

**Marion Soil and Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting – 03/06/2019
*Handouts and attachments available on request***

Location: Marion SWCD Conference Room
338 Hawthorne Ave. NE, Salem, OR 97301
Date: Wednesday, March 6, 2019
Time: 6:32 PM to 9:42 PM

Approved: April 3, 2019
Recorder: Tom Wilson
Chair: Terry Hsu

ATTENDANCE:

Directors

Bielenberg, Tim
Walker, Scott, Sec./Treas.
Hsu, Terry, Chair
Koch, Rochelle
Olson, Darin

Associates

Budeau, Dave
Fields, Mark
Hardy, Leland

Staff

Keppinger, Jane
Wilson, Tom
Bishop, Brandon

Guests / Partners

Alexander, Catherine (Straub Outdoors)
Nusbaum, Eric (OACD)
Goldsmith, Josh (guest)
Bachelor, Les (NRCS)

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Hsu called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Introductions were made and Administrative Assistant Wilson stated the meeting was being recorded.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION / SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / SPECIAL BOARD ACTION: Bielenberg stated that the staff did a great job at the annual meeting. Keppinger complimented Hsu for his performance as chair and violinist. Keppinger would like to start planning for the 2021 Annual Meeting (50 years). She also said that the last round of LAP has been turned in. Review committee meets March 20th.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Alexander passed out registrations for summer camp and she would like the district's help in getting the word out. She thanked the board for their financial support to pay for scholarships. Straub Outdoors are partnering closely with Highland Elementary and all materials are bi-lingual.

BOARD PRESENTATION: (Handout #1 Director Handbook) - Nusbaum (Oregon Dept. of Ag) stated that ORS 568.550 (page 18) gives the powers and authority of the board limited by statute (board must have explicit permission).

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

- Hsu would like to reintroduce the Programming, Admin and Education Outreach committees (new business A.0)
- Walker would like to talk about the separate funds (catastrophic, general, unanticipated). Hsu assigned it to a committee.

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT:

- Bachelor stated the local workgroup meeting was the smallest in a couple of years, but it was a productive meeting. This is the last year for Champeog Program area. Howell Prairie Program Area will be finished in 2021.
- New focus areas are a quad county (Marion, Polk, Linn, West Multnomah) hazelnut erosion conservation cover crops and North Coast Willamette Basin dairy production.
- March 15 EQIP funds might not be available, so program might be postponed until funding is secured.

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

A. **MARION SWCD MINUTES**

- A1. ~~Approve January 2, 2019 Meeting Minutes~~ Moved to **Old Business A1**
- A2. Approve February 19, 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes

B. **ACTION ITEMS:**

- B1. Approve NRCS Conservation Plans (None Presented)
- B2. USGS Invoice 1st Qtr. for \$6405 for 2 Flow Monitoring Stations
- B3. CLEAR Grant – Wisdom of the Elders, Inc.-12 Classroom Education Trainings for \$1,000

ACTION: Olson moved for the Board to approve the consent agenda as presented (removing A1). 2nd by Walker, PASSED 5-0

FINANCIAL REPORT: Balances as of 2/28/2019:

- Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) to be **\$2,587,817.76.**
- 125 Flex Plan Account was **\$13,457.61.**
- Checking account was **\$104,270.71.**

ACTION: Bielenberg moved for the Board to approve the February financial report as presented. 2nd by Koch, PASSED 4 – 1 (Olson NAY).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Discuss format of February 6, 2019 board meeting minutes and then approve them and (*from Consent Agenda A1*) January 2, 2019 minutes.

Discussion regarding role of the Secretary in minutes production. **NO VOTE.**

ACTION: Bielenberg moved to accept the January 02, 2019 board minutes as redacted by the chair, Olson 2nd. MOTION PASSED 4-1 (Walker NAY).

ACTION: Bielenberg moved to accept the February 06, 2019 board minutes as presented, Olson 2nd. MOTION PASSED 4-1 (Walker NAY).

- B. Further Discuss Manager Review Process/Approve Amount to Spend

- HR Answers will cost \$2200-2500 and will include staff, board, and external partners.
- Hsu wants to look to Cascade Employers to do the review, Hardy agrees. Bielenberg wants to get quotes.
- Walker thinks having different people than last time do the review would be preferable to get a new take on the process.

- C. Review/Approve Additional Language to clarify Landowner Assistance Program Policy

Olson suggested the last sentence, “The cooperator will accept...” be changed to “The board’s decision to either approve or deny their (the cooperators’) request for additional funds is final.”

ACTION: Hsu moved for the Board to Approve Additional Language (as stated above) to clarify Landowner Assistance Program Policy. 2nd by Bielenberg, PASSED 5-0.

D. Appoint Budget Committee Applicants

ACTION: Walker moved for the Board to Appoint Budget Committee Applicants Tim Johnson & Sarah Bishop. 2nd by Bielenberg, PASSED 6-0

- E. Handout Draft of Revised 5yr. Strategic Plan: *Information only*. Koch requested a list of best management practices. Keppinger will put together the most popular BMP's and get them to her.
- F. Update on SWCD Logo Designs: *Information only*. Keppinger stated the logos are being fine-tuned based on voting and feedback at the Annual meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

A0. New Subcommittees will be appointed by Hsu via email. *Discussion regarding letting associate director and staff vote*. Keppinger encouraged the board to carefully consider a committee's deliberation and discussion.

ACTION: Bielenberg moved to let associate directors from the education and outreach committee vote, 2nd Olson PASSED 5-0.

A. Discuss Responding to OACD on Legislative Action/Bills Between SWCD Meetings

Walker expressed concern about acting in a timely basis and suggested a board member review legislation OACD alerts the districts to. Hsu would like the board member to come back to the board and inform them before taking any action. *Discussion regarding the process*. Hsu postponed discussion.

B. Consider/Approve Sponsoring Corn for 2019 Aumsville Corn Festival per Request

Bielenberg suggested to pay a portion of the costs. Olson would like to see the money spread around the district, as they have supported the Corn Festival for several years. Walker is concerned how the festival fits into the mission of the district.

ACTION: Bielenberg moved for the Board to give the festival \$1000, 2nd Koch. Motion Failed 2-3 (Bielenberg, Koch YAY).

C. Consider/Approve Sponsoring "Agricultural Biodiversity on Western Farms: Conservation Practices Working for Farmers Conference": Spring of 2020 per Request.

ACTION: Walker moved for the Board to approve sponsoring the Agricultural Biodiversity on Western Farms: Conservation Practices Working Farmers Conference for \$1000 and request a CLEAR write up of the activities and how they spent the money: 2nd by Koch, PASSED 5 – 0.

D. Discuss April thru October 2019 Board Meeting Start Time:

ACTION: Walker moved to start meetings as 7pm. 2nd by Hsu, PASSED 5-0

E. Handout Draft OACD Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation for Review: Keppinger asked that the board look at the information and come back to the board read to make the decision. *Discussion regarding the new by-laws and role of staff.*

F. Handout Marion SWCD New Conservation Cover Crop Program Draft Outline: Bishop gave a sample draft handout to the board for them to read for discussion at the next meeting.

G. Request Agenda Topics for April 3, 2019 Board Meeting: Can be submitted to Hsu during the month.

REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS, COMMITTEES, AGENCIES, STAFF (10 minutes max. per report)

Report-Ad Hoc Building Committee – Committee Member Walker suggested the committee be given a deadline to get back to the board. He said that the landlord has been looking to work with the district in marketing the building and that there are two nonprofits looking to rent the excess office space.

Upcoming SWCD Board Meeting and Event Dates:

- March 9, 2019 - Marion SWCD Native Plant Sale 9am to 4pm at Bauman Farms
- April 3, 2019 at 7 PM
- April 9, 2019 OACD Annual Board Meeting – Sun River, Oregon

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY CHAIR HSU AT 9:42 PM.

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

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Next Regular Board Meeting:

Wednesday, April 3, 2019 beginning at 7:00 PM

Location:

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

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