



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;

b. LRBP – ODA requirement (2015-2018) – includes new District focus on Diversity/Equity.

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>).

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:
 - a. July – 7/23/15;
 - 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.

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