

Polk Soil and Water Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes - APPROVED
Polk SWCD Office-NRCS Conference Room
580 Main Street, Suite A, Dallas OR 97338
April 8th, 2015

In Attendance:

Directors

David Simmons (Chair)
Chad Wood (Vice-Chair)
Frank Pender (Secretary)
Kelly Gordon
David McKibben
Jock Dalton (arrived late)

Staff

Sawyer Finegan (Youth Outreach)
Tom Wilson (Clerk)

Directors Emeritus/Associates/Guests

Tom Finegan - NRCS
Judy Beebe - associate
Mel Chase - guest
Jim Clawson - emeritus

BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER - David Simmons, Chair, called the Board Meeting to order at 6PM. Directors Simmons, Woods, Pender, McKibben and Gordon were all present to start the meeting.

INTRODUCTIONS- Introductions of all individuals were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT- none

CLAUDIA REPORT – S. Finegan explained the District can store Claudia at the fairground year round for the same price as over the winter. He presented a handout (#1) showing cost/income from the last 3 years and that if the money collected was dedicated for her repair, we would have enough to fix her. Simmons explained that he has talked to other districts and they are interested in creating a "Save the Salmon" fund to help pay for repairs and upkeep. Other suggestions were a "go fund me" site or other fundraisers in the community. Pender would like to have more recent quotes for repair. S. Finegan will take her to the Earth 411 event with a donation box. At this time S. Finegan left the meeting.

PRESENTATION- Brian Lightcap from OACD (Oregon Association of Conservation Districts) talked to the board regarding the lower basin and communication between the executive board and districts. He reported the OACD website now contains legislative information. He recommended that if the manager or chair wants something to talk to him and he will send it up the chain of command. The convention will be the first week of November. He also wanted to see the calendar up to date with important information. Pender stated that he feels like that OACD is operating in a vacuum and he would like to see the minutes available to the districts. Simmons replied he thinks the executive board doesn't have an interest in what the districts have to say. Mr. Lightcap said the executive director can and should delegate work better. Mr. Lightcap stressed 4 points for improvement: legislation information, publication of the minutes, updating the calendar, and an executive director job description. He would like concentrate on these things, create a working system to address problems and then apply that to other challenges. Lastly, he handed out a brochure regarding "Resources and People" (RAP) camp and asked directors to distribute in the community.

ACTION ITEMS

Pender moved to accept the amended agenda as presented, McKibben 2nd, No Discussion, passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT (see attachment A)- Woods explained that he met with District Manager Nembach before she left for vacation, and she has a preliminary budget ready. Beebe noted that March payroll had not be processed before the

report was ran. Pender moved to accept the March treasurer's report as presented, McKibben 2nd. No Discussion, passed unanimously.

BOARD MINUTES (see attachment B)- Pender moved to accept the March 11th board meeting minutes as presented, Gordon 2nd. No Discussion, passed unanimously. After approval, Brian Lightcap noted that his name was incorrectly written as "Whitecap" on page 2. Wilson apologized and regrets the error.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR (see attachment C)-

Woods moved to accept Mel Chase as an Associate Director, McKibben 2nd. No Discussion, passed unanimously. At this time Chad Woods left the meeting, but a quorum remained.

ANNUAL MEETING DATE

Pender moved to accept resolution 060-040815 establishing September 17th, 2015 as the Polk SWCD Annual Meeting, McKibben 2nd. No Discussion, passed unanimously.

OACD DUES (see attachment D) - Pender asked how the fee form was created (attachment D4). Simmons explained it was by a product of a 2 year committee process to try and recognize that some Districts can afford more than others. Gordon would like to see the OACD's financial records, which Simmons have requested. Simmons suggested the fees were for FY 2015-16 and that he would like to table the discussion until the District sees some progress from OACD. A decision will be made before July 1, 2015.

MONTHLY CALENDAR-(see attachment E) - information only. Clerk Wilson stated that he had a conference call after printing out the calendar, and one missing item is a pesticide collection event scheduled in Polk County for May 22, 2015 at the Polk County Public Works.

BUDGET COMMITTEE (POSITION 5) (see attachment F)-

Pender moved to accept Tom Crawford as budget committee position 5. Gordon 2nd. No Discussion, passed unanimously.

SAFETY UPDATES (see attachment G)- as presented, information only. The policy board will discuss the issues at their next meeting. Wilson is working on putting together information regarding outdoor hazards and emergency evacuation.

OACD LEGISLATION WATCH (see attachment H)-information

NRCS CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANT-see handout #2. T.Finegan explained the program and what type of projects would qualify. Gordon asked if Polk County has received any of these funds in the past, and Finegan responded that there have been applications submitted, but not rewarded. He explained that there is a very short window (May 29th, 2015 close date).

PUBLIC PROCURMENT CLASSES (see attachment I) – information only. For the board to read and discussed at a future board meeting. District Manger Nembach had previously expressed interest in the contract administration class.

At this time Jock Dalton arrived.

NEW TREASURER-Simmons moved to appoint Jock Dalton as the new treasurer. Pender 2nd. No Discussion, passed unanimously.

REPORTS

POLICY COMMITTEE-Clawson reported the he is still working on updating the policy handbook.

fill out form 1026 for crop insurance by June 1. The Tangent and Salem FSA offices have been hit hard by staff shortages due to medical issues, and the Polk NRCS office will be helping FSA with the backlog.

WATERSHED COUNCILS-

Luckiamute- Gordon explained they are still working on knotweed, and did get OWEB funding.

Glenn-Gibson- Simmons said they did not get the OWEB coordinator funding grant, but will appeal at a meeting next week. Gordon asked if they have considered merging with the Luckiamute, and Simmons replied not yet.

Rickreall- Simmons explained they did not get coordinator funding grant, but will appeal at a meeting next week.

Greater Yamhill- Stutzman explained that the GYWC is partnering with the Yamhill SWCD on the RCPP project.

STAFF (see attachments Z1-Z6)-Stutzman explained that Bell included a page about the CONNECT conference and its benefit in his staff report.

Stutzman, responding to a board inquiry from the budget meeting, stated that she checked with SDAO and the District does have pesticide applicator pollution coverage insurance.

CHAIR- Simmons explained that Jeremy Peters is the new CEO of NACD.

DIRECTORS-

Woods-Thanked everybody in attendance for helping the District accomplish its goals, and has seen a huge turnaround in interest in the last year.

Pender-Declared he was reappointed to forestland fire evaluation committee. He said that Hunt did a great job at the Agro Forestry workshop put on in conjunction with OSU Extension.

McKibben-none

Gordon-none

Dalton-none

L. Loop- Expressed she would like to become an associate instead of an emeritus. She recently helped with CREP training for OWEB. She is excited about the Lick Skillet property and the many opportunities it provides for the District.

Chase-none

Beebe- none

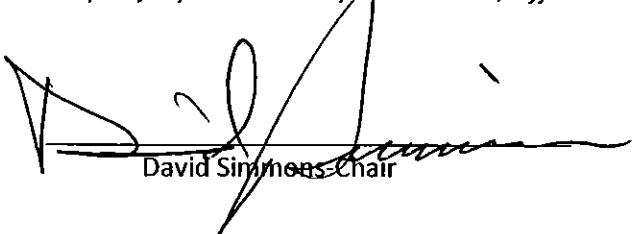
Simmons asked guest Matt Crawford to tell a little about himself and he explained he manages and works a 1000 acre farm in Perrydale (Seabreeze Farms). He has used no-till/minimum till on their property and is conservation minded.

Woods asked about his impression of the meeting and district, and he said he had a favorable view, and wanted to try and help make a difference.

Pender moves that Matt Crawford be appointed Zone 1 Director, 2nd by woods. No Discussion, passed unanimously. He will be sworn in next meeting.

ADJOURN: 7:50 PM

Respectfully submitted by Tom Wilson, Office Administrator on May 14th, 2015.



David Simmons-Chair

June 10, 2015