

**Marion Soil and Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting – 11/15/2018
*Handouts and attachments available on request***

Location: Marion SWCD Conference Room
338 Hawthorne Ave. NE, Salem, OR 97301
Date: Thursday, November 15, 2018
Time: 6:03 PM to 8:55 PM

Approved: 12/05/2018
Recorder: Tom Wilson
Chair: Tim Bielenberg

ATTENDANCE:

Directors

Bielenberg, Tim
Walker, Scott
Krahmer, Doug
Hsu, Terry

Associates

Hardy, Leland
Budeau, Dave
Fields, Mark

Staff

Keppinger, Jane
Wilson, Tom
Bishop, Brandon

Guests / Partners

Ries, Russell (auditor)

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Bielenberg called the Board Meeting to order at 6:03 PM. Introductions were made, and Administrative Assistant Wilson noted that the meeting was being recorded.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION / SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / SPECIAL BOARD ACTION:

Keppinger stated that staff did a great job and the Water Rights Boot Camp was a success. Hsu shared his compliments regarding the conference. Most costs were covered, with a district net output of around \$280 for a 200-person event.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

AUDIT REVIEW:

Mr. Ries stated the bottom of page 2 has the clean/unmodified opinion of the auditors. There are two financial statements, both based on a modified cash basis, varying only in presentation. (See handout #1 page 11 for traditional presentation of funds). This year, there is a new footnote (G) on Page 20 regarding disclosure of tax abatements. "Deficiency" sentence noted in last paragraph on page 25 is a typo and needs to be removed. Mr. Ries answered questions from the board and will send a final draft next week. Krahmer and Bielenberg thanked Keppinger and Ortiz for their organization and thoroughness.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION:

- Walker wanted to talk about the potential move to Chemeketa CC (added to Unfinished Business: E).
- Hsu would like to talk more about conservation on the ground, and Keppinger stated she would like to wait until after the new directors start in January.
- Walker would like a report on the Elections from Keppinger. Keppinger explained that Marion County did not receive the request from ODA to count write in votes for Zones 3 & 5. This has delayed the results until later this month.
- Hsu wanted to discuss changing the time of the board meeting (added it to New Business: G).

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- Walker would like the wording changed on Page 3 (New Business: E) regarding 'fondness' for the process, which will state "by not utilizing the review committee, the process was being short circuited".
- Budeau suggested changing the wording regarding whether the review committee had seen the proposal in the same section, and noted the date was wrong. Assistant Wilson make the changes to the October minutes as noted above.

A. **MARION SWCD MINUTES:**

A1. 10/3/2018 - Board Meeting Minutes

B. **ACTION ITEMS:**

B1. Approve Presented NRCS Conservation Plans: None

B2. Approve CLEAR Grant:

Scott (\$616) and Gubser Elementary Schools (\$955.78) for Minto Brown field trips.

B3. Salem Audubon:

Payment for purchase of seed mix (**\$6,910.00 – board approved funding in 2017**).

ACTION: Krahmer moved for the Board to approve and adopt the items contained in the Consent Agenda, with changes to previous minutes as noted above. 2nd by Walker, Passed unanimously 4-0.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Keppinger provided the Board with the October financial report. The QuickBooks reconciliation detail report showed that as of the close of business **10/31/2018** the balance held under the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) to be **\$1,977,937.64**.

The account for the 125 Flex Plan had a balance of **\$3,460.74 on 10/31/2018**.

The balance of the District's checking account on **09/30/2018** was **\$119,149.02** The District's checking account activity report for October was reviewed and all questions regarding the checks paid out were addressed. Line 7 on second to last page regarding interest is a typo, it should be the same as on page #1 (\$856.31).

ACTION: Krahmer moved for the Board to approve the October financial report as amended to reflect typo on second to last page. 2nd by Walker, passed 4 - 0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. **SWCD February 2019 Annual Meeting - Discuss and Approve Possible Entertainment:**

Discussion regarding a possible improve group or a comedian. Tabled until next meeting, December 05, 2018. Keppinger will get costs for the board.

- B. Puttling River Watershed Council OWEB Grant-Grant application submission needs to move to Spring of 2019 for SWCD Grant Match Funds:

PRWC Director Rankin was sick; tabled until next meeting, December 05, 2018.

- C. Follow-up discussion on Streak Horned Lark Safe Harbor Agreement:

Budeau stated he has a safe harbor agreement for Oregon Chub on his property, and said he felt that it was an incredible incentive. Discussion regarding the role of the district. By consensus, the board decided not to pursue this program, as there are other more appropriate entities in the region to do so.

- D. Update on 2 LAP Projects Approved at October Meeting and Related Topics:

Bishop explained that the LAP projects presented last month were cancelled, as the applicants were put off by the perceived lack of support from the board. He handed out info on several cover crop programs from around the country as examples as what he would like to implement here. He requested the board review them for further. Discussion regarding the importance of cover crops. This topic will be reviewed at a later meeting. Hardy would like to see an agronomy only program, separate from the LAP.

- E. Potential Chemeketa C.C. Move:

Keppinger stated that they won't have costs available until after the design is finished, but the process is still in fluctuation. Keppinger would like to use any classroom space if available. Discussion regarding the need for more meeting space. Hsu suggested staff make a list of needs and bring it to the board.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Accept 2017-2018 Financial Audit:

ACTION: Krahmer moved for the Board to accept the 2017-18 Financial Audit as presented. 2nd by Walker, passed 4 - 0.

- B. Adopting Current NRCS Unit Cost List:

ACTION: Krahmer moved for the Board to approve current NRCS Unit Cost as presented. 2nd by Hsu, passed 4 - 0.

- C. Information on SWCD Branding and Updating Logo – Approve Budget:

ACTION: Krahmer moved for the Board to approve the branding and logo budget for up to \$4000. 2nd by Walker, passed 4- 0.

- D. Approve LAP Landowner Payments, Project Extension Deadlines: 20-1-004 (Silver Falls School District; \$3,295)

ACTION: Krahmer moved for the Board to approve payment to Silver Falls School District for \$3,295 as presented. 2nd by Walker, passed 4- 0.

- E. Approve Cost for LIDAR Imaging in Portion of Marion County

ACTION: Krahmer moved for the Board to approve the \$1833.33 payment for LIDAR imaging of Marion County as presented. 2nd by Hsu, passed 4 - 0.

F. Discuss and Approve to Upgrade Conference Room Audio/Visual Equipment

ACTION: Walker moved for the Board to approve the A/V upgrade for up to \$2500 as presented. 2nd by Krahmer, passed 4- 0.

G. Board Meeting Times:

ACTION: Hsu moved to change the Board Meeting to 6:30 PM for standard time. 2nd by Krahmer, passed 4 - 0.

REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS, COMMITTEES, AGENCIES, STAFF:

A. Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD): Fall strategy meeting was in Newport to look at their organizational structure. Discussed many topics (i.e. by-laws, resolutions, communications, dues, voting).

B. Ag Heritage Commission Update: Krahmer stated the rules are open for public comment, to be adopted by OWEB in January.

C. Community Outreach: Walker stated that positions are due to the community commission on solar arrays. The last meeting is on November 29th, 2018.

ACTION: Walker moved, Krahmer 2nd, for the board to send a letter to the commission (Attn: Joe Fennimore, Marion County Planning Director) recommending a "site specific plan with erosion control". Passed 4 - 0.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY CHAIR BIELENBERG AT 8:55 PM.

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

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Next Regular Board Meeting:

Wednesday, December 5, 2018 beginning at 6:30 PM

Location:

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

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