

Polk Soil and Water Conservation District
July 11, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes Approved
580 Main Street, STE A
Dallas, OR 97338

[*Attachments available on request*](#)

In Attendance:

Directors

Frank Pender
Mike Wilson
Chad Woods
Jock Dalton
Matt Crawford
David Simmons
David McKibben

Staff

Karin Stutzman

Directors Emeritus/Associates/Guests

Terry Stutzman- guest
Judy Beebe – Associate
Mark Comstock - Attorney

BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS: Frank Pender, Chair, called the Board Meeting to order at 6:10 PM. Directors Wilson, Pender, Dalton, Crawford, Woods, McKibben, and Simmons were present to start the meeting. Introductions were made.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ACTION ITEMS:

UPDATED AGENDA: Pender would like to update the agenda to reflect Director Simmons request to make this an opening meeting to allow him to respond publicly to complaints made against him per ORS192.660(2)(b) to consider dismissal, discipline of, or complaints; against and officer, employee, staff or agent. The board will then go into an executive session in accordance with ORS192.660(2)(f): To consider information or records that are exempt from disclosure by law, including written advice from an attorney.

Director Simmons began the discussion by asking a series of questions to the attorney. Questions included: how the investigation came about, how interviewees were chosen, how questions were developed, and how the summary was created. Director Simmons also asked the attorney what person called for this investigation and if this investigation was voted on by the board. Frank Pender stated he called for the investigation, and response by board members and staff was that the board met in executive session in February 2018, during this session the Attorney Mark Comstock advised the board that he had been hired by the Chair Frank Pender. There was a consensus of support from the board to move forward, but no formal vote was taken.

Director Simmons and the board proceeded to discuss the Summary Report provided by Attorney Mark Comstock. Director Simmons provided responses to the report of legal counsel as to the factual investigation of the specific allegations. At the advice of the attorney the district manager did not pass out the summary report to anyone other than the board members.

The open board meeting ended at 7:30 p.m. Executive Session began at 7:31 p.m.

Executive Session ended at 9:20 p.m.

At this time, as part of a public board meeting, 2 motions were delegated to the Chair of the Board to implement.

Dalton moved to delegate to the Chair of the Board, the creation of a letter to the Department of Agriculture that the board was informing them that Director Simmons possibly violated ethics by requesting a letter from the district

calculating the number of volunteer hours he worked for the District over the year and equating that to a dollar amount for use in tax returns. Crawford seconded. No discussion. Director Simmons abstained from voting. Woods, Dalton, Crawford, McKibben, Wilson, and Pender voted in favor of the motion.

Dalton moved to delegate to the Chair of the Board, the creation of a letter of reprimand addressing board direction to Director Simmons regarding his future interactions with District staff and partners, and that he should be circumspect in regards to his micromanaging behavior with staff in the future. Crawford seconded. No discussion. Director Simmons abstained from voting. Woods, Dalton, Crawford, McKibben, Wilson, and Pender voted in favor of the motion.

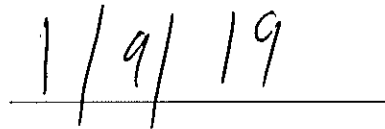
Some discussion ensued regarding needing to have a review of certain board policies for clarification. Pender commented that he is going to ask committees to convene more regularly as necessary to address certain board questions. District manager is looking into the cost of selling certain district furniture to the councils for their use and will be in contact with the council coordinator, Lucas Hunt.

ADJOURNED 9:40 PM

Respectfully submitted by District Manager Karin Stutzman on July 11, 2018.



Matt Crawford -Chair



DATE