

Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District  
Board Meeting Minutes  
April 12, 2022

Board Members Present: Thomas Dierickx   Matt Pihl   Steve VanGrunsven  
Dean Moberg   Jerry Ward   Eldon Jossi

Others Present:   Lacey Townsend, TSWCD   Kelly Dawes, TSWCD  
Judy Marsh, TSWCD   Aaron Shaw, TSWCD  
Briita Pajunas, TSWCD   Nicole Ruggiero, TSWCD  
Tatiana Taylor, TSWCD   Jill Erickson, CWS  
Jessica Wells, NRCS   Mayor Lacey Beaty, Beaverton

Item 1 – Call Meeting to Order

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

Introductions were made.

Item 2 – Consent Agenda

Dean Moberg moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Matt Pihl seconded. Passed unanimously.

Item 3 – Presentation from the City of Beaverton’s Mayor

Mayor Lacey Beaty mentioned the goals relating to climate change the city of Beaverton is considering doing. She mentioned several conservation projects she hopes to implement. Mayor Beaty also went on to say how she is looking forward to working with the District with projects in the future.

Item 4 – Public Comment

No Public Comment was given.

Item 5 – Monthly Financial Reports and Approval of Bills

Kelly Dawes reviewed the financial reports. Matt Pihl moved to pay the unpaid bills as of April 12, 2022, in the amount of \$126,156.40. Eldon Jossi seconded. Passed unanimously. Dean Moberg moved to ratify the pre-approved bills as of April 12, 2022, in the amount of \$361,712.47. Eldon Jossi seconded. Passed unanimously. March 2022 credit card charges were discussed, and all charges were approved in advance by Anna Jesse. Dean Moberg moved to receive the financial statements as of March 2022, as presented. Eldon Jossi seconded. Passed unanimously.

## Item 6 – Partner Reports

### *Jill Erickson, Clean Water Services (CWS)*

- Jill thanked Lacey Townsend & her team for the CWS Board Training Field Tour. She also thanked Dean Moberg for the presentation he prepared for the training.
- At-A-Glance report from Jamie Hughes is created for DEQ each year. This report mentions that, as of today, CWS has block one million kilocalories of water from the sun's rays. This in part is because of the combined projects CWS and the District have done together.
- The Navigator Website is going to launch soon.
- Balm Grove removal has been rescheduled for August.
- Request For Proposals for native herbaceous plants have been issued. CWS is trying to move away from potted plants and go with more bareroot. Contract will start in the 2023 planting season.

### *Jessica Wells, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)*

- Jessica thanked everyone for the Training Field tour.
- Contracting season is coming to an end.
- The last Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) contract was awarded, and the final numbers will be shared at the next Board Meeting.
- There will be an intern starting in June and she will be at the office for 8 weeks.
- Jessica is updating some of the boundaries to the Conservation Implementation Strategy program that covers the drinking water source area.
- Jessica mentioned that tiles in crop fields are being placed closer together. Normally the tile would be placed 60 feet apart. The current trend now is to place the tile only 30 feet apart.

## Item 7 – Rural Conservation Program update and highlights

Nicole Ruggiero, Rural Conservation Specialist, updated the Board on what has been happening in the Rural Program.

- Focus area updates
  - RCPP Focus Area funding has been allocated.
  - SIA Focus Area has one project underway and more potentials coming. Monitoring for temperature in the creeks has begun.
- Ag land Use Map and Database is being created to map out to see what the land use is in Washington County. Looking at what might be some conservation issues.
- Equipment Rental Program
  - Seed drill is being used some this spring.
  - Looking to acquire a manure compost spreader by the end of the fiscal year.

- Conservation Easement Program
  - Tualatin Valley Environmental Bank will be closing within the month.
  - There will be an outreach push before the end of the fiscal year.
  - The Oregon Ag Heritage Program was partially funded in this last short session.
  - The current Board policy that relates to conservation easements needs to be updated. Nicole will be working on it.
- Upcoming hot topic
  - Soil health and carbon sequestration workshop will be coming soon.

#### Item 8 - SWCD Program Reports

##### *Director of Natural Resources – Aaron Shaw*

- Aaron thanked Nicole Ruggiero and Tatiana Taylor, who continue to put the Rural Program in good light before the community.
- RCPP is closed and the success of this funding is due to Nicole Ruggiero's work.
- Nicole has done a great job working with the Regulatory Agency on the Heike's easement on behalf of the District.
- Thanked everyone that was involved with drafting the new RCPP funding.

##### *Operations Assistant – Judy Marsh*

- Judy read off the four director positions that will be up for reelection this November. They are Zone 3, Zone 4, Zone 5, and At Large 2. These will all be four-year terms.

#### Item 9 – Standing Committee Reports

##### Personnel Committee

- The committee met this afternoon. Details to come at the May Board Meeting.

#### Item 10 – New Business – Creation of Special Revenue Fund – Conservation

Kelly Dawes explained to the Board that it is possible for landowners to donate back all or part of their incentive payments to support additional conservation actions. To accept the donation, the District would need to create a special revenue fund. The new funding would be titled "Conservation Stewardship". Matt Pihl moved to create the Conservation Stewardship Special Revenue Fund to record donated funds. Dean Moberg seconded. Passed unanimously.

#### Item 11 – New Business – Land Acknowledgement Statement

Lacey Townsend reminded the Board that the Land Acknowledgement Statement is the same acknowledgement statement regarding the Indigenous People who lived in what is now called the "Tualatin River Watershed" the Directors received at the March Board Meeting. Dean Moberg moved to adopt the proposed statement as per the briefing note present tonight with the caveat that the staff check with

the Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde to make sure the statement is still accurate. Thomas Dierickx seconded. Aye – Jerry Ward, Thomas Dierickx, Matt Pihl, Dean Moberg, Eldon Jossi. No nays. Steve VanGrunsvan abstained. Anna Jesse was not present at this meeting.

Item 12 – Discussion – Annual Meeting

Lacey Townsend asked the Directors what they see the annual meeting being. After some discussion, it was decided that the Directors would like to see several small conservation tours to be held throughout the year showcasing the District's work, with the business part of the annual meeting being held just before a monthly Board meeting.

Item 13 – Wrap-Up – Directors' Reports

Matt Pihl mentioned he will not be seeking another term on the Board.

Dean Moberg thanked Matt Pihl for his service on the Board. Dean also mentioned he has been working with some high school students from Sunset High School and an organization called Sunrise Beaverton on a community garden at a church in the Cedar Mill area. Sunrise Beaverton might be applying for a grant from the Tualatin SWCD to set up the gardens. March 17, 2022, Dean attended a tour of Peter & Pat Hayes' place. The subjects discussed were Forestry and the Climate Change.

Jerry Ward said Matt Pihl will be missed when his term on the Board ends.

Thomas Dierickx mentioned that at the Tualatin Valley Irrigation District meeting this morning it was mentioned that Hagg Lake is almost at full capacity. Also, the Wapato Lake bottom will be opened to the public to enjoy a nature walk on the levee.

Kelly Dawes mentioned the May 10, 2022, Board meeting would be the District's first attempted at a hybrid meeting. Kelly also mentioned that the Budget meetings will be held on zoom. All Directors and the District's website will receive the proposed budget on April 28, 2022. Thursday, May 19, 2022, will be the first zoom Budget Meeting at 6:30pm. Wednesday, May 25, 2022, will be the second zoom Budget Meeting at 6:30pm. There is a third Budget Meeting scheduled on Tuesday, June 7, 2022, if needed.

Item 14 – Adjourn the meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.  
Respectfully submitted by Judy Marsh, Operations Assistant.

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Attested by: Matt Pihl

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May 10, 2022  
Date