



**AMENDED AGENDA:**

Lona mentioned that she would like to add the topics “Policy Committee/Manager Review” to Old Business and “Personnel Committee” to New Business.

**Motion** Eagle/Freytag to approve amended agenda. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**REPORTS****NRCS**

Don emailed his report to Kari due to not being able to attend the meeting. Kari presented Don’s report to the board, explaining that the EQIP 2018 signup ended on Friday, March 16. Don ended up with 27 EQIP applications and 4 RCPP (Carbon Markets) applications. They are now in the process of ranking them and will begin contracting over the next couple of months. Nathan Herr has been assisting Don with a new CIS (Conservation Implementation Strategy) proposal. This proposal will address soil health and soil quality issues associated with small market farms and small livestock operations. The proposal is due on March 30. The other proposal for pasture health in the Nehalem Valley is in draft form. It has been provided to some NRCS specialists for review and comment. Brief discussion was held.

**LCRWC**

KC asked if the watershed council has hired a new Council Coordinator. Kari informed that Chip, Ian and herself will be getting together to create a scope of work for a contracted coordinator. Once complete, they will create a contract to finalize hiring a Coordinator. Kari added that the Coordinator will most likely start on April 1<sup>st</sup>, with the contract valid through June 30<sup>th</sup>. Brief discussion was held.

**SBWC**

Kari informed the Board that the SBWC Council recently hired a part-time public relations employee. She added that a few of the District staff will be meeting with the new employee, Chris, and with Amber sometime in May to discuss how the District and Council can grow their partnership and assist with any upcoming tasks.

**Project Updates - Monica:**

Monica informed the Board that Crystalyn has been doing a lot of work with invasive species. Crystalyn applied for a Garlic Mustard treatment grant, which was approved, as well as a grant to relaunch the Columbia Invasive Weed Control Partnership. Crystalyn is working on management and outreach within the group.

Crystalyn also applied for an environment education grant through EPA, and also applied for grants for education materials to have while working with CRYC (Columbia River Youth Corps.). The District is also hoping to offer small grants in the future for teachers or schools to apply for to purchase environmental education materials.

The District is moving forward with RCPP (Regional Conservation Partnership Program), working to finalize the Watershed Plan. Biohabitats has created the draft for the Environmental Assessment, which Selene Keeney will review with NRCS. The next steps will be for the District and NRCS partnering to move forward, Selene will be pulling together economic information. Monica added that the District has also been working on prioritizing projects. The District currently has 9 RCPP projects and 5-6 partner leverage projects set up.

Monica discussed and reviewed some of the upcoming projects with the Board. The Reach 10 project, scheduled for 2019, was a LCRWC identified project in Clatskanie. The District plans to do extensive riparian planting and add large wood structures in stream and in the flood plain. Biohabitats is currently scoping the designs and prices for this project. Brief discussion held. Another LCRWC identified project set to begin in 2019 is the Perkins Creek Passage, where the District plans to replace a crossing. Brief discussion held.

Construction will begin this year for projects Dribble Creek and Fishhawk Creek SIA. The grant has

been submitted to OWEB for Dribble Creek, where the District plans to remove a culvert from the creek. Bidding will begin in May when grant funding is confirmed. The RFQQ (Request for Qualifications and Quotations) for the Fishhawk Creek SIA went out in January. The District chose to work with Anderson Perry and NW Watershed Restoration's designs and build team. The District plans to do in-stream enhancements and is getting logs donated from the Oregon State Experimental Forest. Brief discussion was held.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Audit:** The Board received a copy of the Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2017. Kari informed the Board that the Audit has been submitted and accepted. The copies given are for the Board to keep and look over. They can ask Kari if they have any questions. In future audits, the LCRWC and Weed program will be listed separately.
- **Board Assessment:** Kari informed the Board that the only time SDAO was available to perform the Board Assessment was right before Christmas. She added that she spoke with Eric Nusbaum who informed that he is certified with SDAO and could perform the assessment. May, June, or July Board Meetings would work for Eric. Brief discussion held. Kari will have Eric attend the July 18 Board Meeting, with the assessment beginning at 6:30 pm.

**Motion: Eagle/Ellis** to approve changing the Board Meeting time from 7:00 pm to 6:30 pm for the July 18, 2018 meeting.

- **Policy Committee:** The policy committee will reconvene to make final updates to the board and personnel policies to be presented to the CSWCD board at May's meeting.
- **Budget Committee Change:** KC would like to appoint Robert Fletcher on the Committee in place of Marvin Kellar.

**Motion: Ellis/VanNatta** to approve Robert Fletcher on the Budget Committee.

- **Conference Schedule:** The Board was given a copy of the OCEAN Connect conference. Brief discussion was held.
- **District Manager Evaluation:** Lona provided each Board Member with a small packet that included the Accountability Policy and 2017-2019 Work Plan for review. Lona asked that the Board members take the packet home to review and fill out and she will review the results with Dave. She asked that the Board members turn in their responses by May.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Workplan:** The Board was provided with a copy of the 2017-2019 Workplan that was updated this month. Kari asked that the Board review the Workplan in hopes of approving the update at the Board Meeting in May. Kari added that she will email the Board a reminder closer to May.
- **New Cooperators:**

Ayla DeCoraggio, Clatskanie, 1 acre

**Motion: Ellis/VanNatta** to approve New Cooperators. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**

**REPORTS (Cont.)**

**BOARD**

- Bill attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting in Columbia City where he handed out copies of "The Dirt", the SWCD's newsletter.
- Craig recently returned from Germany. He mentioned that Europe was great, adding that the last few weeks had been pretty cold, even getting down to 0°. He added that he had a good time.

**STAFF**

A copy of the Manager's Report was given to the Board. Kari discussed that the Water Quality Monitoring has started back up with LCEP (Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership). Crews will go out once a month to sample bacteria in areas of concern found in last year's reports. Kari also mentioned that she has been working on the Workplan and Budget as well as the RCPP watershed plan.

Kari also explained that Crystalyn has been doing a lot of work with Invasive weeds. Garlic Mustard treatment will begin late March/Early April. Two of the three grants that Crystalyn submitted to the Weed Board were approved: Garlic Mustard treatment in Scappoose and the Columbia County Partnership (to work on outreach, information, and public lands treatment). The grant submitted for treatment for knotweed within Columbia County was not awarded. Crystalyn will also be working with CRYC (Columbia River Youth Corps) this summer for surveying and manual removal of invasive plants on the CZ Trail in Scappoose. Brief discussion held.

***Eagle/Ellis moved to adjourn meeting***  
***MEETING ADJOURNED 8:55 PM***

Respectfully Submitted by:

***Jennifer Steinke***

Jennifer Steinke, Office Assistant