

**POLK SWCD BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 13, 2021 - 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM**  
Via ZOOM video Conference  
Recording and attachments available on request

CALL BOARD MEETING TO ORDER: Chair Woods @ 6:06 PM , then asked if Beebe could chair the remainder of the meeting.

PRESENT:

- DIRECTORS: Woods (6:18 pm), Beebe, Garnett, Wilson, Ford, and Dalton
- STAFF: DM Stutzman and J Morgan
- GUESTS: Bill Wainwright, NRCS District Conservationist Evelyn Conrad

PUBLIC COMMENTS: In lieu of Mr. Caceau providing an introduction to his 3 grant proposals for farmer rancher Western SARE grants this fall, where he is looking for a letter of support, the DM provided an overview instead.

REVISION OF AGENDA: Staff member Jackson Morgan would like to ask for funding to round out and complete oak restoration work being done at a project in the county.

STAFF REPORTS – DM gave a recap of funding applied for, Native Plant Sale in progress, and that staff would make 1<sup>st</sup> quarter presentations at the November board meeting.

NRCS Dist. Conservationist Conrad presented Title VI and Title VII, and Historically Underserved policy that the District is subject to as part of our MOU with NRCS. Several members asked for a copy of the power point slides for their records.

**ACTION**

- (Added at beginning of meeting) Special Projects Funding for oak restoration project at Thorstad Oaks. Morgan would like \$7,500 from the SPF to finish off an 8.5 acre oak restoration project. After some discussion and a friendly amendment, **Woods moved to provide \$4,000 this fiscal year, along with a quarterly report of progress including pictures, and the remaining \$3,500 next fiscal year with the same progress reports. Garnett accepts the friendly amendment and 2nds the motion. Discussion. Motion passed 6-0.**
- **Woods would like Morgan to create a map of all oak projects going in the county for the next board meeting.**

- September 2021 Treasurer's Reports

**Woods moved, Garnett 2nd to accept the September 2021 treasurer's reports as presented with no concerns. Motion passed.**

- September 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

**Woods moved, Garnett 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the September 2021 board meeting minutes. Ford and Wilson abstain, they were not present. Motion passed.**

- September 2021 Special Contract Review Board Meeting Minutes

**Woods moved, Dalton 2nds to accept the September 2021 Special Contract Review Board meeting minutes. Ford abstains, was not present. Motion passed.**

- OACD Board Member Election Ballot

**Garnett moved, Wilson 2nds to support both candidates up for election on the OACD Board Member ballot as presented. Motion passed.**

- Western SARE Grant Proposals LOS

**Garnett moved, Dalton 2nds District Manager will write a letter of support for the Western SARE grant proposals from the board. Discussion, the District doesn't want any money from the grants, just to write a letter. Ford abstains. Motion passed 5-0.**

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

SDIS Safety & Security Grant Program – mitigation to security threats at Conservation Properties  
Discussion – staff provided a draft budget and proposal. DM asked if Garnett would look over wording for brief proposal requested, he agreed. Then DM will turn in the application with items to include: trail cams, security lighting, safety signage, gate lock, gate, etc. Grant due November 1, 2021.

Personnel Committee – Wilson reported the recommendation from SDAO attorney Eakins regarding creating a policy to guide board behavior. Wilson suggests adding a code of conduct and expectations of board members to the current policy. Beebe suggested the board review a list given to the board surrounding board conduct. *Consensus was to have a 30 minute executive session at the November or December board meeting to discuss items moving forward.*

**7:26 pm. Left regular board meeting**

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**7:27 pm Entered Special Executive Session**

**192.660(2)(e) To conduct deliberations with persons you have designated to negotiate real property transactions**

**7:46 pm ended executive session**

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**7:47 pm back to regular session**

By consensus the board decided to create an Ad Hoc committee to conduct research around the pro's and con's of acquiring another conservation easement off of Liberty road. The staff will present monthly reports and make a recommendation to move forward or not at the January 2022 board meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

none

BOARD MEETING ADJORNED: @ 7:50 PM