






**Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (MSWCD)
Education and Outreach Committee Meeting
Tuesday, September 19, 2023, 11:00 am to 12:00 pm**


HB2560 requires that all Oregon public meetings held by a governing body of a public body, excluding executive sessions, must provide to members of the public an opportunity to access and attend the meeting by telephone, video or other electronic or virtual means. This meeting will be held by video conference and by telephone.

-  **Link to Video Conference:** [\(Zoom\) Meeting Link](#)
-  **Meeting Call in Number:** 1 (253) 215 - 8782
- Meeting ID:** 834 9712 8477 | **Passcode:** 316646
-  **Staff Contact:** Heath Keirstead, heath.keirstead@marionswcd.net

Agenda

Chair: Call Meeting to Order, Agenda Changes & Approval

| Item # | Topic | Presenter | Purpose | Time |
|----------------------------|---|--------------|--|--------|
| 1 | Introductions | H. Keirstead | Procedure | 5 min |
| 2 | Public Comment | Chair | Feedback | 5 min |
| 3 | Review Minutes from July 18, 2023 | H. Keirstead | Procedure | 5 min |
| 4 | CLEAR Grant request: Salem Cloth Project Nature Play | H. Keirstead | Determine recommendation to present to the Board | 5 min |
| 5 | CLEAR Grant request: Cascade View Christian School Outdoor School | H. Keirstead | Determine recommendation to present to the Board | 5 min |
| 6 | CLEAR Grant request: N. Salem HS Natural Resource Education Field Trips | H. Keirstead | Determine recommendation to present to the Board | 5 min |
| 7 | CLEAR Grant request: Gervais Walking Path | H. Keirstead | Determine recommendation to present to the Board | 5 min |
| 8 | Updates | Staff | Discussion | 10 min |
| Meeting Adjournment | | Chair | | |

 Marion Soil and Water Conservation District complies with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. If special physical, language, or other accommodations are needed for this meeting, please advise the District Manager at 503-391-9927 as soon as possible, and at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Agenda Brief

| Item # | Brief | Action |
|--------|---|--|
| 4 | <p>CLEAR Grant request: Salem Cloth Project Nature Play</p> <p>Salem Environmental Education and Salem Cloth Project are partnering to host free Nature Play sessions for families with children 2-5 years old. By offering guided outdoor nature play, we will not only begin to foster curiosity for the natural environment, but also a sense of stewardship within the children and parents. Nature Play will be a year-long, monthly outdoor class that is guided by instructors utilizing the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies' Growing Up Wild and other natural play curriculum. Sessions will be catered to preschool aged students (2-5 years old) and focused on water, soil and natural resource education. Each session will include a literature component, imaginative play and/or an instructional activity. Each activity will be designed for parents to easily replicate at home, adding natural play content to their parenting toolbox. Sessions will be broken up into 3-month blocks beginning in October 2023 and ending in September 2024. The first year will be a pilot program to assess the program implementation, success and overall design. After one year, SCP and SEE will evaluate the program and adjust as needed.</p> | <p>Develop recommendation to present to the Board in October.</p> |
| 5 | <p>CLEAR Grant request: Cascade View Christian School Outdoor School</p> <p>During this event, students will engage in lessons and activities pertaining to watershed ecology, conservation and sustainability, and scientific inquiry. Lessons will be taught by school staff and volunteer educators and will align with school, state, and NGSS standards for 5th and 6th grade.</p> | <p>Develop recommendation to present to the Board in October.</p> |
| 6 | <p>CLEAR Grant request: N. Salem HS Natural Resource Education Field Trips</p> <p>The goal of this project is to get youth outdoors learning about natural resources and conservation on Field Trips during the 2023-24 school year. Students enrolled in environmental science, biology, and members of the environmental club will be invited to participate. Here is an outline of tentative Field Trips, locations, and groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Forest Inquiry Project at Silver Falls for Biology (Late Sept) 2) Willamette Mission State Park Service Learning for Environmental Science and/or Environmental Club 3) Marion County Youth Farm for Environmental Science and/or Environmental Club 4) Ankeny or Basket Slough for Environmental Club 5) Willamette National Forest for Environmental Science and/or Environmental Club | <p>Develop recommendation to present to the Board in October.</p> |
| 7 | <p>CLEAR Grant request: Gervais Walking Path</p> <p>This request is to continue maintenance and expansion of our community walking path. We have a piece of land that has a stream on the backside of it, we have used grant funding sources to turn this unused portion of ground into a resource for our community to be able to exercise and enjoy nature close to home. It has provided our cross-country team a place to train and</p> | <p>Develop recommendation to present to the Board in October.</p> |

our staff a break from the office. our students walk the path during class times, and our horticulture class has used the path when discussing invasive and native plants. Our small diverse community does not often get a chance to enjoy natural walking paths so close to home. We hope to expand not just the path, but the benches along it, and eventually a learning pavilion.

| | | |
|----------|--|-------------------|
| 8 | If time permits, Kassi and Heath will provide updates on their projects. | Discussion |
|----------|--|-------------------|

Meeting Minutes

| | Attendance | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Committee Members | Present/ Absent | Staff Guests |
| Darin Olson | Present | |
| Scott Walker | Absent | |
| Mark Fields | Absent | |
| Heath Keirstead | Present | |
| Kassi Roosth | Present | |

| Item # | Minutes | Action/ Vote Count |
|---------------|--|---|
| 1 | Heath gave introductions of everyone present. | |
| 2 | No public comment. | |
| 3 | No changes to minutes. | Minutes approved. |
| 4 | Everyone recommends funding the Salem Cloth Project Nature Play application in full. | The committee recommends funding to the board. |
| 5 | Everyone recommends funding the Cascade View Christan School Outdoor School in full. | The committee recommends funding to the board. |
| 6 | Everyone recommends funding the N. Salem HS Natural Resource Education Field Trips in full. | The committee recommends funding to the board. |
| 7 | Everyone feels that the Gervais walking path request does not have a natural resource education component to meet the CLEAR grant criteria. Heath will follow up with the applicant and reshare suggestions to improve the application to meet eligibility. The applicant will have the chance to revise and resubmit. | The committee denied the funding request. Heath will invite them to resubmit once they have addressed the lack of info on how it meets the grant criteria. |
| 8 | Kassi shared about participating with the Mid-Willamette Outreach group's Salmon Celebration at Bush's Pasture Park and teaching about native pollinators for homeschool day at the Oregon Garden. Heath shared about the upcoming salmon watch field trips and that 18 schools will be involved this year. She also talked about working on the education and outreach work plan, the Fall bulb sale for the upcoming pollinator symposium partnered with OSU Master Gardeners, as well as beginning to | |

plan for next year's conservation club and First
Friday events with staff.
