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Minutes of the Columbia SWCD Board of Directors Meeting June 21, 2023

Directors Present:

Debra Brimacombe, Vice Chair Jeff VanNatta, Treasurer Bill Eagle, Secretary Michael Calhoun, Chair

SWCD Staff:

Malyssa Legg, District Manager Jennifer Chavez, Operations Coordinator Selene Keeney, Senior Resource Conservationist

Public:

Claudia Eagle

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS): Hannah Issacs, District Conservationist

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA): Karin Stutzman, SWCD Program Lead (via Zoom)

Scappoose Bay Watershed Council (SBWC): Rachell Meyers, Council Coordinator (via

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING: 4:02 PM

Prior Month's Minutes: Motion Eagle/Brimacombe to approve the Minutes from 5-17-23. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Financial Report: Motion Eagle/Brimacombe to accept the financial Report from 5-31-23. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote**.

Zoom)

Bills to Pay: Motion VanNatta/Eagle approve to pay the bills. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

BILLS TO PAY (US Bank) June 21, 2023					
				Expenditure Splits	
Ck #	Payee	Memo	Amount	CSWCD	GRANT
2921	Pershing LLC	Retirement Payment	\$3,313.17	\$3,313.17	\$0.00
			4.5	4	4
		SUBTOTALS >>>>>>>	\$3,313.17	\$3,313.17	\$0.00
TOTAL REQUESTS >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>					\$3,313.17

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

<u>REPORTS</u>

- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS): Hannah stated that the soil conservationist position will hopefully be re-advertised soon. She also mentioned that there will be a change to the Cultural Resources law that will be coming into effect in July. Discussion was held. Malyssa requested that Hannah email the bill to her to look into.
- **<u>Upper Nehalem Watershed Council (UNWC)</u>**: Michael mentioned that the council had its annual meeting last month and that it went well. The council's new website is now live, though they are still working out a few kinks.
- <u>Staff</u>: Jenn explained that there have been a few temporary signs made with grant funds to place at restoration project sites. There are plans to create permanent signs as well. Selene mentioned that the Carcus Creek large wood enhancement project started today. Brief discussion was held.

OLD BUSINESS

• **<u>Carr Slough Phase 2</u>**: Selene asked the Board if they had any questions regarding the draft conservation easement that was emailed to them. Discussion was held. Bill asked if both landowners are on board with the easement, and they are.

Motion Eagle/Brimacombe to accept the conservation easement for the Carr Slough property. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

- <u>Contracting Committee</u>: Malyssa explained that she would like the committee to be formed as soon as possible as recommended by the district's lawyer. Malyssa asked that any Board members interested in being on the committee let her know.
- **Fair Sign-Up:** Malyssa reminded the board that the district will have a booth at the upcoming fair in July. A sign-up link was sent via email to volunteer to help. Malyssa asked Jenn to re-send the link to the board.

NEW BUSINESS

- <u>Letter of Support for Lower Columbia River Watershed Council (LCRWC)</u>: Malyssa informed the Board that the LCRWC did not receive approval for funding for the lower capacity grant from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). There is a meeting scheduled for next week to draft a letter of support with the council's partners. Brief discussion was held.
- <u>Change accounting from Accrual to Modified Cash</u>: Malyssa explained that the auditor recommends changing to modified cash, and what the difference is. Discussion was held. **Motion VanNatta/Eagle** to approve switching to modified cash beginning July 1, 2023. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**
- <u>Associate Director</u>: Malyssa explained that Rachell Meyers (SBWC Coordinator) lives in Clatskanie and in interested in a conservation plan, as well as possibly joining the Board in the future. Brief discussion was held.

Motion VanNatta/Eagle to accept Rachell as an Associate Director. Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.

• **SBWC Report:** Rachell explained that the Reach F project at Veteran's park is moving forward. The Council was also approved funding for the upper Raymond Creek project. They are also working on providing more outreach events to the public.

• <u>Contracts</u>: Michael was provided a copy of the contract with Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership (LCEP) for water quality monitoring for \$18,500. Brief discussion held. **Motion VanNatta/Brimacombe** to approve the contract for \$18,500. **Approved Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

BOARD REPORTS

- Deb mentioned that she attended the 2nd grade field day at Hudson Elementary School with Amber and Crystalyn last week. She added that she came across the "Beaver State Podcast" by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife that she thought others would be interested in.
- Jeff explained that he was invited to go fishing on tribal land near La Push and Neah Bay. He explained that one of the main complaints he heard was that commercial fishing techniques seem to be destroying the bottom of the ocean, and there is a concern for what that will mean for future fishing and the ecosystem as a whole. Discussion was held. Jeff also mentioned that he plans to visit the Carcus Creek project site soon.
- Michael reminded the Board that there is no meeting scheduled for next month (July).

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:58 PM

Respectfully Submitted by: Jennifer Chavez Jennifer Chavez, Operations Coordinator