



West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) Board Meeting Minutes 10/20/2020

1. Meeting Location and Time:

Location: Held via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Director Preeg Riggsby at 7:13 PM.

2. Introductions and Agenda Approval

Directors Present: Hartline, Lightcap, Looney, Miller, Peterson, Preeg Riggsby, Sowder; Associate Director Present: Hamer; District Manager (DM): Cathcart; Staff: Razalenti; Guests: Marganne Allen, Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), Craig Gibbons, Tax Supervising & Conservation Commission (TSCC)

The agenda was approved by acclamation. It was announced that the board meeting would be recorded, and recording began just prior to voting on the first set of meeting minutes.

3. Minutes:

West Multnomah SWCD Board Meeting minutesⁱ from 09/15/2020

Director Lightcap made a motion to approve the Board meeting minutes from 9/15/20 as written, and Director Hartline seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 6-0 [Director Peterson not present for vote due to technical difficulties].

West Multnomah SWCD Board Retreat Meeting minutesⁱⁱ from 10/07/2020 and 10/09/2020

Director Miller made a motion to approve the Board retreat meeting minutes from 10/07/20 and 10/09/20 as written, and Director Looney seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 7-0.

4. Review of Treasurer's Reports

Director Miller reviewed the following reports, noting that the District was in good financial position.

The following reports were reviewed:

- a) *WMSWCD-Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2020ⁱⁱⁱ*
- b) *WMSWCD-General Fund Budget Only Budget Performance September 30, 2020^v*
- c) *WMSWCD-Sturgeon Lake Fund Budget Performance September 30, 2020^v*

5. Public Comment Period

No public comment.

6. Long Range Business Plan (LRBP) – Vision and Mission

The Board was presented with the vision statement as it was left at the end of the LRBP board retreat, as well as the mission statement that had a revision since the LRBP board retreat. It was explained that

the Conservation Scope Advisory Committee (CSAC) felt it was important to call out fish habitat to ensure understanding of the District's work with aquatic habitats. The board felt that the readability of the revised mission statement didn't flow well and offered a different order of the words for a better flow.

Director Lightcap moved to adopt this final wording of the mission statement: "We provide resources, education, and expertise to inspire people to actively improve air and water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and soil health.", as well as adopt the vision statement as written: "Our vision is that all people in our district are informed and confidently engaged in the long-term caring for and giving back to the land. Everyone has the opportunity to connect or reconnect with the land, especially those who have been displaced from or deprived of land. People's engagement and connection to the land ensures clean water, clean air, healthy soil, and diverse habitats, for thriving communities and wildlife." Director Hartline seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 7-0.

Director Preeg Riggsby and Director Looney electronically signed Resolution no. 2020-10-20 Adopting New Vision and Mission Statement^{vi}.

7. Long Range Business Plan – Strategic Direction (Goals)^{vii}

Director Lightcap excused himself from the meeting at the start of this discussion.

DM Cathcart presented the nine strategic goals noting that they have been vetted by staff and that these goals don't have a performance measure and instead that they guide the District's focus. Additional goals that get into the details will be developed as time goes on. The CSAC had a robust discussion about the goals – especially goal 7 addressing connecting and reconnecting people to the land -- and in general were supportive of the goals. The CSAC's full comments will be shared at the November Board meeting as this gives the CSAC time to approve how their comments were summarized by staff. The Board was asked for initial reactions to the goals as written.

DM Cathcart explained the goal regarding securing investments is about developing tools such as conservation easements. For example, in the healthy streams program a lot of conservation dollars are invested year after year to help these streams for the long-term. A new landowner could simply take out the habitat if they choose. This is getting at working with current landowners and entering into agreements so that the projects stand and their conservation benefits continue when the properties are sold. Director Miller noted that the District will want to ensure development of the administrative and legal capacity before entering into long term agreements.

DM Cathcart pointed out that staff were unsure about using the terms "forests" vs. "woodlands", and asked for feedback. The Board felt that the term "woodlands" sounds more small-scale and privately owned, which felt more appropriate.

The District is hoping to formally adopt the goals at the December Board meeting.

8. Prevention of Workplace Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation Policy^{viii}

Director Preeg Riggsby reminded the Board of this policy which is necessary and important for both the staff and the board to adhere to. If anyone hears something that they are uncomfortable with during a meeting, it is important and welcomed to speak up. The staff are also empowered to speak up during

board meetings as well. Director Preeg Riggsby would like this reminder to come up at Board meetings on a yearly basis moving forward.

9. Directors' and Associate Directors' Check-In

Tabled due to lack of time.

10. Announcements/Reminders/Confirmation of next Meeting:

Director Preeg Riggsby noted the following upcoming meetings/announcements:

- Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) Board Nominations due October 26th
- OACD Annual Meeting – November 10th
- Next West Multnomah SWCD Board Meeting – November 17th

Director Looney moved to adjourn the meeting, and Director Hartline seconded the motion. All approved the motion, and the Board adjourned at 8:03 pm.

ⁱWMSWCD 9/15/2020 Board Meeting Minutes

ⁱⁱWMSWCD 10/7 and 10/9 Board Retreat Meeting Minutes

ⁱⁱⁱWMSWCD-Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2020

^{iv} WMSWCD-General Fund Budget Only Budget Performance September 30, 2020

^vWMSWCD-Sturgeon Lake Fund Budget Performance September 30, 2020

^{vi}Resolution no. 2020-10-20 Adopting New Vision and Mission Statement

^{vii}Long Range Business Plan Report with Goals

^{viii}Resolution no. 2019-12-17 Resolution to Adopt Prevention of Workplace Discrimination Harassment and Retaliation Policy

^{ix}Staff Reports