

**MARION SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING**

Marion SWCD committee meetings are open to the public

Location: Marion Soil and Water Conservation District                      Start Time: 9:00 AM

Small Conference Room    338 Hawthorne Ave. NE, Salem, OR 97301

Telephone: 503-391-9927    Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2020

All members signed in on the registration sheet and in attendance were:

Directors: Doug Krahmer; Chairman, Rochelle Koch and Dave Budeau, members.

Staff: Brandon Bishop, Meredith Hoffman and Sarah Hamilton.

Guests: None

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman Doug Krahmer called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

**OLD BUSINESS: Grant Limitation Policy:** At the last meeting the committee answered a series of questions that the board had regarding the Grant Limitation Policy. This information did not go out in the minutes and was not presented at the board meeting. Members refreshed themselves on the questions and answers. The Q & A will be mailed out in the board packets to review before the next meeting. Dave wondered whether this is the final step in the process, the committee views this as just an answer sheet for the board's questions, and the board can take action based on the original request as presented.

**NEW BUSINESS: LAP Program Cycle 3.** Brandon reviewed the LAP progress; the technical committee will be meeting Thursday at 8:45 a.m. to review the 16 cycle 2 grant applications. If passed, we will have 33 applications to be awarded from Round One and Two and have \$6,170 available for funding. Brandon and Sarah indicated that there were projects available that could be funded, and if we transfer the \$40,000.000 remaining from the SPG fund, we could fund an additional 6.8 projects.

The consensus of the committee was for the Chairman to ask the board to transfer the \$40,000 left in the SPG line item to the LAP line item at the board meeting. The next LAP round is scheduled for April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**NEW BUSINESS: Technical Grant Funding Level Recommendations for 2020-2021:** Brandon prepared a summary sheet indicating the last few years funding of LAP, SPG and Cover Crop Funding and asked for recommendations for the coming fiscal year.

Brandon, Doug and Dave all gave input as to the funding levels they would like to see. Meredith noted that the LAP participation has more than doubled and Cover Crop is an additional new program; using the same amount of technical staff. The district had great potential to get more projects on the ground, but more technical assistance is needed to provide adequate levels of service to those we are already working with.

Doug wondered if the new online application platform would address this. Meredith noted this new program will have learning curve, and it is unknown at this time what it will be capable of doing.

The committee indicated they would like to see a budget with \$260,000.00 in LAP funds, \$60,000.00 in SPG funds and \$45,000.00 in Cover Crop. Brandon will present this information to Jane, who will be compiling the 2020-2021 budget soon.

Dave mentioned the need for an Evaluation Presentation on the Cover Crop program. Brandon mentioned that we discussed this at the last meeting and need to continue to a final draft.

Rochelle is also interested in training on Regenerative Agriculture by Brandon from his recent seminar in California

Next meeting: The normal meeting date members agreed to meet Wednesday, February 19, at 11:30 a.m. sharp in the small conference room.

TOPICS: Cover Crop evaluation – Final Draft. Enhancing customer service for our clients

**Adjournment:** Chairman Krahmer adjourned the meeting at 9:26 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Meredith Hoffman*

Conservation Planner / Water Quality Specialist