

Polk Soil and Water Conservation District

Board Meeting Minutes -**APPROVED**

Location: Polk County Fairgrounds, 520 S Pacific Hwy W, Rickreall, OR 97371
Date: June 11, 2014
Start Time: 6:00 PM

Attendance:

Directors	Staff	Directors Emeritus/Associates/Guests
David Simmons	Karin Nembach	Tom Finegan - NRCS
Chad Wood	Sawyer Finegan	Ken Bierly – Glen Gibson Watershed Council (GGWC)
Frank Pender	Tom Wilson	Bogdan Caceu- Landowner
Linda Marquardt-Sutton		
Jim Buckovic		

BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

David Simmons, Chair, called the Board Meeting to order at 6PM. Directors Simmons, Wood, Pender, Marquardt-Sutton, and Buckovic were all present to start the meeting.

INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions of all individuals were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

SPEAKERS: District Outreach Coordinator Sawyer Finegan asked the board to sign up for shifts at the county fair, as the District has another event (River Relay from the Calapooia Watershed Council) staff will be helping at. The responsibilities will be similar to past years, but the booth will be shared with AgFirst. Finegan explained that help is also needed for Summer Fest in Dallas. Chair Simmons asked about the annual meeting and Finegan responded he has talked to a local landowner with a potential property, and will go visit the site with District Manager Nembach. There will be a covered area for inclement weather, if needed.

District Conservationist Tom Finegan spoke about the NRCS and their civil rights requirements. He talked about the new building construction, the ADA upgrades and the new standards. There are still issues with the slope in the two ADA parking spots. Discussion followed about possible fixes.

At 6:25 PM landowner Bogdan Caceu arrived.

AGENDA ITEMS

ADOPTING THE BUDGET: (see attachment A)

Vice-Chair Woods moved to accept the appropriations of all funds. 2nd by Director Buckovic. No discussion, passed unanimously.

Woods moved to accept the tax rate of \$.05 per \$1000 assessed value. 2nd by Buckovic. No discussion, passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT- (see attachment B)

District Manager explained we are still receiving property taxes and have received the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture (ODA) Ag Water Quality funding. Chair Simmons was curious for which quarter the payments are for (as they are often behind), and Nembach will research and report back to him. Woods would like to see more information (fund balances,

previous year monthly comparison, and a summation of total funds) presented on future reports. Woods also explained there was \$10,800 error in our favor last month due to a former employee entering a \$1200 check as \$12,000.

Woods moved to accept the treasurer's report as presented with the stipulation to include fund balances, previous monthly comparison and summation of total funds available in subsequent reports. 2nd by Director Pender. No discussion, passed unanimously.

MINUTES- (see attachments C and D)

Pender moved to accept the May 14th Board Meeting minutes as presented. 2nd by Buckovic. No discussion, passed unanimously.

Pender moved to accept the May 6th Board Meeting minutes as presented. 2nd by Buckovic. No discussion, passed unanimously.

SDAO DUES AND JOINDER AGREEMENT (see attachment E). Dues will be \$233 for 2014-15.

Woods moved to pay the dues of \$233 and abide by the joinder trust agreement. 2nd by Pender. No discussion, passed unanimously.

OWEB SMALL GRANT REPAYMENT DISCUSSION- Simmons said the statute of limitations has ended, so the District would have to hire an attorney, file suit and go to court to collect, and it would cost more money than what the district is owed. Director Marquardt-Sutton suggested using a collection agency and Woods explained that there is a public relation aspect as well that could affect the District's work in the future. Woods stressed the importance of staff keeping on top of future projects to prevent this from happening again.

Woods moved to discontinue pursuit without prejudice (at this time) on the small grant delinquency. 2nd by Pender. Marquardt Sutton abstained. No discussion, passed unanimously.

JUNE/JULY CALENDAR - (see attachment F) Clerk Wilson explained that Resource Conservationist Graham is putting on a 1st Step workshop on June 28th at the District office, and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board's small grant application window is from June 15th-29th.

Simmons and Woods suggested the District hold the board meetings in the new conference room at the District office, with dinner catered.

COMMITTEE REPORTS-

BUILDING-District Conservationist Finegan said there are few problems with the phone lines after the move (fuzzy static) and he will let someone know tomorrow. T. Finegan reported the landlords have been really responsive to any problems.

FORESTRY- Pender explained (from his work on another board) that the fire district cannot include the Eola Hills area in the reclassification plan as it is not contiguous.

PERSONNEL- Nembach explained Karla Sanders will finish up the personnel policy this month.

REPORTS-

NRCS- Finegan reported the NRCS is changing staffing in their resource basin. There will be a new position in the basin, floating between 9 counties. FSA sent out an announcement for the new CREP rules for contracting. Finegan explained the streaked horned lark was listed as an endangered species. The Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) provides some great opportunities. The NRCS puts in funds to match other partners for a possible CREP technician,

endangered species recovery, riparian habitat buffering and other conservation projects. The first deadline to apply is July 15th. Discussion about possible projects in the District.

WATERSHED COUNCIL-

Glenn-Gibson- Mr. Bierly explained the GGWC is working with the No Ivy Coalition in West Salem. He explained they will be participating with the city of Salem to do habitat restoration on the old Cascade-Pacific land at Minto-Brown Park. Mr. Bierly would like to have a joint meeting with the RWC, similar to last year.

LWC-Nembach explained they are negotiating a contract with the Marys River Watershed Council to do the fiscal administration. They are also working on the annual budget and the Ash Creek grant. LWC will be walking in the Independence Day Parade in Independence at the end to pick up trash.

STAFF- Simmons asked S. Finegan about the status of Claudia Chinook. Finegan has contacted a body shop to do the fiberglass repairs, and they will supply an estimate in a few weeks. A private citizen (former member of the Rickreall Watershed Council) has agreed to pay for the paint job on Claudia Chinook.

Woods pointed to the photos in Stewardship Forester Hunt's report and explained the benefit of the work. Woods also explained that Marc Bell had an article published in the Polk Itemizer-Observer regarding the District's work to re-establish habitat for the Fender's Blue Butterfly. Woods wanted to thank the professional staff for their hard work in grant writing and working with other agencies.

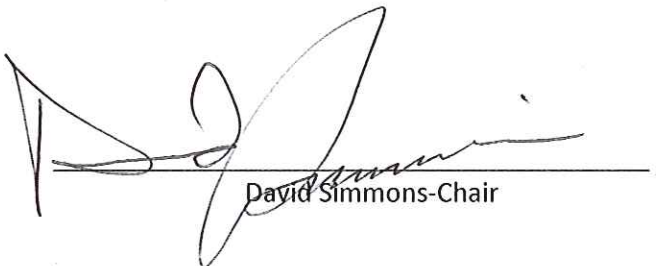
Director Nembach explained that there will be two interns working for the district this summer. Discussion about the new state and federal laws regarding internships. Nembach will research the rules.

CHAIR-Doug Wyant's (Zone 4) resignation letter is signed. Pender moved to accept Doug Wyant's resignation, 2nd by Woods. Discussion regarding which to send (copy or original) to the state. Nembach will research. Passed unanimously.

DIRECTORS-None

ADJOURN: 7:43 PM

Respectfully Submitted by District Clerk Tom Wilson, June 13th, 2014.



David Simmons-Chair

July 9th, 2014