

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael introduced himself, adding that he is a member of the Upper Nehalem Watershed Council. He explained that he spoke to Bill who recommended that Michael join the SWCD as an Associate Director. Brief discussion was held.

Motion: Eagle/VanNatta to nominate Michael as an associate director. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

REPORTS**NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Services)**

Hannah introduced herself to the Board. She explained that NRCS just finished their second round of EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) projects, adding that they submitted a proposal for more forestry help in Scappoose, with future plans to move up the Nehalem.

WATERSHED COUNCILS

Michael mentioned that the UNWC's meeting is tomorrow. He added that the council has been working on native plant plantings as well as increased outreach out on Rock Creek.

OLD BUSINESS

- **CONNECT:** Nathan reminded the board that the virtual conference is coming up in May. A copy of the CONNECT program and schedule was given to the board. Brief discussion held.
- **Budget Meeting:** The Budget Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 27 at 5:30 pm. Brief discussion was held.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Perkins Creek Update:** A copy of the Perkins Creek project designs were provided to the board. Crys explained the culvert replacement project, adding that it should primarily be funded by the Regional Conservation Partnership Program, with some match from the Public Works Department. The Department of State Lands public comment period is now open. The pre-bid meeting for this project was held last week onsite, two contractors attended. The bid period will end May 5, 2021. Discussion was held.
- **Garlic Mustard:** The SWCD plans to treat garlic mustard again this year. This is the last year of the 2-year grant funded through the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). Crys is working with the District's riparian specialist, Amber, on this treatment as she continues to transition out of weed projects. The main treatment area will be about one mile up Scappoose-Vernonia highway on North Scappoose Creek, as well as an area on West Lane road. Crys added that the areas that were treated last year are looking really good, though there now appears to be shiny geranium. Brief discussion held. Crys is hopeful that there will be extra funds for surveying South Scappoose Creek after treatment. Some of the properties will have native seeds planted after treatment. These seeds are tested to ensure no noxious weed species are present.
Nathan added that the District has done a lot of work to remove garlic mustard and knotweed over the last 10 years or so. He would like to see the district consider funding some of their own treatments if grants become unavailable again, like what happened when the COVID-19 pandemic first hit. Crys added that it is also difficult to receive funding for a lot of species within the county. Discussion held.

- **New Cooperators:**

Kathleen Russell & Brenda Vassau, Clatskanie, 68 acres
 Melinda & Mark Bernert, Warren, 9.69 acres
 Michael Morris, Vernonia, 3 acres
 Deborah Riverhawk Helmns, St. Helens, 2.2 acres
 Shannon Vineyard, Scappoose, 1.75 acres
 Judson Yarbor, Deer Island, 50 acres
 John Womack & Naninette, Rainier, 18.9 acres
 Jeffrey Elias, St. Helens, 3 acres
 Paulette Morris, Clatskanie, 61.23 acres
 Jack Rundel, Deer Island, 36 acres
 Craig & Lewis Harrison, Clatskanie, 37 acres

Motion: Eagle/Freytag to approve New Cooperators as listed. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

REPORTS

Nathan: Nathan explained that the District has RFP's (request for proposals) posted right now for the Perkins Creek and Clatskanie PUD projects. He added that the RCPP financial assistance funds will be happening this summer however, the District is still waiting for approval. Nathan expressed his concern for timing of receiving funds. Discussion was held.

BOARD

-Jeff is considering attending a fairgrounds board meeting to discuss potential outreach during this summer's fair. He recently purchased a power harrow and is interested in a pyroweeder. He would like to have video demonstrations to show the public and discuss tips and ideas for local farmers. Jeff explained and gave a description of the equipment. Discussion was held.
 -Deb provided an update for the Dalton Lake Nature Preserve. She mentioned that the committee had a meeting with the City of St. Helens parks, where they presented their concerns for the lake if beaver disappear. Brief discussion was held.
 -No other reports.

Eagle/Freytag moved to adjourn meeting
MEETING ADJOURNED 5:40 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennifer Chavez

Jennifer Chavez, Outreach Coordinator