



West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) Board Meeting Minutes 04/20/2021

### **1. Meeting Location and Time:**

Location: Held via Zoom meeting. The meeting was called to order by Director Preeg Riggsby at 8:00 PM.

### **2. Introductions and Agenda Approval**

Directors Present: Hartline, Lightcap, Looney, Miller, Peterson, Preeg Riggsby, Sowder; Associate Directors Present: Hamer; District Manager (DM): Cathcart; Staff: Razalenti

It was announced that the Board meeting would be recorded. The agenda was approved by acclamation, with the addition that Director Lightcap wanted to make a report (resulting in a Director check-in agenda item).

### **3. Minutes:**

*West Multnomah SWCD Board Meeting minutes from 3/16/2021<sup>i</sup>*

Director Lightcap made a motion to approve the Board meeting minutes from 3/16/21 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 reported that the District is in a good position going into the next fiscal year.

The following reports were reviewed:

- a) *WMSWCD-Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2021<sup>ii</sup>*
- b) *WMSWCD-General Fund Budget Only Budget Performance March 31, 2021<sup>iii</sup>*
- c) *WMSWCD-Sturgeon Lake Fund Budget Performance March 31, 2021<sup>iv</sup>*

### **5. Public Comment**

No public comment.

### **6. Support for Recovering America's Wildlife Act<sup>v</sup>**

DM Cathcart gave the Board an overview of the backgrounder handout of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act and the National Wildlife Federation's group letter that DM Cathcart recommended the District join as a signatory in support for this Act. Director Lightcap noted that the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) should also share this letter with other SWCDs to sign on. Director Preeg Riggsby, as President of OACD, will follow-up with OACD on this.

Director Hartline made a motion to sign the letter supporting the Recovering American's Wildlife Act. Director Looney seconded the motion, and it was approved with a vote of 7-0.

### **7. Juneteenth as a District Holiday**

Director Preeg Riggsby reminded the Directors of the motion made in June 2020 regarding the Board's intention to review declaration of Juneteenth as an annual holiday for future years at a subsequent

meeting. The DEI Committee [as well as all staff at their April staff meeting] discussed the notion of swapping out observing Presidents' Day for Juneteenth to keep the number of paid holidays remaining the same, and were supportive of this. It was also noted that the State of Oregon was voting on a bill to make Juneteenth a state holiday but that the Board still needed to take action to observe this day as a holiday because the District is not obligated to follow all state holidays. Staff impacted by children being off from school for Presidents' Day have access to personal time or other forms of leave such as vacation time, should they need to use this to cover child care for Presidents' Day.

Director Miller made a motion to approve making Juneteenth a paid holiday in place of Presidents' Day. For this particular year (2021), Juneteenth can be an additional holiday due to Presidents' Day having already been observed. Director Looney seconded the motion, and it was approved with a vote of 7-0.

## **8. Director check-in**

Director Lightcap noted noticing garlic mustard in Connecticut, and is planning to help eradicate the garlic mustard with local neighbors.

Director Miller shared links to articles regarding compost, and these will be shared on the District's social media.

- *How to Use Compost in Gardens and Landscapes:*  
<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9308/html>
- *Herbicide-Contaminated Compost and Soil Mix: What You Should Know — and What You Can Do About It:* <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9307/html>

Director Hartline would like to have Zoom courtesy reminders at the beginnings of meetings about muting when not speaking.

## **9. Announcements/Reminders/Confirmation of next Meeting:**

Director Preeg Riggsby noted the following upcoming meetings/events:

- Next Board meeting – May 18, 2021
- The Board to look at DM Cathcart's message regarding external review of the Long Range Business Plan
- Meeting Date During the Summer – July 20<sup>th</sup> (Special Districts Association of Oregon Board Assessment)
- Three Year Sturgeon Lake Restoration Project Celebration – Sept. 10, 2021

DM Cathcart acknowledged that this week contained Administrative Professionals Day (April 21<sup>st</sup>) and commemorated the work of staff members Levis, Magyar, and Razalenti. DM Cathcart also noted that there are three sessions of Soil School left.

The Board adjourned at 8:26 pm.

<sup>i</sup>WMSWCD 3/16/2021 Board Meeting Minutes

<sup>ii</sup>WMSWCD-Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2021

<sup>iii</sup>WMSWCD-General Fund Budget Only Budget Performance March 31, 2021

<sup>iv</sup>WMSWCD-Sturgeon Lake Fund Budget Performance March 31, 2021

<sup>v</sup>Recovering America's Wildlife Act [backgrounder and attachments]

<sup>vi</sup>Long Range Business Plan Progress Report

<sup>vii</sup>Staff Reports