WMSWD Conservation District Board Meeting Minutes 6/4/15

1. **Meeting location and time**
   Location: 2701 NW Vaughn St., Portland, OR 97210
   The Board Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

2. **Welcome/Introductions & Review/Revise Agenda**
   Board Members present: Directors Preeg Riggsby (arrived 6:09), Hartline, Looney, Peterson, and Miller;
   Associate Directors Hamer and Weedall
   Absent: Director Sowder and Associate Director Anderson
   Staff: DM Springer, Martin, Levis, Delepine; Guests: Kim Galland, NRCS
   There were no revisions to the agenda. Director Lightcap moved to approve the agenda; Director Miller seconded; all approved.

3. **Approval of May Minutes**
   Director Miller moved to approve the May Board Meeting Minutes; Director Hartline seconded; all approved.

4. **Staff Report - Michelle Delepine, Invasive Species Program Coordinator**
   Delepine presented a Garlic Mustard Mid-Season Update and demonstrated the use of the Fulcrum app and its benefits for her projects.

5. **Review Treasurer’s Reports – April**
   Director Miller presented the Treasurer’s report, noting that the District continues in very good shape financially. The District received more funds ($52K) than expected; it is still underspent ($243,348), but funds may carry over to the next fiscal year if not spent. Levis stated that projections show $178K will be spent.

6. **FY2015-16 Budget Hearing and Resolution**
   Budget Hearing was held; the Board adopted the FY 2015-16 Budget; Resolution #2015-06-04 was signed. Note that separate minutes were taken for the Budget Hearing.

7. **Approve ODA Grant Application, including Long Range Business Plan (LRBP) and Annual Staff Work Plans**
   DM Springer briefly summarized the ODA Grant Application, including the Long Range Business Plan and Staff Work Plans.
   a. ODA Grant – 2 year cycle (2015-2017) – focus will be on working with NRCS re: cover crops;
   Director Lightcap moved to approve the ODA Grant Application, including the SOW, FAAP, Financial report, Operations budget, Long Range Business Plan and Staff Work Plans; Director Hartline seconded.
   Discussion:
   Re: Diversity/Equity focus
   a. The distinction between serving all vs the underserved must be understood;
   b. A robust discussion should be held in the Fall, when staff present their Diversity plan;
   c. Reaching diversity goals is likely a multi-year process.
   Vote: All approved.
8. **Directors’ Check-in Reports**

**Director Lightcap:** Encouraged Officers to attend different SWCDs’ meetings; will attend Resources and People (RAP) camp for a week at Lake of the Woods Klamath County; will teach wetland sessions and be a cabin counselor; important to identify a reason to have a joint meeting with East Multnomah SWCD; consider inviting a County Commissioner(s) to a Board Meeting [saw them in attendance at other SWCDs’ meetings]; attended the Friends of Trees Awards Luncheon; will be getting the final report on OACD out to the Board.

**Director Miller:** Has been walking around and observing activity in his Zone; pulled some garlic mustard that was found; noted District signs at Lewis and Clark College identifying work being done.

**Associate Director Hamer:** Attended the Friends of Trees Awards Luncheon; focusing on spreading the word on the District mission and invasive species to the numerous groups with whom he interacts.

**Associate Director Weedall:** Attended the Friends of Trees Awards Luncheon, the SOLVE Green Team Summit, and the Forest Park Neighborhood Association meeting; will be going on the Friends of Tryon Creek Walk at Wapato.

**Director Preeg Riggsby:** Attended the Friends of Trees Awards Luncheon and the Intertwine Summit; heard some good ideas at the latter re: reaching different groups/generations; doing some hands-on work in her Zone (gardens, etc.).

**Director Looney:** Continued ivy removal; will be contacting ODOT re: replacement of trees that are knocked down by drivers (drunk) and truckers on the Highway 30 median; trees that are tall and narrow are needed. Director Miller suggested looking at the Portland Street Tree List; Director Lightcap suggested Ash trees; Associate Director Weedall suggested the *Parrotia Vanessa* tree (not familiar to all – find info on it here: [http://www.greatplantpicks.org/plantlists/view/1089](http://www.greatplantpicks.org/plantlists/view/1089)).

**Director Hartline:** Sauvie Island Rural Land Use Plan passed; participated in removing spurge laurel in the Columbia Gorge at Cascade Locks; attending meeting re: mapping of Sauvie Island conservation projects; compiled list of sites where turtles and frogs surveyed.

**Director Peterson:** Trash/garbage problems on Sauvie Island caused by visitors dumping trash; results in higher trash collection fees for all.

9. **NRCS Update:**

NRCS DC Galland updated the Board:

1. Contracts almost completed;
2. Participated in teleconference re: grant how-to’s for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP); deadline June 16; focus on carbon markets in forest land; resource concern has to cross boundaries (usually county lines); suggests District collect data this year and submit an application next year; will alert Board to replay of webinar; Director Lightcap would like the District to apply in concert with other SWCDs in the area.
3. Took engineers who will bid on work out to Enyarts property; District (Scott Gall) providing technical assistance.
4. Soil Health Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) submitted; State level review is next; identifies how Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds will be used over the next five years.
10. **Staff Reports (May) and Sturgeon Lake Project Update**

1. DM Springer shared an email from GSA re: GSA/NRCS lease termination at Montgomery Park; he has met with Naito staff and the cost of taking over the lease is still to be determined/negotiated.

2. **Sturgeon Lake**
   a. Matching grant ($200K) offered from Wessinger Foundation – with match, could cover cost of bridge;
   b. Site visit with Corps of Engineers, County engineers and tech staff – spoke with three property owners who are on board re: conservation easements;
   c. Jim Adams working on increasing habitat value, which if successful, could result in an extra $1Mil from the Bonneville Power Authority (BPA).

3. Will attend the Oregon Wildlife Annual Dinner (Directors Hartline and Looney also will attend);

4. Submitted application for the District to hold conservation easements in order to be prepared if asked; does not involve a commitment to do so.

11. **Announcements/Reminders/Confirmation of June Board Meeting & Adjourn:**

1. Director Hartline asked about consideration of Jeanne Roy’s request for a District contribution toward Outdoor School; Director Miller noted the District is not in a position to commit funds now; Director Preeg Riggsby requested the Board revisit this request at the September Board meeting; it was suggested to identify which schools in the District lack the ability to financially support Outdoor School.

2. **Upcoming Board Meetings:**
   b. August - no meeting will be held;
   c. September – 9/3/15 (possible re-schedule);
   d. October – 10/1/15 – Annual Meeting will be held on this date; meeting will start at 5 P.M.

   Director Looney moved to adjourn the meeting; Director Miller seconded; all approved; meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

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1. WMSWCD – 5/7/15 Board Meeting Minutes
2. WMSWCD - Balance Sheet- As of April 30, 2015
3. WMSWCD - General Fund Budget vs. Actual Fiscal Year-to-date April 30, 2015
4. WMSWCD - Profit and Loss Budget Performance Fiscal Year-to-date as of April 30, 2015
5. Staff Reports