

**Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2020**

Board Members Present: Eldon Jossi Anna Jesse Thomas Dierickx
Jerry Ward John McDonald Matt Pihl

Others Present: Kelly Dawes, TSWCD Judy Marsh, TSWCD
Lacey Townsend, TSWCD Randy Lawrence, CWS
Trevor Norman, TSWCD Casey Blake, Ag in the Classroom
John Goetz, CWS Curt Mykut, US Fish & Wildlife
Carol Murdock, CWS Eva Kristofik, US Fish & Wildlife

Item 1 - Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, John McDonald at 6:30 pm.

Introductions were made.

Item 2 - Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda - Matt Pihl moved the regular agenda out of the Consent Agenda. Matt Pihl moved to accept the Consent Agenda with the modifications to add of the Contract Committee Meeting Minutes and Resolution 2020-1 to the regular board agenda. Eldon Jossi seconded. **Passed unanimously.**

Chair John McDonald recognized Casey Blake. Casey mentioned he would like to have some or all Directors help with the Ag in the Classroom literacy project.

Item 3 - Presentation: Update on Wapato Lake National Wildlife Refuge

Carol Murdock, Curt Mykut, and Eva Kristofik gave a presentation on the Wapato Lake Project. Wapato Lake is part of the National Wildlife Refuge system. History, Pumping station problems and Algae Bloom were topics of the presentation. Also, the contributing partners to this project were mentioned. The money that Tualatin SWCD contributed will be used for a Levee Inspection, Construction Management Services, to remove invasive species, and restore habitat.

Item 4 - Public Comment

There was no further public comment.

Item 5 - Financial Report and Approval of Bills

Kelly reviewed the financial reports. Jerry Ward moved to pay the unpaid bills as of March 10, 2020, in the amount of \$50,460.30. Thomas Dierickx seconded. **Passed unanimously.** John McDonald moved to ratify the pre-approved bills as of February 29, 2020, in the amount of \$123,495.70. Thomas Dierickx seconded. **Passed**

unanimously. Jerry Ward reviewed the expenses of the credit card charges for February 1 through 29, 2020. Jerry Ward moved to receive the financial statements as of February 29, 2020, as presented. Anna Jesse seconded. **Passed unanimously.**

ACORN will be ready for staff trials starting in May.

Item 6 – Partner Reports

Randy Lawrence, Clean Water Services (CWS)

- Planting season is wrapping up. The plant cooler was closed yesterday.
- This year CWS and partners planted one million one hundred eighty-three thousand plants. The District planted one hundred Seventy-eight thousand seven hundred eighty-five plants. Running total is up to twelve million plants.
 - CWS is starting its construction season. Projects will be on Chicken Creek, Fanno Creek, Butternut Creek, and Gales Creek.
- The new Hagg Lake dam cost estimates have been received. The project is on hold for more research, planning and analysis.

Jessica Wells, Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS)

- Judy Marsh gave Jessica Wells' report:
 - LWG meeting was held, minutes and Resource concerns list still being compiled. If anyone wants to give their feedback or questions, please reach out.
 - **EQIP deadline is April 17th.** Still no RCPP deadlines.
 - Working with expiring CSP contract holders to renew their contracts. Deadline for new applications May 29th.
 - Working with Water Master and TVID to see if interruptible rights can be signed up for irrigation assistance. TVID says yes, playing phone tag with Jake (Water master).
 - Suzanne -FSA farm loan retired the end of February.
 - Dean is retiring end of March.
 - Jessica attended the Vineyard Symposium and Back to the Root conferences for outreach events.
 - Continuing to make site visits, often joint ones with TSWCD staff. Your staff is amazing to work with.
 - Again, if anyone wants to give their feedback or has questions please reach out.

Item 7 – SWCD Program Reports

Executive Director – Lacey Townsend

- Lacey reminded the Board that we sponsor the Willamette Partnership Event for \$5,000. Willamette Partnership Event is May 7th at the World Forestry Center. Time is between 4:30 and 7:00 PM. There are 6 tickets with the sponsorship.

Director of Finance and Operations – Kelly Dawes

- Kelly has been working on Budget and Policies. The two new additions to the 2020-2021 Budget Committee are Dean Moberg and Rob Drake. The third position has not been filled yet.
- Kelly asked the Board if they would like monographed shirts or vests. The staff will be placing an order soon. She will take sizes after the Board Meeting.

COVID 19 was discussed. The Board decided that the staff was responsible enough to handle the situation as needed.

Item 8 – Standing Committee Reports

Contract Committee – Matt Pihl mentioned that the IGA with CWS was reviewed and edited.

Item 8 a- New Business – Resolution 2020-1

Kelly Dawes explained the reason why the District would need to create the Easement Program fund under the special fund category in the Budget. Jerry Ward moved to create Resolution 2020-1. Thomas Dierickx seconded. **Passed unanimously.**

Item 9 – Discussion – Strategic Planning Update

Lacey Townsend mentioned a draft of the strategic plan will be presented to the Board at the April Board Meeting.

Item 10 – Discussion – Financial Assistance Summary

The Financial Assistance Award spreadsheet was in the Board packet to be reviewed.

Item 11 – Discussion – Annual Meeting

Judy Marsh read a report on what was discussed at the Annual Meeting Committee. The Annual Meeting Committee consisted of Lacey, Kelly and Judy. The committee discussed what changes the Directors would like to see at the 2020 Annual Meeting. Also, discussed were venues, catering and guest speakers. The date for the Annual Meeting will either be on October 28 or 29, 2020. The committee recommends holding the Annual Meeting at the Cloverleaf building at the fairgrounds. Tables and chairs are included in the rental of the building. Guest speakers were discussed. Bobby Cochran, (Dr. Soil), Director of the Department of Agriculture, or a geologist were three speakers that were possibilities mentioned. Charging for the meal was mentioned and will be researched further.

Item 12 – Wrap-Up – Director’s Reports

Jerry Ward will be attending the commission meeting in April.

Eldon Jossi said he was concerned about the COVID 19. But he would rather know what ailment he had that last for three months.

Matt Pihl attended the Oregon Wine Symposium last month. Oregon wines is doing very well because it is using direct consumer sales. The big problem with this is traffic on country road where agriculture resides.

Anna Jesse mentioned she signed up and had a technician come out from Backyard Habitat. They taught Anna about different canopy layers and why their native plant list looked different than others. The packet was very well done. It had great information along with coupons to different nurseries.

Thomas Dierickx said he was in Hawaii during last month's meeting. The weather was 78 degrees and sunny. He also attended the Tualatin Valley Irrigation District meeting this morning and learned about the Hagg Lake dam issue.

John McDonald told the Board that he was moving to Meridian, Idaho tomorrow. He is committed to helping TSWCD through the budget process and procedure planning. John mentioned he had a meeting with Diane Taniguchi-Dennis, Executive Director of Clean Water Services, they talked about how they are both going through the same problem with staff on strategic planning. They also talked about the relationship between TSWCD and CWS. John also has had several meetings with Washington County Land Use and Transportation Department about zoning codes and what property can and can't be built on. John has had meetings with Kathryn Harrington, Washington County Commissioner Chair. John asked her what kind of communication does Washington County want to have with the District. The County Commissioner would like presentations at work sessions, Annual reports, minutes, and period updates. They also talked about the Weed Board, an IGA between the District and County or maybe an IGA between the District, County, and CWS. Also, discussed the District owning a demonstration farm.

Item 13 - Adjourn the meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Marsh, Operations Assistant.

Attested by: Matt Pihl

May 12, 2020
Date