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# Minutes of the Columbia SWCD Board of Directors Meeting August 17, 2016

### **Directors Present:**

Bill Eagle, Chair Kay C. VanNatta, Treasurer Lona Pierce, Secretary Randy Bergman, Director Dave Freytag, Director

### **Directors Absent:**

Craig Ellis, Director Jason Busch, Vice Chair

NRCS:

Don Melhoff

#### **SWCD Staff:**

Kari Olsen-Hollander, DM Jennifer Steinke, OA Selene Keeney, RC

### **Watershed Councils:**

Margaret Magruder – LCRWC Lonny Welter - SBWC

#### **Public**

Marilyn VanNatta

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

**Prior Month's Minutes: Motion** Pierce/Freytag to approve the Minutes from 07-20-16. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.** 

**Financial Report: Motion** VanNatta/Bergman to accept financial Report from 07-31-16. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**.

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

				Expenditure Splits	
Ck#	Payee	Memo	Amount	CSWCD	GRANT
1808	Kynsi	Fox Creek Emergency Work	\$3,350.00	\$0.00	\$3,350.00
1809	Lower Columbia Engineering	EWP & FEMA work	\$9,400.00	\$0.00	\$9,400.00
1810	Margaret Magruder	Mileage/Expenses	\$292.59	\$0.00	\$292.59
1811	McNulty Water	Quarterly Water Bill	\$82.50	\$82.50	\$0.00
1813	US Bank	Charges 07/02/16 - 08/02/16	\$4,801.89	\$4,801.89	\$0.00
		SUBTOTALS >>>>>	\$17,926.98	\$4,884.39	\$13,042.59
TOTAL REQUESTS >>>>>>>>>>>>>					\$17,926.98

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **New Employee Selene:** Kari introduced Selene to the Board. Selene briefly discussed her work history, stating that she has permitting and mitigation experience from both Washington and Alaska. Introductions were made.
- **EWP (Emergency Watershed Protection):** Selene provided the Board with updates on the current EWP projects. She informed that the Scappoose Sewer Line & Pump Station Bank Erosion Stabilization, Merrill Creek Culvert Replacement & Bank Stabilization, OK Creek Sediment Removal and the Sage Levee Breach have been submitted. The Scappoose and Merrill Creek projects have both received bids from Aquatic Contracting and the District is expecting a bid to come in from BioHabitats for the Scappoose Sewer Line and Pump Station.

The District is still waiting on the Plan Set/Designs for the Rainier Sinkhole (Fox Creek), Clatskanie Projects (Park bank and 4<sup>th</sup> Street), and the Tallman Sediment Removal & Culvert Replacement and Wallace/Phillips Bank Stabilization projects. The Bids for Rainier and Clatskanie are scheduled for 08/30.

Selene also stated that the JPA (Joint Permit Application) is being revised for the Carcus Creek/Holmes Bridge Abutment Protection.

Selene mentioned that they are up against some challenges with Army Corps as they are trying to complete permits. Kari added that for the last 1 ½-2 years there have been battles with Federal Agencies trying to determine "who's responsible'. Kari also stated that there have been lawsuits over these issues and Army Corps stating that agencies need their own biological assessments. Kari added that this was overturned about a year ago, though Army Corps still requiring NRCS to have their own biological assessments.

Kari also informed that board that pictures will be taken later this week to help tell the story. Scappoose, Rainier, Merrill Creek and City of Clatskanie are all projects that have to be done.

Discussion was held. Kari also added that the Clatskanie  $4^{th}$  Street project is the most dangerous emergency piece. She said that there is a 16 inch trans. Line with gas that has broken in the past and been repaired and will break again. She discussed possible repairs with the board stating that rip-wrap could be a temporary fix.

Randy added that the river has changed a lot. He stated that it used to be a mud bar and now there is 40 ft. of water.

Kari also mentioned that the sewer line and rd. are about to collapse. There have been weekly updates now and she will see that Nathan, Selene or Crys send them to the board.

• **Elections:** Kari reminded the Board that the Election packets need to be turned in to ODA by August 30.

Lona asked Kari if the District is still pursuing an office space in North County. Kari stated that Akaan Architecture is currently estimating and drawing up designs for a bathroom in the shop. She also said that the idea of an additional space would most likely not be pursued until October or November, once the EWP projects slow down. At the moment, the District office has enough space. There are 11 working stations currently and there could possibly be three or four in the shop.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Legislative Updates: A handout was given to the Board. SDAO is going to keep track and give us updates. It was mentioned that OACD should be doing that for us. Bill asked if East Multnomah is part of OACD. There has not been a reply yet. Discussion was held regarding lottery funds and what groups are trying to get on ballots, such as biking groups and outdoor schools.
- **Annual Meeting Resolution:** Bill read the Annual Meeting Resolution to the Board. The Resolution states that the Board would like to hold the Annual Meeting on January 18, 2017 at 6:30 PM.

Motion: Freytag/Pierce to approve Annual Meeting Resolution. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **LAC New:** The Local Advisory Committee met a couple weeks ago in Astoria to discuss Ag. water quality. They discussed the updated format of the North Coast Basin Plan, which is up on the ODA website. Kari mentioned it would be up next week on the District's website as well. Margaret, Randy and KC attended the meeting and KC was elected Chairman. KC stated that Milton Creek is the focus area for Ag Water Quality right now. Discussion was held about how the new Plan will be a little different, such as the wording. KC said that they have added Rural Land Owners with Livestock to the Plan.
- **October OACD Meeting:** Kari explained that the meeting is not a conference; it is going to be a work session. She stated that there will be a network of watershed councils and it will be a good way for Managers and Board Members to get together on what OACD can do for us. Randy stated that the Board of Directors meeting is coming up which will help understand what's happening. He went on to discuss that the Land's Assessment is OACD's biggest issue right now. He also mentioned OSU's Forestry Foundation and the land preservation program. Discussion was held.
  - Kari stated that the Board has many questions for OACD and believes the more the better.
- October Board Meeting: Our October Board meeting is scheduled for the 19th. Bill suggested moving the Board meeting before or after the OACD meeting. Randy believes it would be best to have the Board meeting before the OACD meeting so that the Board Members can carry the information with them to the OACD meeting. Randy explained to the Board the occupations of the OACD Board's members and stated that the complexion has changed. Don mentioned that the elderly are the board members and farmers now. New board members coming in are usually businessmen. He questioned why there are not any landowners younger than 40 or 50 years old interested in OACD or SWCD meetings. He stated that the Farm Bureau is aging as well. Margaret mentioned that there are younger members on the LAC from Sauvie Island, Tillamook and Clatsop County. Lona asked if the District's newsletter is sent to all of the landowners in the county. Kari stated that it is sent to as many landowners we have addresses for. Discussion was held on how to attract younger audiences. KC stated that it is difficult since it takes about 3-4 hours out of the day when there is a meeting. Kari mentioned the idea of

**Motion:** VanNatta/Freytag to Approve moving the October Meeting to the 12th. **Approved Motion** passed by unanimous vote.

having a special program a few times a year to draw attention.

### **REPORTS**

### **BOARD**

Dave informed the Board that St. Helens wants to move the waste treatment plant. He is unsure where the new sewage treatment plant would go.

Bill stated that he attended the Special Districts Association meeting today. He also reminded the Board about the OACD conference call that will be on the 25th.

Randy discussed with the Board that there were two dead Maple Trees on Highway 47. He stated that it was because of beavers. He claimed it is going to be a challenge to save Maple Trees. Randy also mentioned that he called Brenda Sanchez with ODA and spoke with her for a while about Pacific Lamprey. He expressed that he really enjoyed talking with Brenda and learned a lot from her. He went on to discuss with the Board that not much is known about the fish and if they went on to the Endangered Species list it would not be good.

### **KARI/Staff**

Kari informed the Board that the RCPP agreement was accepted and that we are now waiting on the signed copy to come back. She also mentioned that there are two culverts on McBride creek that she is keeping an eye on and may take on next summer; we are too busy this year. She also stated that Clatskanie 5 & 6 would need to wait until next summer as well. Manager's report was given to the Board and discussed.

Kari also informed the Board that she would be leaving tomorrow for one week to take her daughter to school in Montana.

Nathan welcomed a new baby girl into the family last month and he is now back to work. Monica has started and will be joining next month's meeting.

Kari also reminded the Board of the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration coming up in October.

### NRCS/DON

Don informed the Board that NRCS is gearing up for the next round of funding application with RCPP. He also stated that he is debating shutting down the White Tail Deer program due to lack of interest. Randy provided suggestions of people who may be interested in the program. He also stated that there should be more outreach.

Don also mentioned that he accompanied the Small Woodland Tour. There were about 60 people and he gave a presentation.

He stated that the LAC is dealing with many Natural Consequences lately, mentioning that a lot of the water quality changes are due to weather, animals and plants.

He also discussed with the Board that the face of NRCS is changing. He said that even the customer service is a lot different from when he first started.

#### SBWC/Roads Department

Lonny discussed the projects that SBWC is currently working on. He mentioned that there was a meeting today for the engineering on Dart Creek and also informed the Board that they are planning on re-connecting the South end of Scappoose Bay with the Multnomah Channel. He stated that there are not even designs yet; it is just in the concept phase. SBWC is also looking at mitigation projects in Portland.

Lonny stated that the work scope is finished; there are 44 sites into FEMA. He also discussed that Home Land Security is looking into FEMA programs and the Inspector General stops by to review policies.

## LCRWC/MARGARET

Margaret informed the Board that the Columbia Stock Grounds are taking up most of her time. She has attended multiple meetings with Army Corps representatives and discussed with them the upcoming restorations. She also mentioned that she is working on building the relationships between LCRWC and landowners. Margaret added that on September 13 the Oregon Invasive Species Council is having an awards Luncheon in Corvallis.

VanNatta/Pierce moved to adjourn meeting

**MEETING ADJOURNED 9:15 PM** 

Respectfully Submitted by:

**Jennifer Steinke** Jennifer Steinke, Office Assistant