

Marion Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting

Location: Salem USDA Service Center Conference Room
650 Hawthorne Ave. SE, Ste. 130, Salem, OR 97301-5894
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2009
Time: 7:04PM to 10:00 PM

Actions and follow-up items (notes) are italicized.

ATTENDANCE:

Directors

Ackland, Emily
Carr, Joanne
Harper, Sara Jane
Krahmer, Doug
McKinley, Brian
Miller, Jayne
Olson, Darin

Associates / Directors Emeritus

Bowman, Quentin
Hardy, Leland
Harper, Myron

Staff

Calkins, Janice
Keppinger, Jane
Meisel, Jenny

Guests / Partners

Bachelor, Les – NRCS
Etzel, Dave – Citizen
Gibler, Josie – NRCS
Glogau, Tom – Grove, Mueller &
Swank

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Directors

Associates

Baum, Robert
Bishop, Ryan
Clouser, Marilyn
Dyk, Robert

Directors

Emeritus

BOARD MEETING

ADMINISTRATIVE

Call Meeting to Order: Doug Krahmer, Chairman of the Board, called the Board Meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Review of SWCD's 2008-2009 Financial Audit

Krahmer indicated to the Board that Tom Glogau, representative of the District's Accounting Firm "Grove, Mueller & Swank, P.C." was present to answer any questions they might have regarding the District's Financial Report, ending June 30, 2009. Krahmer indicated that each Director had been provided copies of the financial report to read, prior to the meeting. Mr. Glogau warmly greeted the group, and proceeded to give an overview of the Accounting Firm's findings. The District's present condition is good, he said, and there has been no change in status since last year. Our audit findings indicate that the District continues to be "living within its means" and that there remains money at the end of the year. Glogau reviewed pages 10 – 12 of the report with the Board, providing explanation and clarification to what the figures represented. He encouraged everyone to feel free to ask any question(s) they might have regarding the information presented. Olson wondered if it was a good thing that the District had such a substantial balance of available funds remaining at year's end (\$1,762,870). Glogau responded that it was not a bad thing. It's all a matter of how the Board chooses to spend and utilize monies. He reminded those present, that it is important that the District be good stewards of the resources entrusted them, and that it is important that monies always be spent wisely and prudently. Having a surplus of funds at the end of the year, could be indicative that one is planning ahead for the future, providing a means for unexpected expenses, or to attain more long term goals. It is neither right nor wrong, simply the decision of the Board. Glogau also clued everyone in to how next year's report will be changed in appearance, when compared to this year's report, but how the information (or meat of the material) will remain the same. Krahmer indicated that the District had been asked to prepare an itemized list of assets and to assign a dollar value to each item. He now asked why the auditing group required the information, when such a list had never been required in the past. Glogau responded that it was similar to insurance. A value must be determined and

assigned an item, when calculating replacement costs. Likewise, you must know what something costs to meet accounting principles. Olson and Kraemer both, asked questions pertaining to the District's ability to change a monetary designation. If the Board should wish to reallocate monies from the Building Fund to another designation what steps should they follow, and must such action be done at a particular point in time? Glogau, advised that a change in designation was allowed and explained the how-to's and whys, as requested.

Introductions: Introductions of all persons present were made following the auditors report, for purpose of allowing Glogau the opportunity to exit the meeting.

Public Comment

No public comments were made.

October 26, 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes

The October 26, 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes were reviewed by the Board members. When asked if there were any changes or corrections needed to the meeting minutes, Carr responded that there was no mention made to the fact that Jenny Meisel had given a report about both the District's Annual Native Plant Sale and the Invasive Weed Survey, during the meeting however the plant sale was not reflected in the minutes. This error was duly noted, and reference to the report about the District's Native Plant Sale will be added.

ACTION:

Olson motioned for the Board to accept and approve the 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes with suggested change / amendment to include mention of Meisel's report on the District's Annual Native Plant Sale. Motion was 2nd by Ackland. There was no further discussion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

November 2, 2009, Board Meeting Minutes

The November 2, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed by the Board members. There were no suggestions for changes made regarding the minutes content.

ACTION:

McKinley motioned for the Board to accept and approve the Board meeting minutes for November 2, 2009 as submitted. The motion was 2nd by Olson. There was no further discussion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

November 2009 Treasurer's Report

Keppinger provided the financials report to the Board for November 2009. She began with a review of the District's Local Government Investment Pool funds, which was based on the District's QuickBooks Reconciliation Detail report for the month. The balance holding was \$1,959,785.49 on 11/30/2009. The District's checking account activity report was then reviewed, and the balance showing was \$34,927.91 as of 11/30/2009. Both bank statements, one for the Local Government Investment Pool and other for the District's checking account statement, had yet to be received. Therefore confirmation that both reports are in agreement with the Bank's, is still pending. The activity detail report for the District's general fund was then reviewed and discussed as needed. Keppinger advised that a statement was just received earlier today indicating that additional taxes have been collected and credited the District. Accordingly, this will affect the amount seen on page 1 of 8 (line 17), increasing the percentage collected taxes this year, from 64% to 92% of the projected income budgeted.

ACTION:

Olson motioned for the Board to accept and approve the Treasurer's Financial Report for November 2009 as submitted. Miller 2nd the motion. There was no further discussion. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

December 2009 and January 2010 Calendar's Reviewed

Kraemer asked the Board members to review both the December 2009 and the January 2010 calendars and to advise if any changes or corrections were needed. Miller indicated that the January 19th date for Program Committee Meeting, would pose a problem for her. Olson responded they would address the issue during the December Program Committee Meeting, and see if the date could be changed at that time. No changes to the calendar were required at this time.

Staff and Board Acknowledgements

Les Bachelor, NRCS, indicated he wished to acknowledge and personally thank Jenny Meisel and Ron Crouse (Staff members of Marion SWCD) for their hard work on behalf of the Minto Brown project. Both Meisel and Crouse have devoted many hours and a lot of energy to the project, attending and speaking at six public meetings. "They have made the District shine", he said. He then proceeded to introduce NRCS's newest employee "Josie Gibler." Bachelor advised the Board

that Josie had worked with Dean Moberg in the Lower Willamette Basin during her first years working for NRCS. She had more recently worked in The Dalles office. Josie, he said, gained entrance into NRCS's work force through NRCS SCEP (Student Career Experience Program). Through this program, she has worked herself up through the ranks over a 5-year period, and has earned herself placement as a full-time Soil Conservationist in the Salem Office. Board Director Miller asked why former NRCS employee, Barbara Bellows, had not been placed into this position. Bellows with her skills and higher education, certainly must have been more than qualified for the position, Miller said. Bachelor responded that the position Bellows had been hired for was totally different than the Soil Conservationist position, and that that her position was only temporary. Under NRCS policy and protocol, that action was not possible. He also advised the Board that Bellows is currently working with Dean Moberg, NRCS, as a volunteer and that he wishes her well. Bachelor also informed the Board that Michele Tesdal had returned to work after having a period of time off for maternity leave. Tesdal is now back working for us, four-hours each day, Monday through Friday. And with the help of Jarod Seaman, who is working with us on a full-time basis through Brooks Agency, we are finally back to having a full staff, which is greatly appreciated. I wish to thank Scott Eden, Luca DeStefanis and Ron Crouse for stepping up to the bar, to help NRCS out during our lean times with staffing this past year.

Josie Gibler then took a few minutes to introduce her self and provide a little personal background. Gibler grew up on a blueberry farm situated in Estacada. She attended Eastern Oregon University prior to graduating from OSU. She has worked for NRCS in Ontario, Hillsboro, Coquille and The Dalles. This position in Salem will be her fifth assignment. She thanked everyone for their warm welcome and indicated she looks forward to working with them.

2009 Invasive Species Inventory Presentation

Jenny Meisel provided a power-point presentation on the Invasive Plant Inventory project she oversaw this summer. This program was begun a year ago, under the direction of Mary Logalbo who spearheaded it, she said. Logalbo began the project by surveying properties situated along the Little North Santiam River for invasive and noxious weeds. This year, we continued our survey work along the banks of the North Santiam River. from Stayton up to Idanha, OR. We covered 53 river miles, 27 tributaries and 9 miles along the tributaries. The project could not begin without some preliminary footwork. First, Meisel had to make contact with 305 landowners whose properties skirted the North Santiam River. Letters were sent out to each landowner requesting permission to access their properties. Each landowner was given the choice of 3 different levels of permission. (1) to access the river corridor through their property, (2) to survey their property 50' from the high water mark, (3) no additional access beyond the high water mark. Out of the 305 letters sent 128 responded back, and Meisel related the responses were positive. The survey work crew consisted of 9 people contracted through AmeriCorp. Ron Crouse and Jenny Meisel provided educational training on the weeds being sought, scoped out campgrounds for the crews to stay in, and did some river scouting to determine any hazards along the route. They utilized this year's most wanted (actually meaning "least wanted") target weed list compiled by Marion County Weed Control District. The list includes 20 species of weeds, both noxious and invasive such as: Meadow Knapweed, False Brome, Tansy Ragwort, Knotweed, Purple Loosestrife, Yellow Flag Iris, Diffuse Knapweed and Common Gorse. Some weeds were classified as "Educate and Control", and the more offensive weeds (like Diffuse Knapweed and Common Gorse) were categorized as "Immediate Action / Eradicate". The AmeriCorp crew conducted surveys for a period of 6 weeks during the months of July through September, Meisel reported. They hiked, climbed, scaled walls and boulders, along 53 river miles and 9 miles along tributaries. They covered over 300 acres of land mass, she said. False Brome was found everywhere below Big Cliff Dam. The new Trimble GPS units allowed the crew to: more accurately pinpoint the locations of weeds and allowed them map out polygon areas where large infestations occur (which the old GPS units did not do). Meisel indicated that Knapweed was found mainly along the highways, alongside roads – and that it hadn't reached the waterways at this point in time (in the upper canyon). The information gathered will be shared with partnering agencies: BLM (Bureau of Land Management), USFS (United States Forest Service), Marion County Weed Control, Oregon Department of Agriculture, US Forest Service and others. Together, there will be increased efforts to educate landowners (and the general public) about the weeds situated on their properties and educate them about methods that can be used to eradicate or control them. Director Miller asked why a burning of False Brome was not being initiated in areas where large infestations were seen (as in a photo shown in the presentation). Meisel responded that False Brome does not respond well to a burn, it will return afterwards. Meisel indicated hand-pulling was effective, however many landowners become overwhelmed by the work required to hand pull large areas of weeds. In many instances herbicides are very effective and definitely less labor intensive. Miller wondered if Oregon Tilth had been contacted to find alternative controls for weeds and encouraged the District and other agencies to research into non-chemical controls and to disseminate the information on to the public. Meisel's work has just begun. Her next step will be to conduct public meetings, and to mail out letters to each landowner about the results of this summer's survey, to educate about weeds: including identification and the methods that can be used to control or eradicate them. It is

hoped that some volunteer work days for weed pulls can be scheduled by partnering groups, and that grant programs can be provided to assist landowners with the expense of addressing the problems. Meisel also indicated that the District is partnering with Marion County to apply for an Oregon Weed Board Grant from ODA to treat the weed vegetation found during the survey. \$6,800.00 is being requested for chemicals, county labor, and to conduct education and outreach efforts in the North and Little North Santiam Drainages to inform landowners about the impacts of invasive weed species. Meisel will soon be conducting public meetings with the assistance of the City of Stayton, and Mill City (Planning Department and City Councils), in her efforts to take the survey results to the public and to provide needed education and assistance. Meisel indicated that additional funding grants will be needed in the future, should the District wish to continue its survey work into areas like the Pudding River or Zollner Creek. Funding support was more easily obtained from the BLM and US Forest Service, on the basis that each agency held properties situated along the banks of the Little North Fork and Santiam Rivers. Unfortunately, the properties that skirt the Pudding River and Zollner Creek, are privately owned. On this basis alone, we may need to seek financial assistance from new sources, Meisel surmised. McKinley asked if the District had any plans to track the areas surveyed, to see if any positive impacts have resulted from the survey work done. (Meaning, re-survey the same locations a few years from now). Meisel responded that his question was a good one, saying Marion County Weed Control District might be interested in performing some follow up surveys to determine if their treatments were effective, since they are responsible for the treatment of the invasive species in the county. Discussion ended.

Time: 8:28 PM

REPORTS

Legislative / Current Events

Quentin Bowman provided his monthly report to the Board, covering recent news headlines that relate to our world's natural resources. Bowman scours many newspapers, magazines and periodicals for the information shared. His research and study, is most appreciated and commendable. The following examples are but a few of the articles discussed.

- The BLM (Bureau of Land Management) reports that areas (under their management) infested with noxious weeds are increasing about 12% a year. The agency treats noxious weed infestations using only 4 of 18 approved herbicides, with the remaining treatments by hand, mechanically or other methods. They are proposing to treat about 30,300 acres with herbicides and 28,100 acres with other methods.
- Environment Oregon, an environmental advocacy group, released latest tally of largest industrial water polluters in the state – top contenders “paper mills”.
- A few biologists see signs that some salmon are evolving to survive in Northwest Rivers that have been radically altered by dams. The salmon are postponing their migration to sea, growing larger to better survive their journey. They may ultimately save themselves.
- A team of researchers at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst have engineered a strain of Geobacter (bacteria) that's eight times as efficient as other strains of microbes in creating energy. Geobacter generate electricity from mud and wastewater. It is hoped this new strain of bacteria can be used to create fuel cells that can generate cheap, clean energy.
- The Dow Chemical Co. has developed a new roof shingle that doubles as a solar panel, it is expected to cost 10% to 15% less than traditional solar panels and will be cheaper and quicker to install. Shingles can be incorporated into rooftops alongside traditional asphalt shingles.
- Studies reveal Douglas fir (trees) are more drought resistance than once thought. The trees will use water when available and will shut down photosynthesis during times of drought.
- Power plants are the nation's biggest producer of toxic waste, surpassing industries like plastic and paint manufacturing, and chemical plants, according to a New York Times analysis of Environmental Protection Agency data.
- Worldwide carbon dioxide pollution jumped 2 percent last year, most of the increase coming from China, according to a study published online. Emissions of CO₂ the chief man-made greenhouse gas, come from the burning of coal, oil and natural gas, and also from the production of cement.

NRCS Report

Les Bachelor reports that NRCS has not closed EQIP signup and NRCS will continue to advertise about EQIP and AWEP. We have \$500,000 budgeted this year to go towards the best cause in the Zollner Creek area. In the Lower Willamette we have 11 offers for the Conservation Stewardship Program (CStP). Bachelor says a landowner not funded through AWEP would likely qualify for EQIP.

Administrative Committee

Hardy advised the Board that the Administrative Committee met on November 18th and discussed (1) **new draft policy for telecommuting**. There were two important factors to consider, such policy must benefit both the District and the employee. We strongly feel it will do just that. There are three conditions that would qualify one to telecommute: (1) Inclement weather, (2) Off site work condition and (3) Sickness. And in most (if not all) instances, it would be required that a form be completed in advance of the event and that management approval be granted. The Committee recommends that the Board approve this new policy. We will ask for your vote when we address New Business items, Hardy said. Krahmer asked for clarification, "Aren't Staff dependent on the USDA computer system, to conduct their work?" Keppinger responded that 90-95% of their (Staff's) work is done through Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel, etc.), meaning that the majority of their work could be completed on home computers/laptops.

The second item addressed by the Committee was the compilation of a "Safety Handbook", Hardy reported. Susan Ortiz and Jane Keppinger are working to extrapolate safety information from many sources and to combine them together into a one source "Safety Handbook". The handbook will include District policies relating to safety with: vehicles, personal protection, equipment emergency procedures, handling and storage of hazardous chemicals, and more. Recent changes in regulations enacted by a new Oregon Department head at OSHA and other changes in state and federal laws have prompted our actions, Hardy advised. SDAO (Special Districts Association of Oregon) informed us recently that both Workers' Compensation Insurance Coverage rates and the District's General Liability Coverage could become contingent on a District having or not having safety policies and procedures in place. Once the manual is completed, the Committee will submit it to the Board for approval.

Program Committee

Olson informed the Board that he was not able to attend the November Program Committee Meeting. He now asked McKinley, if he would be so kind to give the evenings report. McKinley reported that a problem has presented itself, with regards to the recently approved Special Project Grant for the Drought Tolerant Plant Test and Garden Project. It has been found that the landscaper who applied for the Grant is not licensed. We were not aware of this fact at the time we sought the Board's approval. Oregon law requires that the contractor be licensed. In light of this new information, we are requesting that the Board rescind its approval. Your vote will be asked for when we address new business items, later this evening.

McKinley indicated that the Committee had received a new Special Project Grant application from Dave Etzel, who is in attendance this evening. Mr. Etzel is proposing to build a special tumbler for the creation of compost, and is asking for funding support in the amount of \$5,000.00 to construct it. Etzel is wishing to construct a prototype unit to use on and for his own farm. If the composter proves effective and his efforts are successful, he may wish to expand and market the unit in the future. McKinley asked Mr. Etzel to please explain his idea to the Board. Etzel addressed the Board and thanked them for the opportunity before him. He then explained how his compost machine would be assembled. He would take a former smoke stack / drum approximately 40" diameter by 40' long drum, and would feed organic materials into it through one end. The drum, which would be insulated and have baffles within it, would be mounted on a semi-trailer, and would be powered by a 2-horse power motor. The drum would be rotated/ tumbled on a continuous basis. He has already sourced raw materials to be used in the composter: wood particles from Freres Lumber, waste material from a local dairy animal waste, the Stayton Cannery, repack material, straw, chaff, microbes, humates and dogfish oil (cold pressed, and imported from Maine). Etzel had researched and found similar units are being used in different areas of our country, those units are very expensive he said. He believes he can construct a similar unit, for a lot less money. Etzel said his goal is turn out a minimum of 10 cubic yards of compost per day, but agreed, that in the beginning 5 cubic yards of compost per day might be more realistic. This unit will need no outside energy source. The compost mix is supposed to breakdown within 7-10 days. Krahmer thanked Etzel for the information and indicated that the Board would take a vote later in the meeting and that he was welcome to stay.

McKinley also reported that the Program Committee discussed the Grant application that Meisel wished to submit to ODA, in partnership with Marion County. This information was already provided you, when Meisel gave you her report. We will ask for your vote, later this evening, he said.

McKinley reported that Scott Eden is recommending that the District apply for a 319 Water Quality Grant from DEQ as a potential funding source for the partnership with OSU Extension to launch a passive pesticide sampling / development of a model for pesticide movement within the basin. The Committee recommends that the Board approve this action, and we will ask for your vote on this issue too, later this evening.

McKinley also indicated that Scott Eden provided an update to the Committee on the status of the Request for Plans for the engineered drawings of a new manure storage facility. Seems there is an issue of ownership or intellectual property pertaining to the design. Keppinger clarified that there was issue with the statement wanted about the conditions for use being noted on the drawings. She indicated that all issues have been resolved and that the engineers have also agreed to include 3-4 free consultations, should there be any questions during the construction of the first couple of installations. The engineering firm will also make any needed modifications to their drawing, at no charge, should the laws require they be changed to meet compliance regulations.

Education and Outreach Committee

S.J. Harper provided an overview of the Education and Outreach Committee's November meeting. If you will recall she said, last month the Committee reported how they rejected a request for CLEAR Grant received from Aislinn Adams, (on behalf of Bush Elementary School), asking that she provide additional clarification on what "administration of grant" meant, and exactly what would the \$200.00 line item be supporting? She responded back that the funds received would cover volunteer instruction, nature club curriculum development, lesson plan preparation and classroom instruction. The Committee voted to approve the application for CLEAR Grant in the amount of \$675.00 for the Nature Club after school program at Bush Elementary School.

The Committee also approved a request for CLEAR Grant funding to Yoshikai Elementary School in the amount of \$1,000.00, in support of their Outdoor School, Harper said. Like the Bush project, the Committee postponed its decision making on the application, until additional questions could be answered, pertaining to how / or for what purpose the monies would be spent. Likewise, a cost breakdown was received as needed.

Harper also reported that the Committee approved CLEAR Grant funding in the amount of \$1,000.00 to support the City of Salem's Youth Environmental Education Program (YEEP). This program has been on-going since 1979, and is highly valued by teachers with the Salem/Keizer School District. Through the program, students learn about watersheds, native animals and their habitats. Recent budget cuts within the City have threatened the discontinuance of the program. Teachers have rallied to their defense, asking for the District's financial support / assistance.

A request from Marion-Polk Food Share for funding support of "Imagination Warehouse" through a CLEAR grant was turned down, on the basis that it did not fit the mission of the SWCD.

Two (2) CLEAR grant applications were received from 2 different Boy Scout packs. Both packs were wishing to build nest boxes. The Committee is suggesting each pack join together and to submit one application asking for a total of \$1,000.00. Funds can then be divided equally between them. Re-submission of application and approval is pending.

The Department of State Lands (DSL) applied for funding in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the creation of interpretive signage to highlight their clean up work along Mill Creek. Grant was approved with condition that Crouse and Meisel are allowed to review and approve draft of signage.

Under discussion are possible changes to the CLEAR Grant Application.

Meisel updated the Committee on her activities. She is working with the City of Stayton and Mill City to present the results of the 2009 invasive weed survey at their January City Council meetings. She is also working to finalize the plant list for the native plant sale which will be held in March. And Meisel is working with approximately 400 students from Houck Middle School to organize a day of service working at Minto Brown Park, in late May.

Ron Crouse is waiting to hear word back, if the 501 C(3) status has been approved for Oregon Envirothon. He is anxious to submit an application for an EPA Education grant (due December 15th), pending approval first. Crouse is busy preparing for the Envirothon In-Service Training Day on December 8th. Again, it will be held at the Oregon Garden with this year's topic being "Groundwater Management".

Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD)

Harper gave a report about the OACD Convention attended. Harper felt the meeting was very nice. Charles Boyer was elected the new OACD president. There were good speakers, and many humorous stories presented. She especially enjoyed speaker Rick Baden of Spokane, WA who advocates that a District keep its employees happy, and that their jobs be enjoyable. If a person enjoys his/her job they'll make their jobs worthwhile, was his motto spoken. Harper was impressed about the revolving Loan program, the Spokane office has made available to local farmers. She was quite impressed with the idea, and hoped that other Districts would implement similar programs. Keppinger responded that she was familiar with Spokane's revolving loan program, and like Ackland, she is in favor of the idea. She cautioned however, that Washington State Laws differ greatly from ours. Harper added that after hearing presentations from both Rick Baden and Jean Fike

during the Convention, she would highly recommend we ask each of them to give a similar presentation to our Board / Staff. Harper said she came away inspired (thanks to Jean Fike sharing information related to East Multnomah SWCD's activities) about the idea of the SWCD purchasing, or acquiring through donation, property to house the office and to provide a place for educational and demonstration events. FSA and NRCS could also be included in the transaction, she said. Both Ackland and Miller gave voice to their approval and support of the idea.

Soil and Water Conservation Commission (SWCC)

There was nothing reported about the Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no Old Business items to be covered on the agenda, nor was anything discussed when asked for Old Business items.

NEW BUSINESS

SWCD 2008-2009 Financial Audit & Invoice

Keppinger asked the Board to accept and approve the financial report as submitted, and to authorize payment to the accounting firm for the audit they performed.

DISCUSSION:

There was open discussion questioning the amount of fees charged the District this year, for audit. Several board members felt the amount charged seemed to be just and fair. Others felt it seemed too high. Krahmer and Keppinger both agreed they would discuss the matter further with the auditing group, to see if the fees might be reduced next year. They will also shop around next year, though Keppinger felt the relationship between accounting group and District was good.

ACTION:

Miller motioned for the Board to accept and approve the Marion Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Financial Report, Year Ended June 30, 2009 as submitted, and to authorize payment of the fees charged by the auditing group "Grove, Mueller & Swank, P.C." in the amount of \$4,400.00 for services rendered. McKinley 2nd the motion. There was no further discussion. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Administrative Committee: Action Item: Telecommute / Telework Personnel Policy

Krahmer asked if the Board wished to accept and approve the "Telecommute / Telework personnel Policy" submitted by the Administrative Committee.

ACTION:

Olson motioned for the Board to accept and approve the new policy for "Telecommute / Telework" as submitted. Ackland 2nd the motion. There was no further discussion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Program Committee: Action Items:

LAP (Landowner Assistance Program) Payment Request

Keppinger presented the Board a list of three LAP (Landowner Assistance Program) Grant recipients. Each is requesting payment of funds, for the work they have completed. Will the Board please entertain authorizing release of payment in the amounts of \$1,630.00 to Tim Cayton, \$2,149.45 to Jean Lasater, and \$2,850.00 to Jerome Rosa. Each participant has completed his/her work in accordance to contract, she said.

ACTION:

Olson motioned for the Board to accept and approve making final payments to LAP recipients according to the list submitted, thereby authorizing payment and release of said funds to: (1) Tim Cayton, the amount of \$1,630.00; (2) Jean Lasater, the amount of \$2,149.45; and (3) Jerome Rosa, the amount of \$2,850.00. Motion was 2nd by Miller. There was no further discussion. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Cancel Special Projects Grant Application – Drought Tolerant Plants Test Garden

Krahmer asked the Board if they wished to rescind their approval of the Special Projects Grant to Andy Wilson, on the basis that he has been found to be a non-licensed contractor, for Drought Tolerant Plants Test Garden, thereby cancelling the project grant.

ACTION:

McKinley motioned for the Board to rescind their approval of the Special Projects Grant to Andy Wilson, thereby cancelling the project.-grant. Miller 2nd the motion. There was no further discussion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Special Projects Grant: Compost Tumbler Project

Krahmer asked if the Board wished to accept and approve the Special Projects Grant to Dave Etzel, in the amount of \$5,000.00 in support of the construction of a prototype continuous tumbling composter.

ACTION:

Olson motioned for the Board to accept and approve the Special Projects Grant to Dave Etzel, in the amount of \$5,000.00 in support of his constructing a new prototype continuous tumbler/composter. Motion was 2nd by McKinley. Carr asked if there should be a deadline date affixed to the agreement. It was agreed, that the project must be completed by June 30 2010 (end of the District's Fiscal Year). All voted yes in agreement. There was no further discussion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

GRANTS APPLICATIONS

319 Grants – Riparian Conservation Action Program

Krahmer asked the Board if they would entertain accepting and approving the request to submit an application to DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) for a funding 319 funding grant in the amount of \$20,000 in support of RCAP (Riparian Conservation Action Program) which will be used to aid small communities / cities in their TMDL plan development.

ACTION:

Olson motioned for the Board to accept and approve the request to submit application for 319 Water Quality Grant to the DEQ, for purpose of securing funding support in the amount of \$20,000.00 for purpose to provide funding assistance to small communities / cities under RCAP. McKinley 2nd the motion. It was discussed and agreed upon by all, that should the monies not be used- the money is to be paid back. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

OSU Water Monitoring / Modeling Project

Krahmer asked the Board if they wished to accept and approve the request to submit application to the DEQ for a 319 Water Quality Grant to aid in the funding needed (\$70,000 to \$80,000) by OSU Extension for the passive pesticide sampling / development of a model for movement of pesticides in the basin to be done in partnership with Marion SWCD.

ACTION:

Miller motioned that the Board accept and approve the District to submit an application to the DEQ for 319 Water Quality Grant, for purpose to assist in the funding of the passive pesticide sampling / development of a model for movement of pesticides in the basin project, partnered by Marion SWCD and OSU Extension Service. McKinley 2nd the motion. There was no further discussion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Oregon Weed Board Grant – Partner with Marion County (Marion County is applicant)

Krahmer asked the board if they wished to, in partnership with Marion County apply for a \$6,800.00 grant from ODA, for purpose of treating weed vegetation found during this summer's weed survey in the N. Santiam basin.

ACTION:

Ackland motioned for the Board to accept and approve the District, in partnership with Marion County, to apply for a grant from ODA, in the amount of \$6,800.00 for purpose of treating weed vegetation found during this summer's weed survey in the N. Santiam basin. Motion was 2nd by Carr. Miller indicated she would like more organic information and education given, and pursued in control of the weeds. It was reiterated that Marion County, would be the applicant. Suggestion was agreed to by all. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

2010 Review of SWCD Business Plan – When, Where

Keppinger advised the Board that it has been two (2) years since the District's Business Plan has been reviewed. You have asked for a retreat, and the Business Plan Review is an opportunity for you to take one. "Please, what is your pleasure?" she asked. Keppinger reminded everyone that a meeting of Board members is a public meeting, and therefore the event must be published. I would suggest it be held in the afternoon, and that you have staff and directors meet together for dinner. The following day, with the help of a facilitator conduct the meeting and later in the day have staff join in on the meeting. This could be an overnight event, if you desire it to be. Everyone was in favor of the idea. Miller suggested the location be Breitenbush. Keppinger responded back, how about the Oregon Garden? All were reminded that the Business Plan drives the budget. McKinley suggested January 23rd and 24th (Saturday and Sunday). Several voiced that they would prefer one weekday, one weekend day. Ultimately it was agreed they will conduct a two day meeting on Sunday, January 10th and Monday, January 11th. They will dine together Sunday night, and then will disperse to their homes, and return back

the following morning. They will also look into the possibility of having a couple of speakers at the event. It was also suggested, that this year the facilitator be someone from outside the District. Keppinger will make appropriate arrangements.

NRCS - Revision of Conservation Plan

Les Bachelor addressed the Board, indicating that a conservation plan under CREP (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program) formerly approved by the Board, has been revised. The title has been changed from Larry Payne, to the Trust of Alma J. Payne and the Trust of James L. Payne, both C/O Larry Payne. He asked if Chairman Kraemer would like to sign the revised plan documents.

ACTION:

Olson motioned for the Board to accept and approve the revised conservation plan, changing title to the Trust of Alma J. Payne and the Trust of James L. Payne, C/O Larry Payne, under CREP. McKinley 2nd the motion. There was no further discussion. **Motion was passed by unanimous vote.** And Kraemer signed the revised documents as needed.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 10:00 PM.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 6, 2010 and beginning at 7:00pm.
Location: Salem USDA's Service Center Conference Room
650 Hawthorne Ave SE, Ste. #130, Salem, OR 97301-5894

Minutes submitted by Janice Calkins