



WMSWD Conservation District Board Meeting Minutes 5/7/15

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 Hartline, Looney, Peterson, Sowder and Miller; Associate Directors Hamer, Weedall, Anderson

Absent: Directors Preeg Riggsby and Lightcap

Staff: DM Springer, Martin, Kern-Korot; Guests: Kim Galland, NRCS and Jim Adams, US Army Corps of Engineers
Staff and guests introduced themselves; there were no revisions to the agenda.

3. Sturgeon Lake Project – Bridge Costs – Jim Adams, US Army Corps of Engineers

Jim Adams, Project Manager with the US Army Corps of Engineers Programs and Project Management Division's Planning Branch, presented a summary of the work to date on the Sturgeon Lake Project.

1. The Colonel is close to signing the Partnership Agreement; it deviated from the BPA (Bonneville Power Administration), thus needed approval; a letter from the General, for the Colonel's signature, should be done next week; BPA will then make it official.
2. Adams will be sending invoices to Partners; WMSWCD will receive one for \$43,000; it will take a week or so for funding to be in line.
3. The Feasibility Report was completed in January
4. \$100,000 will be used to scope the project.
5. A team is being assembled; engineers will conduct a site visit of Reeder Road, the Channel, Wilkin's bridge and other relevant locations.
6. The Detailed Design Report (DDR) will be completed.
7. A "Basis of Design" will be followed by actual plans and specifications.
8. Construction is expected to occur in FY '17, from May/June to Oct/Dec, as a single construction, which saves money.
9. The competitive bidding process will be a full and open competition, with contracts being awarded for the "best value," not low bid.
10. WMSWCD will have a representative on the Evaluation Board, not as a voting member, but to provide input and feedback on proposals.
11. During the next year or so, the focus will be on modeling and design.
12. Partner meetings will be held every two weeks for technical and managerial (two separate groups) discussions; in addition, "hard core" technical meetings will be held; Scott Gall will represent the District at those.
13. Several reviews (30%/60%/90%) will occur:
 - a. The DDR will be 'final' after the 90% review, although in reality it is only considered final after construction is completed;
 - b. The Operations and Maintenance (O&M) and Monitoring Plans will be shared with WMSWCD and Multnomah County;
 - c. Plans and Specifications will be final after the 90% review.
14. HDR conducted the Feasibility Study and will also create the DDR.
15. Public and community meetings will be held; partners will work with the Corps' Public Affairs office to make sure the same 'message' is delivered from all groups; there will be little or no information posted on the Internet; noted that WMSWCD's Communications Coordinator, Carolyn Myers-Lindberg, and the Corps' Public Affairs staff person, Michelle Helms, should meet. WMSWCD will likely field questions from the public, particularly around real estate/property acquisitions.

16. Increased bridge costs:

- a. The Feasibility Study investigated creating a culvert vs a bridge;
- b. Headquarters considers a bridge to be a “betterment;” 100% of the cost should be borne by local sponsors; this increases the local share by \$400,000 - \$500,000; a bridge would actually cost about \$200-\$250 less than a culvert;
- c. Multnomah County will be asked to contribute additional dollars;
- d. It is hoped that Salmon Habitat Value (salmon can spawn in the estuary), will be considered by the Expert Research Technical Group (ERTG), who may then “up the score,” thus favoring the bridge; a meeting will be held on 5/8 to discuss how scoring was done.

Adams is available to answer questions at any time, and he encouraged the Board to contact him if needed.

4. Staff Report - Kammy Kern-Korot, Senior Conservationist

Kern-Korot reported on her Healthy Streams and Special Habitats projects.

5. Approval of April Minutes

Director Hartline moved to approve the April Board Meeting Minutes; Director Miller seconded; all approved.

6. Review Treasurer’s Reports – March

Director Miller presented the Treasurer’s report, noting that the District is in very good shape financially, still underspent in program areas, which will change as contractors’ invoices are received. He noted that if all resources are not spent, the Board, in consultation with the staff, should discuss where to use unspent funds.

7. Directors’ Check-in Reports

Director Sowder: Attended a Metro meeting where trails in McCarthy Creek were discussed; he expressed concern over the number of trails proposed; he is working with the group who is updating the Multnomah County Code to help RR5 (rural residential) lands.

Director Hartline: Attended the County Planning Commission Meeting, and is pleased with the policies for Sauvie Island; educating neighbors re: swallows; provided plants for the Ainsworth School Plant Sale; working on mapping Sauvie Island conservation projects; Frog Shuttle project is finished; volunteers doing ivy removal every Thursday (with Director Looney).

Director Miller: Referred a Sauvie Island property owner to Scott Gall; made a presentation at Soil School; interviewed Mary Logalbo on his radio show and also discussed stormwater management on it (find it on X-ray, 107.1 at 1:30 PM on Wednesdays; a podcast is available right after the show).

Associate Director Hamer: Attended Metro System Plan Stakeholder Meeting (notes provided to Board); promoted the District’s work/expertise; wants to see more outreach, property acquisition, education and emphasis on water quality.

Associate Director Anderson: Conversations with neighbors re: tax deferrals and stewardship plans; referred one land owner to Michael Ahr; will circulate Willamette Week article re: tax deferrals for forest land owners; more information needed on interface with County Revenue Office; tax deferral discussion will be on June Board Meeting agenda.

Director Looney: Ivy removal with Director Hartline; also attended the Metro Meeting Director Sowder mentioned; noted the number of McCarthy Creek trails proposed/discussed would not become a reality; elected Chair of the Linnton Neighborhood Association.

Associate Director Weedall: Attended Soil School; her HOA is submitting an HOA grant.

Director Lightcap (reported by DM Springer): Has attended several different SWCDs' meetings; briefly reported on the issues being dealt with by them; job description for OACD Executive Director still in process; OACD Convention is November 2, but no planning done to date; would like Board members' feedback on the OACD web site, which has been improved.

8. NRCS Update:

NRCS DC Galland updated the Board:

1. Galland is working on obligating FY 15 contracts;
2. The Q/A Review has been completed; provided Galland with direction for the next 3-5 years;
3. Working on Soil Health CIS;
4. Notice to vacate the office space at the District will be done by June 1, with a vacate date of Oct 1.
5. Enyarts has been funded; money will arrive in July;
6. Risk Management Agency requires crop insurance by June 1; may affect some Sauvie Island property owners; direct questions to NRCS, who may refer to FSA.

9. Staff Reports (April) and Sturgeon Lake Project Update

1. DM Springer will be involved in the lease discussions the GSA/NRCS will have with Montgomery Park.
2. The Long Range Business Plan (LRBP), required by and due to ODA by June 30, will not supercede the District's Strategic Plan; it is incorporated into the LRBP, with the addition of the Diversity Initiative.
3. In response to AD Hamer's question, DM Springer noted that he has long-time relationships with Metro's leadership and that both he and District staff have excellent working relationships with Metro leaders and staff.

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

June Board Meeting – Thursday, June 4, 6 PM, WMSWCD Conference Room.

Director Looney noted that Metro staff will attend the Linnton Neighborhood Association's July meeting.

Director Sowder moved to adjourn the meeting; Director Hartline seconded; all approved; meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

¹ WMSWCD – 4/2/15 Board Meeting Minutes

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

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

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

⁵ Staff Reports