

**Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District  
Board Meeting Minutes  
June 11, 2019**

**Board Members Present:** Matt Pihl Anna Jesse Eldon Jossi  
John McDonald Jerry Ward Steve VanGrunsven

**Others Present:** Kelly Dawes, TSWCD Judy Marsh, TSWCD  
Lacey Townsend, TSWCD Randy Lawrence, CWS  
Aaron Horne Dr. Megan Horst, PSU

**Item 1 - Call meeting to order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair, John McDonald, at 6:33 pm.

**Item 2 - Agenda**

John McDonald moved to adopt the June 11, 2019, Board Agenda as corrected. Matt Pihl seconded. **Passed unanimously.**

John McDonald brought up for the Board to consider doing a consented agenda next month which would include the agenda and minutes only.

**Item 3 - Minutes**

May 8, 2019 Contract Committee Meeting Minutes were missing from the June Board Meeting Packet. They will be voted on at the July Board Meeting.

Steve VanGrunsven moved to adopt the May 14, 2019, Board Meeting Minutes. Eldon Jossi seconded. **Passed unanimously.**

**Item 4 - Public Comment**

No public comment.

Introductions were made.

**Item 5 - Presentation: Study on Racial Equity in Farmland Ownership**

Dr. Megan Horst presented her findings in a presentation on inequity in food system injustice and landowners in Oregon with some of the information regarding Washington County.

**Item 6 - Financial Report and Approval of Bills**

Kelly Dawes reviewed the financial reports. John McDonald moved to pay the unpaid bills as of June 11, 2019, in the amount of \$75,561.16. Steve VanGrunsvan seconded. **Passed unanimously.** Matt Pihl moved to ratify the pre-approved bills as of May 31, 2019, in the amount of \$110,268.63. Eldon Jossi seconded. **Passed unanimously.** Jerry Ward reviewed and approved all the credit card charges. Eldon Jossi moved to receive the financial statements for May 2019, as presented. Jerry Ward seconded. **Passed unanimously.**

### **Item 7 – Partner reports**

*Randy Lawrence, Clean Water Services (CWS)*

- Work on the first phase of Chicken Creek will begin this summer.
- A three-year Bareroot RFP that was issued to growers will close tomorrow.
- The Master Contract reviews will be done by the end of the fiscal year.

### **Item 8 – SWCD program reports**

*Director of Finance and Operations – Kelly Dawes*

- Kelly is taking Human Resource classes at Portland State.
- The SDAO consultant called to ask how we are doing in getting our policies up to date. The out of date policies were brought to light during the Board Assessment of itself. Kelly informed him that it was scheduled on the fall agenda.

### **Item 9 – Standing Committee Reports**

Contract Committee – Steve VanGrunsvan spoke about the new RCPP/VEGBAC project that the committee approved.

### **Item 10 – New Business – Budget**

Motions to adopt FY20 Budget and Resolution 2019-1 are as follows:

1. Eldon Jossi moved to adopt Resolution 2019-1 to adopt the total budget of **\$14,165,748**. Jerry Ward seconded. **Passed unanimously.**
2. Jerry Ward moved to adopt the resolution to appropriate **\$3,512,272** for the Natural Resources Program. Steve VanGrunsvan seconded. **Passed unanimously.**
3. Steve VanGrunsvan moved to adopt the resolution to appropriate **\$150,000** for the Invasive Species Program. Matt Pihl seconded. **Passed unanimously.**
4. Matt Pihl moved to adopt the resolution to appropriate **\$460,150** for the Conservation Education Program. John McDonald seconded. **Passed unanimously.**
5. John McDonald moved to adopt the resolution to appropriate **\$4,708,891** for District Operations. Anna Jesse seconded. **Passed unanimously.**

6. Anna Jesse moved to adopt the resolution to appropriate **\$3,470,000** for the Not Allocated to Organizational Unit or Program. Eldon Jossi seconded. **Passed unanimously.**
7. Eldon Jossi moved to adopt the resolution to appropriate **\$315,900** for the Conservation Special Fund. Jerry Ward seconded. **Passed unanimously.**
8. Jerry Ward moved to adopt the resolution that the following ad valorem property taxes are hereby imposed for tax year 2019 - 2020 upon the assessed value of all taxable property within the District in the amount of **\$5,521,416**. Steve VanGrunsven seconded. **Passed unanimously.**
9. Steve VanGrunsven moved that the taxes imposed are hereby categorized for purposes of Article XI section 11b as permanent rate tax of **\$5,521,416**. Matt Pihl seconded. **Passed unanimously.**

#### **Item 11 - Agricultural Fill Placement Permit**

Steve VanGrunsven gave a brief explanation on the fill permit site. Aaron Horne from Pihl Construction mentioned it would improve the grade of the land and make the site more farmable. Steve VanGrunsven moved that the District support the Agriculture Fill Placement Permit casefile #119-149-LGRADE put forth by Pihl Excavation as presented. With a letter of approval sent to Washington County. Eldon Jossi seconded. Directors that voted **YES** are Steve VanGrunsven, Eldon Jossi, Anna Jesse, John McDonald, and Jerry Ward. Matt Pihl abstained because of a conflict of interest in this matter.

#### **Item 12 - New Business - Charitable Conservation Easement Program Integrity Act of 2019**

Lacey Townsend recommended that the District join Partnership for Conservation in their concerns for Senate Bill 170(Charitable Conservation Easement Program Integrity Act of 2019) This bill would affect the Districts Conservation Easement Program. John McDonald moved the District send a letter of concern about Senate Bill 170 to Senator Ron Wyden. Eldon Jossi seconded. **Passed unanimously.**

#### **Item 13 - New Business - State Flood Mitigation Revolving Fund**

John McDonald gave a brief explanation and recommended to the Board to support proposed legislation for a State Flood Mitigation Revolving Fund. Steve VanGrunsven moved the District send a letter of support for a State Flood Mitigation Revolving Fund. Matt Pihl seconded. **Passed unanimously.**

#### **Item 14 - Discussion Item - Authority for quick-response advocacy**

John McDonald mentioned that it would be in the best interest to have someone on staff that could respond to either emails or letters that are asking for Districts support in matters or issues in a timely manner. The Executive Director was mentioned to be the person to respond to the issues. No action was taken.

**Item 15 - Discussion Item - Financial Assistance Awards Summary**

Lacey Townsend distributed information on the TWIG and TREE grants that were awarded. The total amount of the grants was \$90,446.05. The Directors commented and approved of the grants.

**Item 16 - Directors' Reports**

Matt Pihl said the pair of Osprey left.

Steve VanGrunsven was concerned about Dr. Horst presentation. He thinks the District should concentrate on soil and water health. He feels that the District should not consider having assistance just for the minority, colored, select gender, etc. but to have the assistance open to everyone. Like the District does now.

John McDonald agrees with what Steve said. Being welcoming, being open, and having awareness of the impact differences. Also, John has been to Salem a few times to talk with a couple of representatives about various bills concerning conservation.

**Item 17 - Adjourn the meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Marsh, Operations Assistant.

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Attested by: Matt Pihl

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July 9, 2019  
Date