

Amended
Approved

Date 8/4/10
Recorder Susan Ortiz
Chair Darin Olson

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, July 7, 2010
Time: 7:05 PM to 8:35 PM

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

ATTENDANCE:

Directors

Ackland, Emily
Clouser, Marilyn
Harper, Sara Jane
Krahmer, Doug
McKinley, Brian
Miller, Jayne
Olson, Darin

Associates / Directors Emeritus

Hardy, Leland
Harper, Myron

Staff

Keppinger, Jane
Ortiz, Susan

Guests / Partners

Bachelor, Les – NRCS
Keasey, Dave - Citizen
Campbell, Rebecca - Citizen

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Directors

Associates

Bishop, Ryan
Bowman, Quentin
Dyk, Robert

Directors

Emeritus

Baum, Robert

BOARD MEETING

ADMINISTRATIVE

Call Meeting to Order: Darin Olson, Chairman of the Board, called the Board Meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

BOARD MEETING

Introductions of all persons present were made.

Public Comment:

Rebecca Campbell voiced her concerns regarding the employment of Luca DeStefanis and the sale of tree protectors to her from DeStefanis for her CREP project. She stated that DeStefanis worked with her on the project and when she was nearing the end of the project deadline he came out to check on the project; she stated that she was short about 100 tree tubes, but that she did not want to buy a 1000 of them from a distributor. She stated that he offered the tree tubes to her for less than regular cost and she purchased them from him. She believed that he was not doing anything for his personal interests that his actions were simply to assist her with the completion of her project. She stated her appreciation of DeStefanis efforts on her project.

Olson thanked her for coming in and bringing up her concern.

Appoint Zone 5 Director

Olson asked that Marilyn Clouser be appointed to replace Joanne Carr in the Zone 5 Director position, to serve the remainder of the term.

ACTION:

Ackland motioned for the Board to approve the appointment of Marilyn Clouser to the Zone 5 Director position, to serve the remainder of the term. The motion was 2nd by Miller. There was no further discussion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

New Director Oath of Office

Olson swore in Marilyn Clouser as the Zone 5 Director

June 2, 2010, Board Meeting Minutes & June 2, 2010 Budget Hearing Minutes

The June 2, 2010 Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed by the Board members.

ACTION:

McKinley motioned for the Board to accept and approve the Board meeting minutes for June 2, 2010 as presented. The motion was 2nd by Krahmer. There was no further discussion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

The June 2, 2010 Budget Hearing Minutes were reviewed by the Board members.

ACTION:

McKinley motioned for the Board to accept and approve the Budget Hearing Minutes for June 2, 2010 as presented. The motion was 2nd by Clouser. There was no further discussion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

June 2010 Treasurer's Report

Keppinger provided the financials report to the Board for June 2010. She indicated that the QuickBooks reconciliation matched both the Bank Statement and the LGIP statement for June 2010. She reviewed the District's Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) funds, noting that the balance holding was \$1,724,609.05, on 6/30/2010. The District's checking account activity report was reviewed, and questions regarding the checks paid out were addressed. Keppinger noted that there are still a few more checks that are not listed for June 2010, to complete the 2009-2010 fiscal year, as either the invoice or the items have not yet been received. Keppinger then reviewed business activity in relation to the current budget, items noted were: 101% of budgeted tax revenues were received for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010.

ACTION:

Krahmer motioned for the Board to accept and approve the Treasurer's Financial Report for June 2010 as submitted. The motion was 2nd by Ackland. There was no further discussion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

July 2010 and August 2010 Calendar's Reviewed

Olson asked the Board members to review both the July 2010 and August 2010 calendars and to advise if any changes or corrections were needed. Ackland stated that she had a conflict with the August 20th date for the Education and Outreach Committee; however as at least two other board members are planning to attend, the date would remain the unchanged. No changes were indicated.

Staff and Board Acknowledgements

Keppinger stated that district staff went to an off-site facility on July 6th to work on the 2010-2011 annual work plan; priorities includes placing the new District goals into the work plan. Staff will again travel off-site on July 8th to continue to work on the annual work plan. The facility at Silver Creek Falls Conference Center has been very nice, and the staff has appreciated the opportunity to focus on this task away from the office.

REPORTS

NRCS Report

Les Bachelor presented his report;

- The CSP sign up period ended June 25th, with a good number of applications. Bachelor expects that they will have approximately eight CSP contracts.
- AWEPP - Approved \$358,000 in contracts in the Zollner Creek Basin and are working on completing those contracts; additional funds have been requested.
- Oregon received 3 additional AWEPP grants from this round of applications; with the Tualatin Partnership, which includes Tualatin SWCD, receiving one of those grants.
- Bachelor will complete his temporary assignment as Basin Team Leader on Friday, July 9th.
- Tracey Hanger is reviewing all of the WRP contracts; she is doing Quality Assurance on the projects – reviewing both files and project sites.
- Bachelor expects that the Quality Assurance team from Washington DC will come in to review this office again this year.

Admin Committee

Hardy stated that the committee met on June 9th. Discussed where the District might invest the funds that are currently in the LGIP account; banks are insured through FDIC, whereas the LGIP is not; however, the banks could not offer an interest rate even as high as the LGIP currently is at .55% APR.

Discussed the use of personal vehicles on District business and when the District insurance in effect for the employee's personal vehicle. The committee will continue to work on a policy and waiver form.

At the next meeting on July 14, Suzie Moll, Clackamas Insurance Agency, will present health insurance information to the committee regarding the plans and rates that are available to the district. Hardy encouraged all of the committee members to attend and invited other Directors to attend.

Building Committee

Olson stated that if the District did not pay for the conference room, that would reduce the cost of rent to the District by almost half. He would also like to schedule a meeting with NRCS and FSA to discuss the possibility of the USDA partners regarding moving. He stated that after that meeting he would determine how to move forward with placing committee members.

Miller motion the Board to drop the conference room from our rental contract with NRCS in order to save \$5000 per month. Motion died for a lack of second. Discussion continued regarding the topic.

Computer Ad-Hoc Committee

Ortiz updated the board regarding the current status of the RFO proposals. A Marion County IT staff person is assisting in the review of the proposals. The committee will meet within the next two weeks to review the evaluations and move forward with vendor selection.

Program committee

Ackland reported on the Program Committee's activities and asked the board to determine how to move ahead on the following issue:

When the District is asked to serve on Marion County committees, who should serve? If staff sits on the committee what is their role, as advisor or representing the District? Krahmer stated that when the District is asked to serve on a committee that it should be a Director who would bring the issues, or policies, back to the Board. Staff can provide technical support. Olson stated that when these requests are brought forward that it should be brought before the

Board and that the District could have both technical staff and a Director to serve on the committee. Olson asked that in the future these opportunities are brought forth to the Board to nominate a Director.

The Local Advisory Committee (LAC) completed their biennial review of the Molalla-Pudding-French Prairie-North Santiam Subbasins Agricultural Water Quality Management Plan (AgWQMP) in June. It was noted that Marion SWCD provides most of the activities and monitoring for the AgWQMP. Ackland stated that Marion SWCD is far ahead of the other SWCDs in implementing projects and doing monitoring. Keppinger noted that as a result of the LAC review that ODA, through the Pesticide Management Team, came to Marion SWCD and asked if the District would be willing to continue to provide monitoring and effectiveness of conservation practices on the Zollner Creek Watershed Basin. Ackland stated that as the staff works through the annual work plan that the AgWQMP is considered when determining how to accomplish the goals.

Miller stated her concerns regarding the Homeland Food Security Act and how it might affect the District.

Education Committee

Ackland reported on the Education Committee activities. Olson appointed Clouser as chair of the Education Committee.

OACD Update

Partnership Roundtables will be held this fall within each of the Basin and Keppinger encouraged all Directors to attend the local session.

OACD is still in the process of hiring an Executive Director.

SWCC Update

Krahmer did not provide an update as the SWCC did not meet.

OLD BUSINESS

New District Vehicle Purchase

Keppinger reported the District should receive the new vehicle within the next week.

November Director Elections

Keppinger stated that the advertisement will be in the Statesman-Journal this Friday, July 9th.

NEW BUSINESS

Requests for Payments – LAP / RCAP/SPG

Keppinger stated two were missed, as they had received partial payments previously.

ACTION:

Krahmer motioned for the Board to accept and approve the LAP request for payment to

- *Meyer Family Farm (Molly Meyer)*
- *William Seeber*

thereby authorizing Keppinger to issue final payments to each in accordance to the 2009-2010 project agreements. The Motion was 2nd by Clouser. There was no further discussion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

2010-2011 Landowner Assistance Program Applicants

The board reviewed the list of recommended LAP applications that was presented. Twenty-five applications were received; all were approved for funding – after revisions and alterations to the plans.

ACTION:

Ackland motioned for the Board to approve the 2010-2011 Landowner Assistance Program applications, as recommended by the Program Committee. The motion was 2nd by McKinley. There was no further discussion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Les Bachelor left the meeting at 8:15 pm

Marion County Sediment & Erosion Ordinance

Ackland advised the Board that Marion County is the designated TDML administrator for Marion County, per DEQ. Marion County is in the process of writing up several policies that address erosion on construction sites in order to meet TMDL requirements. Several Directors, acting as individuals or through other venues, had reviewed the ordinance over the past three weeks, and in-turn asked that several revisions be made to it; in response, Marion County made the requested revisions and asked the Board to make a final review of the proposed ordinance.

Ackland asked that the Board have a Director attend the County Commissioners meeting when the ordinance is discussed and voted on. Olson asked that Ackland attend that meeting; however, if she could not attend to advise him to ensure that the District is represented.

ACTION:

Krahmer motioned for the Board to support the Marion County Sediment and Erosion Ordinance, as presented. The motion was 2nd by Harper. There was no further discussion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Olson asked Keppinger to write up a letter to the effect of support of the ordinance. Olson will approve and sign the final letter.

2010 SWCD Annual Meeting – Date/Venue

Keppinger brought forth the annual meeting and noted that several individuals, including some staff, asked that the meeting be moved to September. Olson asked the Board their preference for the meal – consensus was to have a dinner for the Annual Meeting. Discussion followed regarding how the meeting should be presented and what items need to legally completed. Keppinger noted that the 2011 meeting will be the District's 40th annual meeting.

Keppinger presented a list of possible venues that was compiled by Janice Calkins. Discussion regarding the preferred location followed; the Board voiced preference for either Creekside Golf Course or the Kroc Center.

Olson inquired whether to charge the public for the meal, and if so how much; discussion followed. It was agreed that the public would be charged \$5 for each meal served.

Keppinger asked the Board for their preference for a meeting date; preference was voiced for mid to late October, and to work around the OACD Annual Meeting and Convention.

NW Service Academy Closure / Letter of Support

Keppinger stated that the District needs to be careful regarding supporting political issues. NW Service Academy funding is legislatively allocated; therefore the District needs to ensure that Directors and Staff adhere to ethics rules when acting in support of the NW Service Academy funding. Discussion followed regarding how the AmeriCorps programs are funded throughout the country and how the loss of NW Service Academy will affect those that utilize them. In order to support funding, letters need to be sent to Congressional Representatives.

ACTION:

Krahmer motioned for the Board to accept the statement that "Marion SWCD supports continuing funding for NW Service Academy as an AmeriCorps provider for natural resource programs and projects", and for correspondence to

state the programs through which the District has utilized their services; and that Ackland will draft such letter. The motion was 2nd by Clouser. There was no further discussion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Olson asked that Ackland provide the letter to him and Keppinger in order to include it in the August board packets.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:35 PM

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 4, 2010 and beginning at 7:00 PM.

Location: Salem USDA's Service Center Conference Room
650 Hawthorne Ave SE, Ste. #130, Salem, OR 97301-5894

Minutes submitted by Susan Ortiz