

**Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2021**

Board Members Present: Eldon Jossi Steve VanGrunsvan Jerry Ward Matt Pihl
Thomas Dierickx Anna Jesse Dean Moberg

Others Present: Kelly Dawes, TSWCD Judy Marsh, TSWCD
Lacey Townsend, TSWCD Randy Lawrence, CWS
Jessica Wells, NRCS Aaron Shaw, TSWCD
Bethany Lund, TSWCD Michael Taylor, NRC
Cristobal Cardenas, Citizen Tyler Manitsas, Agricultural Channel
Maintenance Specialist at ODA

Item 1 – Call Meeting to Order

The Zoom Board Meeting was called to order by the Chair, Jerry Ward at 6:31 pm.

Item 2 – Consent Agenda

Dean Moberg moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Steve VanGrunsvan seconded. **Passed unanimously.**

Item 3 – Public comment

No public comment was given.

Item 4 – Presentation: Agricultural Drainage Channel Maintenance Program

Tyler Manitsas gave a PowerPoint presentation on the new Drainage Channel Maintenance Program. The program is to help people maintain ditches/channels responsibly. This program allows ditches/channels to be maintained but also protects the ecological function. Other specifications to the program were discussed.

Item 5– Monthly Financial Report and Approval of Bills

Kelly Dawes reviewed the financial reports. Steve VanGrunsvan moved to pay the unpaid bills as of March 9, 2021, in the amount of \$72,357.36. Eldon Jossi seconded. **Passed unanimously.** Jerry Ward moved to ratify the pre-approved bills as of February 28, 2021, in the amount of \$257,180.39. Steve VanGrunsvan seconded. **Passed unanimously.** February 2021 credit card charges were discussed, and Anna Jesse approved all the charges. Anna Jesse moved to receive the financial statements for February 2021, as presented. Matt Pihl seconded. **Passed unanimously.**

Thomas Dierickx arrived at 7:10 pm.

Item 6 – Partner Reports

Randy Lawrence, Clean Water Services (CWS)

- Planting season is coming to an end.
- March 19, 2021 the plant cooler will be closed. Approximately 1,860,743 plants have been planted by all partners. TSWCD has planted 182,300 plants from the CWS cooler.
- Summer construction will start soon on Chicken Creek and Cedar Mills stream.
- CWS is partners with TSWCD on the Swallow Tail and Gales Creek projects.
- CWS continues to distribute PPE to anyone in need.

Jessica Wells, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

- The Annual Local Work Group Meeting was productive. About 30 people attended the Zoom meeting.
- April 17, 2021 is the deadline for RCPP and EQIP.
- Site visits are being done.

Item 7 – Habitat Program Update and Highlights

Bethany Lund gave a presentation on the Habitat Program. She showed examples of the process and work that is being done by the Habitat Program team.

Item 8 – SWCD Program Reports

No reports were given.

Item 9 – Standing Committee Reports

Contract Committee – Aaron Shaw mentioned the two VEGBAC projects. A VEGBAC project on Clear Creek and an HCP with a VEGBAC project on the Tualatin. The committee recommended to the Board to move forward with these projects. The Board agreed with the committee.

Facilities Committee – Anna Jesse said the Facilities Committee met to discuss some community collaboration.

Item 10 – New Business – Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom (OAITC) Partnership

Lucey Townsend reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) the District has with OAITC that will end in FY25. Kelly Dawes mentioned there were to be some changes that will take place with the MOU. These changes were discussed. Steve VanGrunsven moved to accept the MOU for FY22-25 with the changes discussed at the meeting. Anna Jesse seconded. **Passed unanimously.**

Item 11 – New Business – Indirect Cost Policy

Kelly Dawes presented an Indirect Cost policy. The reason for this policy was discussed and no action was taken.

Item 12 – Discussion Items – Civil Rights review for NRCS Partners

Jessica Wells reviewed the Civil Rights Responsibilities for Partners Checklist with the Board. Jessica will see if it can be signed by all Directors via DocuSign.

Item 13 – Discussion Items – Reserve Fund

Dean Moberg requests that the Board begin constructive discussions on future plans for funding levels and policy for the Opportunity Reserve Fund. During the discussion, it was decided the best committee to discuss this matter would be the Budget Committee this spring.

Item 14 – Wrap-Up – Director’s Reports

Dean Moberg mentioned that he and Steve VanGrunsven attended a sequence carbon on grass seed crops session put on by Oregon State University. He also mentioned he attended the Oregon Department of Agriculture SWCD Trainings. On March 5th & 6th he attended the Oregon Society of Soil Scientists Winter Meeting.

Matt Pihl mentioned that while reviewing the website a banner came up asking for information. He could not find a way to bypass it, got frustrated and closed the website. Kelly Dawes will ask Charlotte Trowbridge to investigate.

Thomas Dierickx would like to know if the District’s drone would work to reveal crop health on a fly over. Judy Marsh will email Olivia Hurd and have her call Thomas.

Jerry Ward said there will be a SWCD Commission Meeting on March 23-24, 2021. The commission will be holding a work session to review all ORS 568s. An important ORS 568 that will be discussed is the status qualifications for SWCD Directors.

Item 15 – Adjourn the meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Marsh, Operations Assistant.

Attested by: Matt Pihl

Date April 13, 2021