



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday October 17th at noon
Zoom and USDA Service Center 1 SW Nye Ave Ste 130
Pendleton, Oregon 97801

Call to Order – 12:01 pm

- 1) **Introductions/Roll Call:** Colin Hemphill, Chair. Tom Straughan, Sec/Treas (Zoom). Andrea Mann, Aaron Madison. ODA- Shiloh Simrell (Zoom). Staff- Kyle Waggoner.
- 2) **Presentations: ODA** – Shiloh gave an update on ODA activities in the region. She mentioned that both she and Kyle have been working on redoing the LAC plans for the Umatilla and Walla Walla basins, since with the LUBGWMA there will be significant changes for the Umatilla plan. Additionally, ODA is focusing on making sure the measurable objectives in the LAC plans achievable and uniform so she and Kyle have been working to make the statewide approach fit Umatilla SWCD's approach. Additionally, Morrow SWCD was awarded the ODA specialty grant for an irrigation inventory in the LUBGMWA which Kyle will help with. Kyle mentioned that he plans to be a driver to help Kevin's staff complete the public inventory. ODA also submitted a BOR WaterSMART grant for the LUBGWMA which Kyle wrote a letter of support for. Shiloh also mentioned that the SIA specific funding pool is now available. Kyle is hoping to apply for some projects in January if all goes well. Finally, compliance letters were sent to East Birch SIA, and some were sent to Walla Walla. Troy Baker with Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council hopes to make first contact with a few of the landowners.
- 3) **Administration:**
 - a. September's Treasurer Report – Attached. Kyle showed the Board that the District was very close to doubling the District bank account. Andrea motioned to approve, Aaron 2nd. Unanimous.
 - b. June Meeting Minutes – Attached. No discussion. Andrea motioned to approve, Aaron 2nd. Unanimous.
- 4) **Operations:**
 - a. Weed Collab Proposal Updates – Kyle let the Board know that Commissioner Dorran and County Counsel Doug Olsen liked the proposal, but they had to dig up funding. The SWCD is just waiting for now until the funding discussion internally at the county occurs. Kyle also thanked Andrea for attending the meeting with the commissioners. Andrea thought that Kyle covered the proposal well in the meeting.
 - b. Investing Options – Kyle covered the attached CD rate flyer from Banner Bank. Aaron thought it would be a good idea to get more CD funding options from other banks. Tom suggested that any CD fund or high-yield savings option made sense since it was better than the current bank rates of the public money market and checking account. Kyle agreed that more options would give a clearer picture of a path forward, such as putting \$100,000 into a 7-month CD and keeping the other \$120,000 in the checking account. Kyle will get more CD options from other banks and report back in a future meeting.
 - c. OACD Ballot – Tom Straughan covered the attached ballot that OACD sent out. Since so much of OACD is West-side focused, Tom always leans towards putting more East-side folks on OACD to provide more equal representation. Tom suggested the Board consider

Whitney Rohrer for the East-side position as in Tom's experience she would be a good fit and is ambitious towards getting things done. For the At-Large positions, Tom suggested that Stan Dean and Jeff Rola would be forward. Jeff is an incumbent and active in the organization, and Stan would be the most qualified according to Tom. Andrea moved to vote for three candidates as Tom suggested. Aaron 2nd. Unanimous.

d. Annual Meeting Planning – Kyle let the Board know that he secured NRCS to host a soil health day right after the Annual Meeting on November 21st. Kyle asked if the Board liked the idea, and Tom thought it would be nice to do something a little different than the norm and hopefully draw more landowners to the Annual Meeting. Kyle will continue working on getting everything ready for the meeting.

e. Guidebook Copyright Update – No updates, struck from agenda.

f. Project Updates – Kyle covered the attached project sheet. Most of the work the District has been up to has been for Echo and Helix, and the variety of grants and partnerships Kyle has been working on to try and fix the flooding and hydrology issues plaguing both communities. The Zone 2 Business Oregon Grant was also just awarded to the County, and the District wrote the grant for the commissioners so Kyle is happy to share the success with the Board.

Adjourn 12:49pm- Andrea moved, Colin 2nd. Unanimous.

Next Meeting – November 21st, 12 noon at USDA Service Center and Zoom – Annual Meeting

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