



WMSWD Conservation District Board Meeting Minutes 3/5/15

1. Meeting location and time

Location: 2701 NW Vaughn St., Portland, OR 97210

The Board Meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM.

2. Welcome/Introductions & Review/Revise Agenda

Board Members present: Directors Hartline, Lightcap, Looney, Peterson, Preeg Riggsby, Sowder;

Staff: DM Springer, Martin, Gall, Taylor; Guests: Kim Galland, Jan Hamer, Susan Weedall, Finlay Anderson, Mike Guebert, Jay Udelhoven.

Absent: Director Miller

DM Springer requested that two items be added to the agenda: remarks from EMSWCD guests, Guebert and Udelhoven; presentation to Jane Hartline; all approved the additions.

3. Introduction of Guests

Guests, Jay Udelhoven, Executive Director of East Multnomah SWCD (EMSWCD) and Mike Guebert, EMSWCD's Board Chair, introduced themselves and briefly described their backgrounds, EMSWCD's programs, and interest in working cooperatively with the WMSWCD Board and staff, as well as possibly having some social get-togethers. Director Preeg Riggsby stated it would be valuable for Board members from both SWCDs to tour each other's sites.

4. Gift Presentation to Jane Hartline

In recognition of, and thanks for, her work, DM Springer presented Director Hartline with a Limited Edition print of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) 2014 Habitat Conservation Stamp, the Western Painted Turtle, signed by artist, Timothy Turenne.

5. Approval of February Minutes

Director Hartline moved to approve the February Board Meeting Minutes; Director Preeg Riggsby seconded; all approved.

6. Review Treasurer's Reports – January

In Director Miller's absence, DM Springer presented the Treasurer's report, noting that the District is in very good shape financially, with spending lower than expected at this point in time. Hamer asked how much the District carries in a 'rainy day' fund; DM Springer replied that amount is \$70K, and that the unappropriated ending balance covers the first four months of the fiscal year, prior to the receipt of tax revenue. He also noted that there will be a reduction in revenue and associated program expenses of \$46K, related to work on Enyarts property that was to have been funded by NRCS. Director Lightcap added there will be a slight increase in tax revenue, and DM Springer stated that a comprehensive discussion of funding will take place at the 3/19 Budget Committee Meeting.

7. Appoint new Budget Committee members

Director Lightcap moved to appoint Susan Weedall, Finlay Anderson and Jan Hamer to the WMSWCD Budget Committee; Director Looney seconded; all approved.

8. NRCS Update: NRCS DC Galland updated the Board:

- a. EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) – 3/20/2015 deadline; an additional allocation has been received for the local pool, which will result in more funding for forestry projects.
- b. Conservation Stewardship Program – 3/13/2015 deadline.

Galland reported that John Gillilan is moving to a position in the State Office; Travis Godeaux is the new engineer, and he will be located at the Hillsboro office. Galland and Godeaux will visit the District office on 3/25 to meet staff, discuss projects and site visitations.

On Tuesday, 3/9, Galland and Gall will meet re: soil issues at Clackamas SWCD.

Galland will have a Quality Assurance meeting, conducted by the State Office, in May.

Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) restoration and maintenance funds opened up, with funds for maintenance eligible this year (\$125K); Enyarts' 120 acres will benefit.

DM Springer reminded the Board that there is a meeting on 3/30 with NRCS to discuss the closing of the DC office at the District; Board members are invited to attend.

9. Scott Gall Staff Report – Rural Programs

Gall presented information on his programs/projects, focusing on Water Quality, Agriculture and Cover Crops, and Sturgeon Lake.

10. Laura Taylor Staff Report – Education Programs

Taylor presented information on her education programs/projects aimed at youth, adults (teachers and parents) to increase participation in conservation programs, including gardening, as well as encouraging the development of future farmers.

Udelhoven noted that EMSWCD's Board had recently signed a letter endorsing the Outdoor School State Initiative; he will forward the information to DM Springer; he encouraged the Board to do the same in support of Outdoor School.

11. Staff Reports (February) and Sturgeon Lake Project Update:

DM Springer gave an update on activities -

- a. He noted that Gall had covered the Sturgeon Lake update in his presentation;
- b. A Meeting of the Intertwine's Equity Cohort will be held on 3/19, from 9 to noon at Intertwine; DM Springer will attend as many of these meetings as possible; Logalbo and Ahr are coordinating attendance by Board members;
- c. DM Springer attended the Land Use Planning Committee Meeting on Sauvie Island and reported both agencies and the public were well represented, discussing various issues of importance, including the effects of agri-tourism;
- d. DM Springer will attend the Friends of Tryon Creek Fund Raiser on 3/14, and an extra ticket is available for anyone who would like to join him;
- e. A thank-you letter was received from SOLVE for the District's financial contribution;
- f. DM Springer briefly discussed State governmental changes (new ODFW Director) and upcoming legislation (SB 204), noting he will monitor the process and keep the Board updated;
- g. Soil School will be held on 4/4, and over 100 attendees are expected;
- h. DM Springer met with the State Parks Commission, discussing Tryon Creek and Sauvie Island issues;
- i. DM Springer showed Board members the spread that mentioned the District's work fighting garlic mustard infestation, in the SW Neighborhood's SW News.

12. Basin Meeting Report

Director Lightcap reported that a Lower Basin Meeting will be held on 3/18, 6:30 PM, at Clackamas SWCD. Attendees (East, West, Polk, Yamhill, Clackamas and Tualatin SWCDs) will discuss their programs and opportunities to work together to accomplish conservation goals. Board members are encouraged to attend. Lightcap requested input on what he should report re: the District's unique work; the Education, Meadowscaping, Canopy Weeds and Cover Crop programs were suggested. Lightcap will contact DM Springer to create a one page program/project summary for the District; Director Hartline noted it would be valuable to see similar information from each participating District; Anderson noted creating a report template might be helpful.

13. Directors' Training Report

Director Lightcap briefly discussed the ODA Directors' Training (Board members had received a summary); he noted that having Directors 'check-in' at Board meeting was discussed, and he favors the Board reinstating this practice. Preeg Riggsby stated that had been discontinued due to the time it took up, in addition to other Board business. Having Directors rotate was suggested. Reinstating the Director check-in and what format it might take will be on the April meeting agenda for discussion.

The Directors who did not attend the training received a packet of the training materials; additional packets will be obtained for the three persons who are slated to become Associate Directors.

14. Announcements/Reminders/Confirmation of April Board Meeting, Budget Meeting & Adjourn:

Preeg Riggsby notified the Board that she is leaving her auditor position in Salem; this will result in her ability to discuss issues that previously were a conflict of interest for her, as well as free up her time for involvement in other activities. She noted she will not be able to attend the 3/19 Budget Committee meeting, but can be available by phone.

Director Lightcap asked that the District donate something to the Lower Basin Meeting, as all attendees have been asked to bring some refreshments.

Upcoming Meetings:

- a) Board Meeting – Thursday, April 2, 6 PM, WMSWCD Conference Room;
- b) Budget Committee Meeting #1 - Thursday, March 19th, 6 PM, 4th floor Conference Room 452 A & B.

Director Looney moved to adjourn the meeting; Director Peterson seconded; all approved; meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

¹ WMSWCD - 2/5/15 Board Meeting Minutes

² WMSWCD - Balance Sheet- As of January 31, 2015

³ WMSWCD - General Fund Budget vs. Actual Fiscal Year-to-date January 31, 2015

⁴ WMSWCD - Profit and Loss Budget Performance Fiscal Year-to-date as of January 31, 2015

⁵ Staff Reports