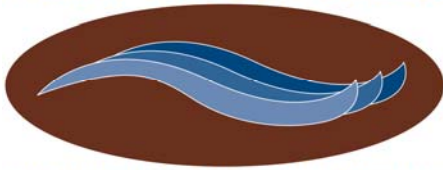


WEST MULTNOMAH



SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

WMSWCD Minutes 8/18/09

1. Meeting location and time

- a. Location: Vice Chair Hartline's House
- b. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM following potluck.

2. Introductions/Agenda Approval

- a. Those present:
 - i. Directors: Hartline, Lightcap, Patte, Peterson
 - ii. Staff: Dick Springer (District Manager); Erica Stokes (Executive Assistant);
 - iii. Agency: Steve Fedje (NRCS)

3. Minutes and Treasurers Report

- a. **Minutes were approved for July 2009 with one change in section 2 i.e. "Director Patte inquired about Kammy Kern-Korot's suggestion..." was changed to "Director Patte discussed a suggestion..." with 4 YES votes and 0 NAYS.** Director Hartline made a motion to approve the minutes and reports. Director Peterson seconded the motion.
- b. **Treasurer's Reports**
 - i. *WMSWCD –Unpaid Bills Detail-As of August 11, 2009*¹
 - ii. *WMSWCD-Balance Sheet- As of August 11, 2009*²
 - iii. *WMSWCD-General Fund Budget vs. Actual-July 2009 through June 2010*³

Director Lightcap noted that there were two checks of interest: the first in support of The Forest Park Conservancy's Day of Stewardship for \$2,000.00, and the second to Zeph Friedman-Sowder. The first is for a site in Linnton; this is the second year of District sponsorship. The second was noted as Zeph is a relative of a board member. He was hired in a competitive process and was recommended by staff as the most suitable for the GIS Intern position.

4. Directors and Staff Reports

- a. **Staff Reports:** Dick Springer submitted a written Manager's Report⁴. Staff members Mary Logalbo⁵, Scott Gall⁶, and Carolyn Myers Lindberg⁷ submitted reports.

Director Lightcap mentioned Logalbo's proposal on Ivy Island pulling and reporting. Chair Lightcap has mentioned to Logalbo that prisoners could be used as crews and that AmeriCorps groups could be used to help with outreach. Additionally, he noted that he attended Multnomah Days.

¹ *WMSWCD –Unpaid Bills Detail-As of August 11, 2009*

² *WMSWCD-Balance Sheet- As of August 11, 2009*

³ *WMSWCD-General Fund Budget vs. Actual-July 2009- June 2010*

⁴ *Manager's Report to Board*

⁵ *Mary Logalbo's Staff Report for Board*

⁶ *Scott Gall's Staff Report for Board*

⁷ *Carolyn Myers Lindberg Staff Report for Board*

Director Patte reported that he met with Carolyn Myers Lindberg to discuss the District's communications and outreach plan. He noted that Lindberg had an excellent media relations and education strategies, but that he would like to work with her and the staff on brainstorming ways to increase the amount of subscribers to our email list. He is also going to work with her on a direct mailing to key landowners about the availability of our next annual report and use this as an opportunity to retrieve email addresses.

Director Hartline suggested that the District advertise their new website/newsletter list on the Sauvie Island Boosters listserv and with the Skyline Ridge Neighbors as they have large email lists wherein we could reach and hopefully gather more email addresses. Additionally, Director Hartline would like to see the District newsletter showcase timely tips i.e. when/how to pull blackberries, when to mow your pasture, etc. rather than stories about the board's activities. Director Patte will set up a meeting between Director Hartline and Myers Lindberg.

Director Hartline noted that she spoke with M.G. Devereaux, Park Manager, about the conservation plan that Staff Kern-Korot has worked on creating for the Wapato State Access Area. Also, Parks has an internal grant program that may be applied for to be used at Wapato. Director Hartline mentioned that there is volunteer potential for restoration of the access area. Director Lightcap noted that the District should mention to Clackamas SWCD to maintain the native ash and oak forest that resides in a park in their District.

- b. **NRCS Report:** Steve Fedje distributed *Questions & Answers: Conservation Stewardship Program*⁸ and *Oregon NRCS Fact Sheet: Conservation Stewardship Program*⁹. He will present a full description of the program and other Farm Bill programs including the Healthy Forest Reserve Program. Directors Hartline and Lightcap noted that the NRCS documents are hard to understand for new farmers i.e. those who have never been enrolled in NRCS programming before, and that it is a stumbling block as these are the very participants on whom NRCS should be focusing their efforts.

7. Discussion:

- a. **Sturgeon Lake:** Manager Springer noted that the OWEB grant award amount has been reduced to \$42,500 rather than \$50,000 as there are dwindling lottery revenues from which OWEB can distribute funds. It was suggested by Director Hartline that perhaps Ducks Unlimited or ODFW (Director Patte) might be able to come up with the difference in the amounts. The award is still awaiting the OWEB board's approval, but according to Wendy Hudson from OWEB, the District is very likely to receive the money. Further, Chair Lightcap noted that the Sturgeon Lake Restoration Project was third in terms of statewide watershed priorities for OWEB which bodes well for getting the restoration component of the plan funded in the future.
- b. **OACD Convention Update:** Chair Lightcap informed the board that Gary Whitney of OACD was dismissed from his job for not meeting timelines. Chair Lightcap is still working on sponsorship cultivation along with Clackamas SWCD Manager Rick Gruen. Additionally, Chair Lightcap noted that he was able to get the OACD Planning Committee to focus a part of this year's convention on energy conservation specifically, how Districts can be involved in emerging technologies.

⁸ *Questions & Answers: Conservation Stewardship Program*

⁹ *NRCS Fact Sheet: Conservation Stewardship Program*

- c. **Contacting U.S. Legislators:** The board requests that Director Preeg Riggsby provide some talking points for connecting with the delegation as this was her agenda item and she was absent from the meeting.
- d. **Personnel Committee Update:** Manager Springer presented the *Conservation Technician/Planner Job Description and an email related to this position*¹⁰ for the Personnel Committee to review. The position was originally intended to be filled by November 1st, but the date is flexible and the position could begin after January 1st. Additionally, given that the Oregon Department of Forestry has significantly cut their Stewardship Forester program, there will likely be highly qualified candidates in the applicant pool. Director Patte suggested that a chair be appointed to the Personnel Committee to keep the meetings focused and on schedule. Director Hartline suggested Director Miller. He will be contacted about the position.
- e. **New agenda item- Volunteer Pool:** Chair Lightcap would like to discuss the role of volunteers in District activities and the prospect of increasing our volunteer pool at the September board meeting.
- f. **New agenda item- Sauvie Island Management Review Plan:** Director Springer noted that he had attended the last two public comment meetings, and that there are two more scheduled at Sauvie Island School on August 25th and September 22nd. Director Patte inquired as to whether the District had created a letter in response to the plan. Manager Springer noted that this letter will be presented for review and comment at the September board meeting. Chair Lightcap would like to discuss the role of volunteers in District activities and the prospect of increasing our volunteer pool at the September board meeting. Director Hartline noted that the plan is shallow at best. Further, she suggests that if ODFW does not have the resources to manage their land then perhaps they should consider selling it to The Nature Conservancy. Manager Springer encouraged a number of other groups- Audubon Society (Sallinger), Willamette RiverKeeper (Travis Williams) & Urban GreenSpaces (Mike Houck - also Audubon) - to comment on the plan as well. These groups originally thought they would be invited to construct the plan, but that did not happen.

Confirm next meeting date and location and adjourn.

The next meeting will occur at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, September 15, 2009 at the Montgomery Park building.

Meeting adjourned by Chair Lightcap at 8:22 PM