

Marion Soil and Water Conservation District c
Board of Directors Meeting – 03/07/2018
Handouts and attachments available on request

Location: Marion SWCD Conference Room
338 Hawthorne Ave. NE, Salem, OR 97301
Date: Wednesday, March 7, 2018
Time: 6:02 PM to 8:00 PM

Date Approved: **4/10/2018**
Recorder: Tom Wilson
Chair: Tim Bielenberg

ATTENDANCE:

<u>Directors</u>	<u>Associates</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Guests / Partners</u>
Bielenberg, Tim	Fields, Mark	Keppinger, Jane	Bachelor, Les (NRCS)
Hetsel, Ken	Hardy, Lee	Wilson, Tom	Budeau, Dave (guest)
Walker, Scott	Terry Hsu		Christenson, Jon (guest)
Olson, Darin			
Krahmer, Doug			

BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Bielenberg called the Board Meeting to order at 6:02 PM. Administrative Assistant Wilson noted that the meeting was being recorded.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION / SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / SPECIAL BOARD ACTION: Bielenberg thanked the staff for a great Annual Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

AGENDA CHANGES: Walker wanted to discuss the OACD Strategic Priorities (added under 11a), Olson wanted to talk about a possible Chemeketa move (10e), and Keppinger requested a vote on reappointing budget committee members (10c).

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT: Bachelor reported the local work group meeting was a success. There was a change to his work area (adding the entire mid-Willamette region) and including animal production. He wanted to know if the District will be willing to work in the Mill Creek Area with the NRCS as a partner. Bachelor will have about 10 conservation plans to approve next month. There is a new initiative for Confined Animal Feeding Operations.

PUBLIC or BOARD COMMENTS ON CONSENT AGENDA: None

CONSENT AGENDA: Bielenberg presented the Consent Agenda; he asked Board Members to state any comments or conflicts of interest.

A. **MARION SWCD MINUTES:**

1. February 7, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes
2. February 13, 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes

B. **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. NRCS Conservation Plans (none)
2. Approve CLEAR Grant – North Salem HS Forestry/Woodland Field Trips and equipment (\$1,000).

ACTION: Krahmer moved for the Board to approve and adopt the items contained in the Consent Agenda. 2nd by Olson; passed unanimously 5-0.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Keppinger provided the Board with the February financial report. The QuickBooks reconciliation detail report showed that as of the close of business **2/28/2018** the balance held under the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) to be **\$2,608,702.21**.

The account for the 125 Flex Plan had a balance of **\$1388.29** on **2/28/2018**. The balance of the District's checking account on **1/31/2018** was **\$84,213.90**. There were no bank statements for February. The District's checking account activity report for February was reviewed and all questions regarding the checks paid out were addressed

Krahmer moved for the Board to approve the financial report as presented. Motion was 2nd by Hetsel, Motion passed 4-1; Olson Nay.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Discuss Bids & Award Brush Removal on ODOT property: The permit has been updated for 2018. *Discussion regarding the District moving to the new Chemeketa building and use of the ODOT property.*

ACTION: Olson moved for the Board to have the staff explore a relationship with ODOT and create a 3-year plan before approving any contract bids. 2nd by Walker; passed unanimously 5-0.

- B. Update on SWCD/Council Employee hiring: Keppinger stated that the job announcement has gone out for the new shared, contracted position. *Discussion regarding the potential inter-governmental agreement, district need, and vetting the candidates between multiple organizations.*

Motion made by Walker to table until next meeting. 2nd by Olson. Keppinger stated that the announcement has already gone out. *Discussion regarding new position work load. Olson stated that Keppinger has authority to hire, and the board will be able to approve or disapprove the IGA. Motion failed 1-4 (Walker Aye).*

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Discuss January Admin Committee Recommendations Regarding LAP Program/ Reviewing District: Walker would like to see a tighter gradation. Krahmer stated the most important aspect is that the process is equitable and fair. Staff will look at the old numbers (from Jan. 2016) and attempt to change the evaluation process gradation and come back to the board.
- B. Final Approval on SWCD/OWEB Match Grant Process from Nov. 2017: Walker wanted to add to # 6 "and commitments made to the public for tax funding". Krahmer suggested for #10 "depending on available budgeted funds".

ACTION: Walker moved for the Board to accept the recommendation of the committee for the SWCD/OWEB Match Grant with Walker's addition to #6 and Krahmer's addition to #10. 2nd by Krahmer; passed unanimously 5-0.

Discuss Board Direction, Recommendations, Suggestions to Budget Officer for 2018-19: Fisher and Stevenson would like to be re-appointed to each serve another term on the SWCD's budget committee.

Krahmer moved to reappoint Fisher and Stevenson each to serve another term on the SWCD's budget committee, Olson 2nd. No Discussion; passed unanimously 5-0.

Suggestions for the Budget Officer:

- Walker suggested the district provide the watershed councils with \$5000 (for large councils) and \$2000 (for small) annually for capacity. Krahmer would like to see what the councils are doing with the funds they are getting now, before giving any more.
- Olson suggested a 10% increase in all funding programs, and programs not spending over 8% of budget to be cut back.
- Keppinger would like to have the board and budget committee dive into the details and talk about pooling funds for similar programs to provide greater flexibility.
- Hsu suggested a comments section on the line item to lend to transparency.

Discussion of possible increased cost share for LAP, the need for more staff, more staff cross training, and contracting out certain programs.

- Bielenberg said that he would like to cut "fluff" or "padding" from the budget.
- Hetsel stated he would like to see a little bit more spent in the urban areas and detailed his work in the urban watersheds. Hsu asked if we had used prison crews, and Keppinger said that it can be expensive.

C. Landowner Assistance Program-Approve Landowner Payment: see handout #1.

ACTION: Olson moved for the Board approve the submitted landowner payment to David Calver (LAP 20-17-029). 2nd by Krahmer; passed unanimously 5-0.

D. Olson said that funding for the new Chemeketa building has been obtained, and he would like to see the District move. Keppinger suggested having the Chemeketa Administration back to address the board again. She will arrange it.

REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS, COMMITTEES, AGENCIES, STAFF

- A. Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD): Walker reported on the basin meeting (see handout #2). *Discussion regarding NRCS restructuring. Discussion regarding the OACD resolution process.*
- B. Marion Co. Water Quality Advisory Meeting/Ag Heritage Program Update: None
- C. Community Events/Meetings: None

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY CHAIR BIELENBERG AT 8:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by Tom Wilson, Administrative Assistant. Attachments and handouts are available upon request.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Next Regular Board Meeting:

Wednesday, April 4, 2018 beginning at 7:00 PM

Location:

Marion SWCD Multnomah Falls Conference Room
338 Hawthorne Ave NE, Salem, OR 97301

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