

**POLK SWCD**  
**September 16, 2020**  
**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**  
**6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

Participation via ZOOM video conference

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Woods called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM. District Manager Stutzman did introductions with a roll call:

- Directors: Crawford, Ford, Woods, Wilson, Simmons, Dalton and Beebe (Beebe arrived at 6:30 pm)
- Staff: Stutzman, Bell and Morgan.
- Guests: Tom Wilson, Pryor Garnett, and Kristen Larson

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** none

**STAFF AND PARTNER REPORTS:**

Staff Stutzman, Morgan and Bell gave reports to the board (See attachments). NRCS Manager Conrad gave a report on the civil rights requirements of the NRCS and its programming partners.

*At 7:07 Director Wilson left the meeting*

DM Stutzman gave her board report (see attachment). She also reported:

- There are 15 candidates for the OSU Extension small farms position. Hope to start by Mid October
- The financial auditor is in next week
- She is working with the accountant, and Directors Dalton and Woods on having financial reports model the public budget.
- Dalton opened a Citizens bank account with about \$90,000. Dalton reported he delivered the signature sheet to Citizens Bank for special project fund transfer account.
- The Cultivating magazine is coming out next week
- The native plant sale is live online.

**August Treasurer's Report (attachment B)**

Woods said in coming meetings, once a quarter at least, will focus on the financials, giving more time to get into the details

*Crawford moved (sorry bad connection, can't be sure), 2nd Beebe to accept the August Treasurer's report. Passed: 6-0*

**August Board Meeting Minutes (attachment C)**

*Crawford moved , Simmons 2nd to approve the August Board Minutes as presented. Ford and Dalton abstained due to absences. Passed 4-0.*

**Road Sign Placement: (see attachment D)**

*Dalton moved, Simmons 2nd to put an identification sign on the Polk Soil and Water Conservation District's political boundary with Yamhill county. As a subset of state government, it is to notify the public where the districts authority ends. See discussion; Passed 6-0.*

Discussion:

- Stutzman asked if the board is comfortable putting a sign on an ODOT right of way.
- The board would allow Simmons to make arrangements with Tom Wilson's help.
- Beebe will only support if going thru the proper channels (local/state government permitting, etc.) with any serious issues being noted to the board.

**Contract Review Officer**

Woods acknowledged that Director Ford left the meeting about 7:40 pm.

*Dalton moved, Beebe 2nd to have the Chair of the Contract Review Board (Board Chair) be the signer for the overarching NRCS RCPP Polk County Oak Habitat Restoration 2020 Partnership Agreement, and the District Manager will be the authorized signer for any quarterly and/or annual reporting. Passed 5-0*

**INFORMATION**

Candidate Positions Posted (attachment G): Pryor Garnett introduced himself and gave his background as a retired patent lawyer for IBM, as well a current organic grain farmer in NW Polk County.

Wildlife Tax Deferral Update (attachment H)

**NEW BUSINESS**

Staff would like to create 4 small grant style grant opportunities (60k total) for this FY utilizing Special Project Fund Resources. They are suggesting starting with \$60,000.

Discussion:

- Woods said he doesn't want to set a budget amount, but there are funds he is willing to spend if it comes from the Special Projects Fund and fixing known conservation problems.
- The money comes from other sources, set aside in the Special Project Fund, matching grants, etc.
- Crawford commented the money was there and would support spending it on worthwhile local projects identified by the district.
- Beebe suggested don't advertise it, but have the staff and board keep a look out for needy projects.

Overall the board was very supportive of the idea.

Woods adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.



Chair Chad Woods – 10/19/2020