained that this should have been a 3-week project, but that they are now 3 weeks behind. There have been many surprises so far so the SWCD is hopeful for a smooth outcome. The Aulbach site's final designs were received today; construction should hopefully begin next week. Carcus Creek Reed/Holmes Bridge and Wallace-Phillips projects have been postponed. The water level is rising. The Tallman Project should be done this week. Culvert is in; they just need to finish the top roadwork.

- **Director's Compensation Policy:** Policy was reviewed and a brief discussion was held. **Motion: VanNatta/Freytag** to approve Compensation and Reimbursement Policy. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

NEW BUSINESS

- **LCRWC Coordinator Position:** Discussion was held regarding the LCRWC's Coordinator Position opening up. Kay C. mentioned once the EWP projects end, one of the District's RC's might be able to work half time with the LCRWC. He stated that Randy is another option as well. The Board also discussed OWEB's requirements and what to expect with the upcoming change.
- **Audit:** The Board was given a copy of the audit. Will review and discuss/approve at next month's meeting.
- **Policy Review:** Lona wanted to check in regarding the policy review. Discussed briefly with Malysa to plan another meeting. She informed the Board that she hopes to have it finalized by January, or February at the latest.
- **Native Plant Nurseries:** Lona volunteers with the SBWC nursery and wanted to discuss the other local nurseries to get an idea of what is going on. Nathan informed the Board with how many classes each school in the county has working in the nurseries. Greg mentioned that if the District hires an employee to coordinate weeds/greenhouse, the SBWC would like to be included. Discussion was held regarding the nurseries and seed collection. Lona mentioned that she would like to coordinate seed collecting and to add the topic to next month's Agenda.

- **New Cooperators:**

Tamera Barth, Deer Island 37 acres

Kelly Cox, St. Helens 49 acres

Justin Morgan, St. Helens 16 acres

Motion: VanNatta/Pierce to approve New Coordinators. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**

[REPORTS \(Cont.\)](#)

BOARD

Bill mentioned that the Personnel Committee had met to do the District Manager's evaluation. The final review will be ready for the Board to review in January.

STAFF

No additional reports at this time.

VanNatta/Busch moved to adjourn meeting

MEETING ADJOURNED 9:05 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennifer Steinke

Jennifer Steinke, Office Assistant