

Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes
November 8, 2022

Board Members Present: Eldon Jossi Dean Moberg Jerry Ward Matt Pihl
Steve VanGrunsven Anna Jesse

Others Present: Lacey Townsend, TSWCD Judy Marsh, TSWCD
Kelly Dawes, TSWCD Aaron Shaw, TSWCD
Brandy Saffell, TSWCD Nicole Ruggiero, TSWCD
Jill Erickson, CWS

Item 1 – Call Meeting to Order

The Board Meeting was called to order by the Chair, Jerry Ward, at 6:30 pm.

Introductions were made.

Item 2 – Consent Agenda

Jerry Ward moved to adopt the Consent Agenda with correction and to read the Native American Land Acknowledgement statement. Passed unanimously.

Dean Moberg mentioned that President George H. W. Bush signed into law stating that the month of November would be National Native American Heritage Month. Jerry Ward read the Land Acknowledgement Statement Specific to Washington County that the District adopted.

Item 3 – Public Comment

No Public Comment was given.

Item 4 – Monthly Financial Report and Approval of the Bills

Kelly Dawes reviewed the financial reports. Steve VanGrunsven moved to pay the unpaid bills as of November 8, 2022, in the amount of \$74,331.11. Eldon Jossi seconded. Passed unanimously. Dean Moberg moved to ratify the pre-approved bills as of October 31, 2022, in the amount of \$179,854.11. Steve VanGrunsven seconded. Passed unanimously. October 1-31, 2022, credit card charges were discussed, and all charges were approved by Anna Jesse. Steve VanGrunsven moved to receive the financial statements as of October 31, 2022, as presented. Eldon Jossi seconded. Passed unanimously.

Item 5 – Partner Reports

Jill Erickson, Clean Water Services (CWS)

- CWS is distributing plugs, containers, and propagule plant material at the CWS farm.
- CWS has rented two cooler trailers to house bareroot plants at the CWS farm.
- There was a plant give away through the Back Yard Habitat Program. Thanks to Briita Pajunas and Maura Olivos for all their help with this event.
- Watershed Navigator is up and running.

Jessica Wells, Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS)

Jessica Wells was not in attendance. Dean Moberg mentioned that he talked with Jessica and other partners about weed control for the Hutchinson project.

Item 6 – Forest Conservation Program Update and Highlights

Brandy Saffell, Forestry Habitat Conservation Specialist, gave updates on the Forest Conservation Program.

- Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)
 - Showed a map where the EAB has been detected in Washington County.
 - The District's staff has been surveying District project sites for the EAB.
 - Held two EAB identification and survey field days with the help of CWS.
- Focus area development
 - Brandy went over the October 2019 focus group survey priority resource concerns.
 - Vulnerable forest structure
 - Wildfire risk
 - Threats to long-term water quality
 - Loss of oak habitat
- Conifer drought vulnerability assessment
 - Several data maps that showed Conifer Drought Vulnerability, Moderate to High Wildfire Hazard, Debris Flow Likelihood, and High Value Oak Habitat. Brandy went through and explained each one and their importance.

Item 7 – SWCD Program Reports

Executive Director – Lacey Townsend

- The Hillsboro Hops Baseball Team is bringing back Agriculture Night and it will be held on April 26. They would like to partner with us to come up with ideas for activities.

Director of Finance and Operations – Kelly Dawes

- The District has hired Samantha Sharka for Mary Meyers position. She will start on December 19, 2022.

Director of Natural Resources – Aaron Shaw

- Thanked Brandy Saffell for all the work she is doing with Forestry Program.

Item 8 – Standing Committee Reports

Personnel Committee:

Kelly Dawes mentioned next month will be staff reviews.

Easement Committee:

Nicole Ruggiero would like to schedule a meeting soon to discuss a potential new easement.

Item 9 – Discussion – Strategic Planning

Lacey Townsend mentioned the committee enjoys working with Jensen Strategies. In the second committee meeting, the committee split into two groups to come up with strategies and action to go with each goal. The committee is also working on high level metrics to go under each goal.

Item 10 – Wrap-Up – Directors' Reports

Dean Moberg mentioned on October 14, 2022, he was on a panel with small organic farmers at the United Church of Christ where a movie was shown on Soil. After the movie, the panel discussed soil. Dean attended the Oregon Association of Conservation District (OACD) meeting last week and thought it was well done. Peter Hayes and Dean have written a report on the Climate Smarter Forestry Project, and they will be giving a presentation to the Forest Stewardship Guild. Also, they will be presenting this information to the Board of Forestry.

Jerry Ward also attended the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts' Annual Meeting. He said attendance seemed to be down. There was a Soil and Water Conservation Commission meeting following the OACD meeting. The committee had a very good discussion on District Zone Directors eligibility. The commissioners discussed mainly the eligibility part about "Actively manage 10 or more acres in the zone that is being represented or reside within the zone that is being represented and actively manage 10 or more acres elsewhere in the boundaries of the district." Most of the commissioner would like to keep the eligibility, but maybe with some options.

Item 11 – Adjourn the meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Marsh, Operations Assistant.

Attested by: Steve VanGrunsven

November 8, 2022
Date

