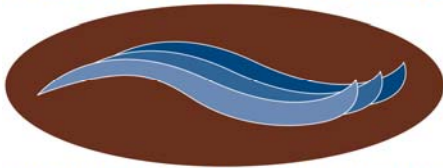


WEST MULTNOMAH



SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

WMSWCD Minutes 3/16/10

1. Meeting location and time

- a. Location: District office
- b. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM.

2. Introductions/Agenda Approval

- a. Those present:
 - i. Directors: Hartline, Lightcap, Miller, Preeg Riggsby, Peterson, and Sowder; Associate Director Wiley
 - ii. Staff: Michael Ahr (Forestry Conservationist), Dick Springer (District Manager), Erica Stokes (Executive Assistant)
 - iii. Agency: Steve Fedje (NRCS)
 - iv. Guests: Dave Koennecke

3. Minutes and Treasurers Report

- a. **Minutes¹ were approved for February 2010 with 6 YES votes.** Director Sowder made a motion to approve the minutes. Director Hartline seconded the motion.
- b. **Treasurer's Reports**
 - i. *WMSWCD-Balance Sheet- As of February 12, 2010²*
 - ii. *WMSWCD-General Fund Budget vs. Actual-July 2009 through February 12, 2010³*

4. Directors and Staff Reports

- a. **Staff Reports**

Staff members Michael Ahr⁴, Scott Gall⁵, Kammy Kern-Korot⁶, Carolyn Myers Lindberg⁷, Mary Logalbo⁸, Dick Springer⁹, and Erica Stokes¹⁰ submitted reports.
- b. **Directors' Reports**

Director Lightcap noted that he is participating in the OACD Convention Planning process and there next meeting will be via video conference. The committee is working on potential keynote speakers to discuss the community, conservation and the economy, etc. Potential speakers include Jack McGowan and Secretary of State Kate Brown. Manager Springer suggested Secretary Brown as she is on the Board that oversees the Division of State Lands (DSL). DSL is focused on the navigability of waterways and a current piece of legislature that needs to be rewritten as it was found illegal by the Attorney General. This law will have great impact on SWCDs.

Director Miller noted that the Personnel Committee has submitted their comments on the Employee Handbook to Manager Springer and the handbook should be ready for presentation at the April board meeting. Also, the Forest Park Conservancy's Day of Stewardship which WMSWCD supports will take place this Saturday where ivy removal work will take place on Newberry Road.

Director Sowder noted that Forestry Conservationist Michael Ahr did a site visit of his property, discussed adjacent properties and how best to deliver District forestry services to small woodland owners. Director Sowder also discussed how the District could support individuals who work to remove ivy and other invasives in neighborhoods e.g. providing truck pick up of bagged invasives as was done with garlic mustard removal along Skyline. This project was District funded through a FISH grant. It was suggested that the Skyline Neighbors consider writing another FISH grant to fund ivy removal.

Director Hartline discussed the Sauvie Island Clean Up Days on April 17th and 24th. The second event will be held in tandem with the Wapato Clean Up event the District is hosting so the events will be co-promoted on our website.

Director Preeg Riggsby noted that the City of Portland has a four percent budget cut across all agencies. The Tryon Creek Watershed Council has written a letter of support for projects they hope the City continues to fund including the EDRR programs and the City Nature Program. TCWC has also written a letter regarding the City's proposed changes to the tree codes which pertain to the amount of tree canopy, having snags on private property, what native trees are replaced with if torn down, etc. The letter requested that snags be permitted on private property, that native trees be replaced with other natives rather than ornamentals, etc. Director Preeg Riggsby said that she would write a similar letter for the WMSWCD board if they so desired. The board will review the letter via email and edits will be incorporated before it is sent out on the 23rd of March.

Director Hartline made a motion to empower Director Preeg Riggsby to draft a letter to the City regarding its tree codes. Director Miller seconded the motion. All (6) AYES.

5. Discussion

a. Partner Funding

Director Preeg Riggsby presented the *Partner Funding Criteria*¹¹ to be approved by the board. The criteria will be used to see whether or not a partner group is funded out of the Long-Term Partner Fund of the 2010-11 budget. If a proposal is funded then the group will sign a contract to be drafted by Manager Springer requiring the things that are currently required of those who receive District funds e.g. the use of the WMSWCD logo, name, etc. on marketing materials and websites, distribution of District newsletters, workshop announcements to partner email lists, etc.

A motion was made to approve the Partner Funding Criteria. All (6) AYES.

Director Miller made a follow up motion to keep the current directors in their board office positions for the remainder of this year, and to decide terms limits at the January 2011 meeting. Director Preeg Riggsby seconded the motion. All (6) AYES.

b. Biogas Facility

Dave Koennecke, Sauvie Island Resident and one of the owners of Alder Creek Lumber discussed the needs of a biogas facility to run. A steady mix of green materials and carbonaceous materials would be needed e.g. food waste, lumber byproduct, etc. is required to create heat and then methane gas. He suggested that the District consider a site that provides nearby access to both materials. Also, to make such a facility successful there would need to be a plan in place for a power company to buy back the electricity generated.

Manager Springer noted that the Stahlbush Island Farm facility in Corvallis has such an agreement. It cost \$1 Million to create and supplies 1 megawatt of power on the 5 acre organic farm. The heat byproduct produced is used in the farm's nursery operation. The farm's food waste is used as a burning source to produce the methane. Director Lightcap noted that Dr. Frank Mittloehner of UC Davis who spoke about biogas at the 2009 OACD Convention will also speak at the 2010 Connect training and he encouraged the board to attend to hear more about these facilities. Director Preeg Riggsby suggested the in addition to partnering with neighboring SWCDs- East, Clackamas, Colombia- the District should consider working with the university system e.g. Portland State University, the University of Portland, etc. as they have an ample supply of food waste.

The Board also discussed the scale of the operation as that will largely determine where the facility would reside. Were it to be on Sauvie Island then due diligence would need to be done to garner support for the operation from Island residents.

Director Lightcap asked the board to consider asking the Northwest RC & D to assist Dick in the effort to explore a feasibility study.

Director Sowder made a motion to have Director Lightcap draft a "green sheet" at the Northwest RC & D association to further explore a biogas facility in the metro area. Director Preeg Riggsby seconded the motion. All (6) AYES.

Confirm next meeting date and location and adjourn.

The next board meeting will occur at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at the Montgomery Park building.

Meeting adjourned by Chair Lightcap at 7:14 PM.

An Executive Session was called at 7: 14 PM.

¹ February 2010 Board Meeting Minutes

² WMSWCD-Balance Sheet- As of February 12, 2010

³ WMSWCD-General Fund Budget vs. Actual-July 2009 through February 12, 2010

⁴ Michael Ahr Staff Report

⁵ Scott Gall Staff Report

⁶ Kammy Kern-Korot Staff Report

⁷ Carolyn Lindberg Staff Report

⁸ Mary Logalbo Staff Report

⁹ Dick Springer Staff Report

¹⁰ Erica Stokes Staff Report

¹¹ Partner Funding Criteria