

Committee members are reminded to disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to discussion of relevant agenda items.

DRAFT



**Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (MSWCD)
Education and Outreach Committee Meeting Agenda **DRAFT****

**17 September, 2025
11:00 AM to 12:30 PM**

Our mission is to partner with people in support of thriving lands, clean water, and healthy habitats. We do this through planning, technical assistance, funding, and education.

This meeting will be held by video conference (Zoom), and by telephone.

Call In Number: 1-253-215-8782 | **Meeting ID:** 821 3239 7029 | **Passcode:** 465879

Staff Contact: Kassi Roosth | kassi.roosth@marionswcd.net

Committee members are reminded to disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest prior to discussion of relevant agenda items.

Agenda Changes and/or Additions	Chair
1. Public Comment	Chair 5 minutes
2. April 15th, 2025 Minutes Action	Chair 5 minutes
3. CLEAR Grant Request: Community Roots School Outdoor Classroom Action	Roosth 15 minutes
4. Staff Updates Informational	Staff 10 minutes

Meeting Adjourned – 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.

Oregon residents can file a written grievance with the Marion SWCD regarding a violation of the Public Meetings Law within 30 days of the alleged violation. The grievance should include details about the alleged violation and be submitted to the Marion SWCD District Manager for review.



**Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (MSWCD)
Education and Outreach Committee Meeting Minutes April 15, 2025**

DRAFT

11:04 AM to 12:28 PM

Facilitator: Kassi Roosth

Recorded by: Sarah Hamilton

Approved: DATE

Committee Member Attendance

Peggy Hart (Committee Chair) - Director	Present
Noah Justice - Director	Present
Kassi Roosth - Staff	Present
Sarah Hamilton - Staff	Present
Member #5 - Vacant	Vacant

Staff

Guests

Brenda Sanchez
Susan Ortiz
Becky Pineda
Cesar Zamora

None

Note: All documents and materials displayed or referenced are retained in the Education and Outreach Committee Meeting file at the Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (Marion SWCD or District).

Minutes

Call to Order-Chair: 11:04 AM

Announcements – Roosth has been promoted from Urban Areas Planner to Education Specialist

Agenda Additions or Changes - None

1. **Public Comment** – No Comments
2. **Board Updates on Committee Recommendations** - None
3. **Review February 18th, 2025, Minutes**

Action: N. Justice motioned to accept as presented the February 18, 2025 Education & Outreach Committee meeting minutes, 2nd by K. Roosth. No further discussion. MOTION PASSED (Aye-4 [Roosth, Justice, Hamilton, and Hart], Opposed-0).

4. Transfer funds to the CLEAR Grant Budget

Not enough funds remain in the CLEAR Grant Line Item for this fiscal year to cover Agenda Item 5: CLEAR Grant Request. There is one CLEAR Grant application. Unspent funds are still available under the Education Funds Line Item in the budget. This request is to move \$5000 from that line item to this to cover the CLEAR Grant request. This is the last Clear Grant Application before the end of the fiscal year.

There was a discussion about the amount of money required to cover this grant. The final number required may be somewhat higher or lower than \$5,000, as some allotted funds have not yet been paid out. The exact amount required will be presented at the Board Meeting, It was suggested to make a motion to move \$5,000 and make an amendment to cover any extra amount that might be needed.

Action: N. Justice motioned to recommend that the board move \$5000 from the Education Funds Line Item to the CLEAR Grants Line Item to cover the Rooted Resilience Grant. 2nd by P. Hart. No further discussion. MOTION PASSED (Aye-4 [Roosth, Justice, Hamilton, and Hart], Opposed-0)

Action: P. Hart motioned to amend the recommendation as needed to cover the Rooted Resilience CLEAR Grant. 2nd by N. Justice. No further discussion. MOTION PASSED (Aye-4 [Roosth, Justice, Hamilton, and Hart], Opposed-0)

5. CLEAR Grant Request: Rooted Resilience- Olde Moon Farm Land Stewardship

Rooted Resilience is requesting \$5,000 to offer three, one-week-long summer camps led by trained educators and youth coaches. These camps focus on education and skill-building: land stewardship and reciprocity, handicraft, community building, expressive arts, herbalism & foraging, wilderness skills, and self-care. Their sustainability focuses this year will be on planting natives and pollinator supports at Olde Moon Farm, as well as education on soil health and cycles of composting.

\$5000 requested would support:

- \$1,332- This covers 6 reduced-rate scholarships at a rate of \$222/youth
- \$500- materials/supplies
- \$2918 for program implementation and paying full-time educator
- \$250 payout for SAA

\$35,485 of in-kind income and expenses will be provided.

N. Justice asked for clarification: In the application, The box was checked for Sustainable Land Use instead of Education. S. Ortiz Clarified that the CLEAR Grant application is based on the old strategic plan and Education is not an option. This is to be addressed in the future by aligning the application with the new strategic plan.

N. Justice expressed concern about the farm using this program for free plants and labor. S. Hamilton suggested that the actual value of plants and labor was minimal. K. Roosth suggested that hand-on project were of high educational value.

S. Hamilton had questions about the budget. The numbers in the application did not add up. K. Roosth agreed to fix this error.

P. Hart questioned the spiritual points on the application. S. Ortiz pointed out district policy is to not discriminate against religious or spiritual programs.

There was discussion about an LLC (Rooted Resilience) using a nonprofit organization (Silverton Arts Association) as a fiscal agent in order to be eligible for a grant. With partner grants, applicants are allowed to have a fiscal sponsor. P. Hart asked if they would have been able to apply without a fiscal sponsor? According to S. Ortiz, eligibility is limited: For-Profit entities are not eligible, but Community Organizations are eligible and are not easily defined. Since this is a grey area, the group would like the Administration Committee to address this in the future.

The project evaluations average 85% and all but 1 committee member reviewed the application.

Action: P. Hart motioned to recommend that the board fund in the CLEAR Grant Application: Rooted Resilience- Olde Moon Farm Land Stewardship at the full request of \$5000, pending fixing a minor budget error. 2nd by K. Roosth. No further discussion. MOTION PASSED (Aye-4 [Roosth, Justice, Hamilton, and Hart], Opposed-0).

Adjourn: Chair Hart adjourned the meeting at 12:28 PM



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 accommodation is needed for this meeting, please contact the District Manager at 503-391-9927 as soon as possible, and at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.



**Marion Soil and Water Conservation District
Education and Outreach Committee Meeting – Agenda Item Brief**

Agenda Item Name: CLEAR Grant Request: Community Roots Outdoor Classroom

Date: September 17th, 2025

Community Roots School in Silverton provides weekly outdoor education for 100 K–6 students, focusing on gardening, ecology, and sustainability. The Outdoor Classroom features gardens, a chicken coop, orchard, compost systems, and water catchment infrastructure. Due to budget cuts, the program now relies on fundraising. Requested funds will support instructional fees and materials for projects such as enhancing native plant areas, building bioswales, improving water catchment and drip irrigation, compost bin repairs, and purchasing soil, gravel, tools, and secure storage to keep the space safe and functional for student learning.

Budget Category	In-Kind / Matching Funds	Marion SWCD CLEAR Grant Funds
Supplies and Materials	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
Instruction, including fees	\$8,475.00	\$4,000.00
Substitute Teacher Cost	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transportation, i.e. busing	\$0.00	\$0.00
Budget Totals	8975	5000

Requested Action:

Recommend forwarding this request for funding at the October Board of Directors meeting.

Proposed By:

Kassi Roosth