

Marion Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors Meeting – 05/02/2018

Handouts and attachments available on request

Location: Marion SWCD Conference Room
338 Hawthorne Ave. NE, Salem, OR 97301
Date: Wednesday, May 2, 2018
Time: 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Date Approved: June 21, 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)
Walker, Scott	Terry Hsu	Wilson, Tom	Alexander, Catherine (Straub Env.)
Krahmer, Doug		Bishop, Brandon	Martinak, Bill (Stettler Supply)
DeSantis, Bob			
Olson, Darin			

BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Bielenberg called the Board Meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Introductions were made and Administrative Assistant Wilson noted that the meeting was being recorded.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION / SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / SPECIAL BOARD ACTION: Keppinger reported that the Budget Committee will meet on Monday May 21st at 7pm. The Budget Hearing and June Board Meeting will be on June 20th at 6:30 and 7:00 PM respectfully. Director Election packets are available and filing for elections is between July 19-Aug 28, 2018.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Catherine Alexander handed out a sheet detailing how the money the district donated was spent. (*see handout*). She thanked the board, and said their CLEAR grant is a blessing to schools who will need to pay for transport to Outdoor School, as this wasn't covered by the ballot measure. Walker discussed subcontracting some education and outreach to Straub. Mr. Martinak said he was looking forward to working with the district's clients on conservation issues.

AGENDA CHANGES: Olson wanted to talk about the current building's lease. Walker wanted to discuss the manager's review. Keppinger asked the board to add approval of Staff Ron Crouse's expenses to the National Envirothon.

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT: Bachelor submitted two forestry plans, about 800 acres near Silverton: Silver Creek Canyon LLC and Silverton Rock Farm LLC. ***They were added to the Consent Agenda.*** Bachelor also presented a letter from FSA requesting to Keppinger or a board member to sign the changes to CREP contracts, as there is a quick turn around time. He attended the CONNECT conference, and said it was a well-attended, a good time and very worthwhile. ***Walker moved to have Olson review the plans. No second; died.***

PUBLIC or BOARD COMMENTS ON CONSENT AGENDA: Walker wanted to know more about B4. Keppinger explained that OWEB small grants must have a sponsor. This project is from 2 years ago. The project is finished, and this is for the final payment coming *thru* Marion *from* Linn SWCD *to* the applicant.

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

A. **MARION SWCD MINUTES:**

1. April 4, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

B. **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. NRCS Conservation Plans – none submitted prior to meeting, but added (5).
2. Approve CLEAR Grant – Auburn Elementary (\$1,000).
3. Approve USGS Invoice for \$6,150 for 2nd quarter flow monitoring of two stations.
4. Approve OWEB Small Grant Program Landowner Payment of \$9,100 for Santiam Wetland Enhancement Project

+ADDED to Consent Agenda+

5. Two forest plans from NRCS (Silver Creek Canyon LLC and Silverton Rock Farm LLC)
6. Bielenberg appointed Olson to review the CREP contracts.

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 April financial report. The QuickBooks reconciliation detail report showed that as of the close of business **4/30/2018** the balance held under the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) to be **\$2,480,657.48**.

The account for the 125 Flex Plan had a balance of **\$770.76 on 3/31/2018**. It will be recharged to \$5000. The balance of the District's checking account on **3/31/2018** was **\$111,188.98**. There were no bank statements for April, but the District's checking account activity report for April 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 DeSantis, Motion passed 4-1; (Olson Nay).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS Silver Creek Canyon LLC and Silverton Rock Farm LLC

- A. Presentation on Field Border Program Implementation - Recommend Funding Amount to Budget Office for FY 2018-2019 Budget

Bishop presented the Border Program Proposal to the board and answered questions. Hsu asked about the district priorities. Olson suggest doing the whole field, and Bielenberg said it would be an option if the landowner wants to. Bishop stated that they want cover crops on all the land, but this a good way to generate interest in the District's programs. It is an outright grant, not matching. Walker does not want an outright grant, but prefers match instead, and Olson asked about who the seeders would be, as he has trouble finding people in the past. Hsu suggested Hydro seeding. ***Discussion regarding incentives vs. cost share.*** Bachelor said there have been quite a few requests for conservation cover. Olson, Walker and DeSantis all have reservations about the program. ***Discussion regarding benefits of field borders.*** Olson suggested bringing it back to the board next month, after they have a time to think about it. Olson suggested a 'package' approach, tying in irrigation and the whole field approach. ***Tabled until next month.***

- B. Review draft NSWC/SWCD Agreement and Work Plans; Update on Hiring Process

Krahmer moved to accept the agreement as presented, DeSantis 2nd. Walker asked who the supervisor would be and Keppinger stated she would be. Olson would like to see a two-year contract. Discussion regarding watershed councils, and the working relationship between the district. **Motion failed 3-2 (DeSantis, Olson Nay).**

- C. Review and Approve Request for Proposal (RFP) to Perform Future SWCD Financial Audits

Olson moved for the Board to approve the RFP to perform future audits as presented. Motion was 2nd by DeSantis, Motion passed 5-0.

- D. Reimbursement for Crouse to attend Envirothon in Idaho.

Olson moved, 2nd Walker, to pay \$2509.29, for Crouse attend Envirothon. No discussion passed unanimously 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Landowner Assistance Program-Approve Recommended Funding of Applications from April

Olson moved to approve recommended funding as presented for \$37,500, Motion was 2nd by DeSantis, Motion passed 5-0.

- B. Marion SWCD Budget Committee Meeting Proposed Date of May 21st at 7pm

- C. Approve to Continue Technical Assistance Work with T. Finegan, Contractor for \$3,000

Olson moved for the Board to approve technical assistant work with T. Finegan for \$3,000. Motion was 2nd by Krahmer, Motion passed 5-0.

- D. CONNECT Conference Report – Walker stated they were long days and he attended 10 breakout sessions. He liked the stakeholder presentation and encouraged the district to find un-served populations.
- E. Staff and Directors Representing Marion SWCD at Trainings, Meetings, and Conferences - Bielenberg reminded the directors and staff that they are representing the district at conferences. Krahmer reminded everyone that you can't say "I speak for myself" when you are being paid by the District to attend.
- F. Building and Tenants: Keppinger stated there might be an agricultural organization that wants to rent the top floor. A rep from the Warm Springs Tribe will be renting an office downstairs. Olson wanted to see the numbers in moving to Chemeketa and moving back to NRCS. Keppinger is trying to get Chemeketa to come visit the board to talk about possibilities. She said there is no room at NRCS.
- G. Manager's Review: **Walker moved to start the 360-review process, Olson 2nd.** Krahmer said he did not like the 360 process. **Motion Failed 3-2 (DeSantis, Krahmer NAY).** Bielenberg will bring a review form to the next meeting for the board to look over for the managers next evaluation.

REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS, COMMITTEES, AGENCIES, STAFF

- A. Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD): Keppinger reported OACD is working on a new NRCS agreement. There are rules stating that District Directors cannot serve in a non-profit corporation.

B. Marion Co. Water Quality Advisory Meeting/Ag Heritage Program Update: Heritage program is meeting every 3 weeks.

C. Community Events/Meetings: None

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY CHAIR BIELENBERG AT 9:00 PM.

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

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Budget Committee Meeting: **Wednesday, May 21, 2018 beginning at 7:00 PM**
Location: Marion SWCD Multnomah Falls Conference Room
338 Hawthorne Ave NE, Salem, OR 97301

Budget Hearing Meeting: **Wednesday, June 20, 2018 beginning at 6:30 PM**
Location: Marion SWCD Multnomah Falls Conference Room
338 Hawthorne Ave NE, Salem, OR 97301

Next Regular Board Meeting: **Wednesday, June 20, 2018 beginning at 7:00 PM**
Location: Marion SWCD Multnomah Falls Conference Room
338 Hawthorne Ave NE, Salem, OR 97301

The Marion Soil and Water Conservation District complies with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and does not discriminate in employment based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability and genetic information, age, or membership in an employee organization. Anyone who wishes to attend a meeting but needs special accommodations, please telephone the District office 48 hours in advance at 503-391-9927.