

**CLATSOP SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES –NOVEMBER 13, 2013
CLATSOP SWCD OFFICE
ASTORIA, OREGON**

Those in attendance:

Mike Seppa – Director at large 1, Chair
Jerome Arnold – Director Zone 1
Katherine Kahl – Director Zone 2, Secretary/Treasurer
Ted Warila – Director Zone 3
John McKesson – Director Zone 4
Misty Metcalf Ogier – Office Manager
Wendi Agalzoff-LaRue – District Technician
Nathan Herr – CREP Technician
Tria Yang – NRCS District Conservationist
Kari Hollander – Columbia SWCD

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Mike Seppa called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

INTRODUCTIONS

The Board welcomed new Natural Resource Conservation Service District Conservationist, Tria Yang. Introductions were conducted in his behalf.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting will be held at the usual OSU Extension conference room 231 location on December 11, 2013 at 10:00 am.

MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes, October 9, 2013 - *The Chair entertained a motion to approve the October 9, 2013 regular meeting minutes, John McKesson moved, Ted Warila second, motion approved unanimously.*

FINANCIAL

The Office Manager presented a report on general fund budget vs. actual, a list of transactions for the checking account and petty cash for the month of October 2013. *The Chair entertained approval of the report by consensus of the Board, report approved unanimously.* The office manager provided an update on the ongoing phone and internet upgrade progress. The office is scheduled to back up and upload emails to the new office 365 system in December 2013. The office manager explained the various challenges for the internet service to the office.

ACTION ITEMS

CREP – Nathan Herr. Nathan reported that he received a phone call from Meta at OWEB to say that the CREP grant will be denied but has not received a denial letter at the time of the meeting. So Nathan will be done in Clatsop as of December 31, 2013.

Kari wanted to extend Nathan for assistance in the target area and perhaps have a rural living field day workshop for Columbia/Clatsop County in the spring. Kari also reported

that upon attendance of the OACD conference, she would like to encourage directors to come together to build the Basin. She will be scheduling a North Coast Basin meeting in February.

NEW BUSINESS

RMA Grant – *Wendi presented the Risk Management Agency agreement for providing soil health training to crop producers in the amount of \$6,214.00, Ted Warila moved, John McKesson second, motion approved unanimously.*

Upland Weed Control grant application – *Wendi presented a grant application proposal for upland weed control in the amount of \$7,810.00, John McKesson moved, Katherine Kahl second, motion approved unanimously.*

Riparian & Aquatic weed control – *Wendi presented a grant application proposal for Riparian & aquatic weed control in the amount of \$23,826.00, Ted Warila moved, John McKesson second, motion approved unanimously.*

Discussion followed in regards to developing a hand out on technical outreach for replanting treated knotweed areas. Also the importance of knowing about the spray we use.

GPS Assistance – Wendi presented software needed to put the weed information into a pdf. When sending it with the grant application. Adobe software vs. Nitro software was compared. *Jerome Arnold moved to purchase the adobe software in the amount of \$170 out of line item office equipment of the general fund, John McKesson seconds, motion approved unanimously.*

OLD BUSINESS

Cullaby Creek Landowner update – The Board reviewed the background of these projects, the emails and pictures. The Board discussed the problem of not being able to address the same resource concern with grant funding. The Board discussed the issue and determined that staff did not need to spend any more time on the issue.

Election 2014 – John McKesson asked to have this item on the agenda to have the office manager to share what was happening with some money things. The Office Manager shared that the Business Plan (which is needed before the Board goes for a Tax base) is close to final approval and asked for some assistance with determining the time period. John asked for the explanation on whatever happened to the additional funds that we were seeking from another District as suggested by ODA. The Office Manager explained that at one time Eric Nusbaum and John Byers from ODA had approached office staff for a plan of what we could do if we received additional funds from another District that was willing to share their additional OWEB funding. We prepared a plan for Eric to present to an anonymous SWCD and the plan to give all or a portion of their additional OWEB funding to Clatsop was turned down by that District's Board is what the Office Manager understands of the situation from John Byers at ODA.

The Office Manager shared that the feasibility to apply for a tax base during the 2014 election seems unlikely. No Director has come forward to take on the leadership of beginning the process. Mike shared that he did not have the time and doesn't see that the Board as a whole has the time it takes to devote to the process especially to get it done by

next November. John McKesson shared concern over trying to get a tax base with our County in compression and the enough people to share in the work. The office Manager shared her hope is that our actions as staff and directors would always be such that help build support for Clatsop SWCD even if we don't apply for a tax base and when Directors are recruiting during election time that it would be preferential for new recruits to hopefully have the time to advocate for the District in seeking a tax base. John McKesson announced that he would not be running for re-election at the end of his term.

REPORTS

District Technician – Wendi Agalzoff-LaRue. Report reviewed. See report.

CREP Technician – Nathan Herr. See report. Nathan reported that the Ilg property has sold and the new landowner from Gaston would like to continue the program.

NRCS – Tria Yang. Tria reported that one hoop house has been completed and closed. He will review the 49N high tunnel. Mitch will be introducing Tria to project landowners.

BOARD MEMBERS

Director Zone 1 – Jerome Arnold. Jerome reported on the Ecola Creek restoration project on the front page Daily Astorian article.

Director Zone 2 – Katherine Kahl. No report.

Director Zone 3 – Ted Warila. No report.

Director Zone 4 – John McKesson. John reported that his property tax Real Market Value for his building dropped and discussed flood insurance being reflected in property tax value relief.

Director Zone 5 – Wayne Carmichael. Absent.

Director at large position 1 – Mike Seppa reported that he is going to the North Coast Watershed Council meeting and discussed councils consolidating.

Director at large position 2 – Cary Johnson. Absent.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Office Manager suggested the Board think about the possibility of moving the District office to the former CREST office where the Coastcom high speed internet is already installed. The Board discussed.

ADJOURN

Meeting was unanimously adjourned at 11:42 AM.

MINUTES APPROVED: _____, **CHAIR**

DATE: _____