



**Minutes of the
Columbia SWCD Board of Directors
Meeting January 17, 2017**

Directors Present:

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

Jennifer Steinke, OA
Monica Blanchard, RC
Selene Keeney, RC
Crystalyn Bush, OC

Directors Absent:

Craig Ellis, Chair
Randy Bergman, Director

Public:

Betty Haas
Claudia Eagle
Al Pierce
Jason Legg

Watershed Councils:

Marilyn VanNatta, LCRWC

Rainier FFA:

Katie Partlow, FFA Advisor
Kellie Freels, FFA Advisor
Grace Shulda, President
Geni Castle, Vice President

SWCD Staff:

Kari Hollander, DM
Malysa Legg, ADM

- **Guest Presentation – FFA:** Grace Shulda, President of Rainier FFA, and Geni Castle, Vice President of Rainier FFA, gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Rainier FFA program. Grace explained that FFA is not only intended for “future farmers” as it had been in the past and is now referred to as the National FFA Organization. They discussed the fundraisers that they have held and participated in such as their Apple Cider fundraiser, where they handpicked apples and sold the cider at Rainier’s Homecoming game, and discussed upcoming fundraisers and community service events. Grace also explained that Rainier FFA took 1st place at the Beginning Ag Sales CDE (Career Development Events) in Tillamook, their first competition. Grace and Geni concluded their presentation with a video created by the Rainier FFA student members and mentioned that the program is looking for help in Ag, Business, Wood work, Welding, etc.

CALL TO ORDER OF ANNUAL MEETING: 6:30 PM

- **Staff Presentations:**
Crystalyn Bush gave a PowerPoint Presentation regarding the future of weeds in Columbia County. She mentioned that the District’s plan for the upcoming year is to continue to try and extract invasive weeds from the county. She added that though the SWCD would like to make its way through the whole county, North and South Scappoose Creek is a priority location this year for the District to focus on Garlic Mustard treatment. Milton Creek is a priority focus area for Knotweed treatment. Crystalyn also mentioned that the District added an Invasive Species Hotline and Email address* last year for community members to report and ask questions about weeds. Crystalyn has also been involved in reestablishing the CIWCP (Columbia Invasive Weed

Control Partnership) and is happy with the number of partners on board. Some partners include: Columbia County Roads Department, OSU Extension, NRCS, CRYC, Columbia County Parks, etc. The District is also planning to continue publishing the Weeds calendar as well as furthering outreach/education within the community regarding Invasive Species.

*Invasive Species Hotline: 1-800-741-6105 Email: weeds@columbiaswcd.com

Monica Blanchard gave a PowerPoint Presentation regarding her work within the Nehalem Watershed. The UNWC (Upper Nehalem Watershed Council) completed the NCAP (Nehalem Conservation Action Plan) in 2012. Monica assisted the council by completing an analysis from the NCAP data. She explained that there are 33 sub watersheds within the area and was able to prioritize them based off categories from her analysis from the NCAP. She mentioned that the top 5 areas will be the focus for UNWC restoration efforts. She added that the areas were ranked by strategy, such as culverts/crossings, roads and riparian data layers in ArcGIS. Monica was also able to help the council with the NSAP (Nehalem Strategic Action Plan). The NSAP is an Oregon Coast Coho Salmon recovery plan that was finalized in 2016. She explained that she helped the council prioritize the sub waters in the Nehalem Watershed, outline goals, identify project locations, etc. and added that the main goal is to help bring in funding to the UNWC. Lastly, Monica mentioned that the District is now able to do its own salvage and fish removal by using an electro-fisher, which she is qualified to use. Brief discussion was held.

Selene Keeney gave a PowerPoint Presentation with an RCPP (Regional Conservation Partnership Program) Update. Selene stated that she has been assisting with the RCPP Watershed Plan – Environmental Assessment (Plan-EA). The District submitted a draft to the Oregon NRCS State office and received feedback requesting a few changes, which are being worked on currently. Selene added that the District has applied for four OWEB (Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board) Grants through RCPP. One of the grants was submitted for Dribble Creek near the Little Clatskanie River to fund the removal of a culvert and a portion of large wood needed. The second grant was submitted for funding a bridge design/engineering on Little Clatskanie River at Apiary Road. A third grant was submitted to fund a geotechnical analysis to support NRCS' design of a bridge crossing for Stewart Creek at Rutters Road and the fourth grant submitted to OWEB was for funding a restoration design (large wood enhancement and riparian revegetation) on the Clatskanie River.

- **Annual Report:** All attendees were given a copy of the report. Brief discussion was held. A lot of positive feedback from the community for the Annual Report and Weeds Calendar.
- **Audit:** Each Board Member received a draft of the Audit. Kari informed the Board that the final draft should be sent out next week. Brief discussion was held. The Board would like Dennis Conner to attend next month's meeting to discuss the Audit.

Motion: Pierce/Freytag approve to adjourn the Annual Meeting. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

ANNUAL MEETING ADJOURNED 7:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING: 7:30 PM

Prior Month's Minutes: Motion Freytag/Pierce to approve the Minutes from 12-20-17. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Financial Report: Motion VanNatta/Pierce to accept financial Report from 12-31-17. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

NEW BUSINESS

- **Election of Officers:**

- Bill called for nominations for Chair. KC nominated Lona.

Motion: VanNatta/Freytag for secretary to cast ballot for a unanimous vote for Lona Pierce for chair. **Approved**

- Bill called for nominations for Vice Chair. Lona nominated Bill.

Motion: VanNatta/Freytag for secretary to cast ballot for a unanimous vote for Bill Eagle for vice chair. **Approved**

- Bill called for nominations for secretary. KC nominated Randy.

Motion: VanNatta/Pierce for secretary to cast ballot for a unanimous vote for Randy Bergman for secretary. **Approved**

- Bill called for nominations for Treasurer. Jason nominated KC.

Motion: Freytag/Busch for secretary to cast ballot for a unanimous vote for KC VanNatta for treasurer. **Approved**

- **Budget Appropriation Resolution:** Kari read and reviewed the Resolution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. She mentioned that the budget categories have not changed, there was just an adjustment to show the building debt more clearly.

Motion: VanNatta/Busch to approve Budget Appropriation Resolution. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

- **Fiscal Sponsor – LCRWC:** Kari explained that the Council has been working on Merit criteria and documentation. NOWC has been assisting members on the hiring committee with creating job descriptions and working on the MOU. Kari has been the lead of fiscal sponsorship in the past and has been asked to come back in to help. She added that she will be working with the council tomorrow on the final draft of the MOU which will be sent out to both the Council's Board and the District's Board for review at February's Board Meetings. Discussion was held. Kari also mentioned that the Council's Personnel Committee consists of two Council members and herself, represented as human resources.

- **Marketing/Outreach:** Kari mentioned that the District has had a huge success with invasive weeds over the last couple years. She informed the Board that Crystalyn will continue publishing the calendar but will soon be doing more work in the field. She added that Crystalyn will pass much of the outreach projects on to Jennifer such as the social media sites and some mailings. Kari would like to get more citizens into the office. She reminded the Board that the District would like to try holding a canned food drive with a drawing to win a prize each quarter. She added that the District has a Survival Bag that they will be using for the first giveaway. Discussion was held.

- **New Cooperators:**

- James Hull, Yankton, 9.8 acres

- Ty Christie, Tide Creek, 22.2 acres

- Nathan Hyder, Goble, 52 acres

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

REPORTS (Cont.)

BOARD

-KC has been busy getting LCRWC paperwork together. KC would like to appoint Marilyn VanNatta as an Associate Director.

Motion: VanNatta(KC)/Pierce to approve Marilyn VanNatta as an Associate Direct. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

-Bill mentioned that he is excited to hand out the District's Annual Report at the next Coffee and Commerce meeting. He added that he has already given away all of the calendars that he had.

STAFF

Kari mentioned that both the Audit and Annual Report are complete. She added that nearly \$90,000 is due from the Roads Department for EWP work which is being looked into. Kari also met with West Multnomah SWCD's District manager last week. She would like to schedule a mixer with both District's staff to meet and share ideas. Kari has also signed up for the Master Gardeners class which will begin in February and last 10 weeks. She would also like the District to join the St. Helens High School's Spring show like they did in the past. Kari also informed the Board that there will be a Permitting Information Meeting next Wednesday and has invited the cities, roads Department, NRCS, Parks and Watershed Councils.

Kari is also working on the Work plan and Budget. She should have more within the next couple months.

Marilyn mentioned that Westport Slough at Bergman's hole has been canceled due to BPA funding failed.

Busch/Freytag moved to adjourn meeting
MEETING ADJOURNED 8:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennifer Steinke

Jennifer Steinke, Office Assistant