



APPROVED

DIRECTORS:	Present	OTHER/GUESTS:	Present	SWCD/NRCS:	Present
Barbara Boyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Luke Westphal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Larry Ojua	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gordon Cook	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jordan Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Julie Lorenzen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dave Cruickshank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ken Nygren	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Josh Togstad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gordon Dromgoole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Marie Vicksta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pat FitzGerald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Mike Crabtree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Leo Krick	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Mary King	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sam Sweeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Thomas Hoskins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Amie Loop-Frison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Sergio Villaseñor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**1) CALL TO ORDER & LATE AGENDA ITEMS:** The meeting was called to order at 7:31 am. Late Agenda items were added to the appropriate sections.

**a. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Sam Sweeney moved and Gordon Dromgoole seconded to retain the current officers. The motion passed unanimously. The 2018 elected officers for the Yamhill Soil & Water Conservation District are:

1. Barbara Boyer, Chair
2. Dave Cruickshank, Vice Chair
3. Leo Krick, Secretary
4. Pat FitzGerald, Treasurer

VOTE RECORD: Retain Current Officers					
	DIRECTOR	Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Motion	Seconded
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted	Barbara Boyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Accepted as Amended	Gordon Cook	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Dave Cruickshank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gordon Dromgoole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Pat FitzGerald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Leo Krick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sam Sweeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**2) BOARD MINUTES: ACTION** The board reviewed the minutes from the December 13, 2017 board meeting. Gordon Dromgoole stated his misunderstanding of the motion presented in December regarding a proposed letter to Yamhill County requesting a moratorium on solar facilities. He requested to change his No/Nay vote to Yes/Aye. Larry explained the vote could not be changed but suggested to include his request in the January minutes. Dave Cruickshank clarified a comment he made regarding Yamhela Oak Conservation Overlook (YOCO). His original comment noted that he recommended adding pasture land. Dave restated his intention was adding grazing as a management tool. Pat FitzGerald moved and Sam Sweeney seconded to accept the minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.



<b>VOTE RECORD: Approve the December 13, 2017 Board Minutes as Amended.</b>					
	<b>DIRECTOR</b>	<b>Yes/Aye</b>	<b>No/Nay</b>	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Seconded</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Barbara Boyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gordon Cook	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Dave Cruickshank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gordon Dromgoole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Pat FitzGerald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Leo Krick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sam Sweeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**3) TREASURER’S REPORT:** The board reviewed the December 2017 Treasurer’s Report. Pat FitzGerald moved and Dave Cruickshank seconded to accept the Treasurer’s Report as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

<b>VOTE RECORD: Approve December 2017 Treasurer’s Report</b>					
	<b>DIRECTOR</b>	<b>Yes/Aye</b>	<b>No/Nay</b>	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Seconded</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Barbara Boyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gordon Cook	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Dave Cruickshank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Gordon Dromgoole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Pat FitzGerald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Leo Krick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sam Sweeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**4) REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE:** Various partners and other districts’ newsletters and annual reports were circulated along with a thank you card from Habitat for Humanity.

**5) OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) Teleconference:** Pat reported there was no teleconference in December. The next teleconference will be January 25.
- b. Straw Mulching/Equipment Program Grant:** Marie announced the \$20,000 request from the Pesticide Stewardship Partnership grant was approved. It is to be used to help fund the straw mulching and no-till drill programs in 2018. It will pay for material, time and drill rentals. Marie will be working on the grant agreement checklist to document the steps that will be taken to help make streams and waterways cleaner. A smaller committee will be formed to work out the finer details and procedures. Marie is planning on conducting demonstrations throughout the county and inviting neighbors to an “Open House” type forum to better promote the program.
- c. District/Partner Gathering at Grain Station:** Larry reported the event at the Grain Station was well attended. Barbara enjoyed speaking with the volunteers and was impressed with their dedication to Miller Woods and the pleasure derived from that service.
- d. Audit Status Report:** Julie distributed copies of the completed audit to board members. Larry complimented her on the reconciliation of figures and keeping the auditors on task. He stated it is important to get the correct numbers entered and to be sure all the figures balance.
- e. OACD Basin:** Pat reported the deadline to apply for the Lower Willamette Basin Chair position is January 19. Applications can be obtained online at OACD.org or by calling Jim Cathcart, West Multnomah SWCD. He reiterated the importance of this position.



**f. OACD Update:**

- i. Pat announced the hiring of a new OACD Executive Director, John Keith. He started with OACD January 2. He comes to OACD after working 30 years for the Department of the Interior and is highly qualified. He and Pat will be visiting the Basins throughout Oregon. Pat and John will be in McMinnville on January 25 and would like to meet with Barbara and Larry at that time.
- ii. Pat reminded the group of the CONNECT Annual Conference April 17 – 19, 2018 at the Seaside Convention Center. They are working diligently to create beneficial tracks. The Tide Gate Infrastructure, coming out of the Governor's Office, will be a main topic. They are expecting over 350 partners including the Trust for Public Land this year.
- iii. Pat announced that the latest OACD Newsletter is being published today.

**g. Local Advisory Committee (LAC) Meeting December 6:** Sam and Marie reported on the success of the LAC meeting. The group reviewed existing policies, reviewed accomplishments, studied current trends and participated in a work session facilitated by Sam Sweeney. Sam reviewed a summary page he prepared. It included notes and recommendations from the meeting. Marie added additional comments and both felt the meeting was productive. Larry discussed the option of bringing in Luke and the Greater Yamhill Watershed Council (GYWC) as a contractor or partner to advance goals and recommendations.

**h. December 8 Meeting of the Yamhill County Water Task Force:** Sam Sweeney attended the meeting and recapped the highlights in a document he circulated. The meeting was organized and moderated by Yamhill County Commissioner, Mary Starrett, and attended by Commissioners Stan Primozich and Rick Olson. Water Master, Joel Plahn presented information on the water conditions last summer and explained how Oregon's water rights seniority system functions. Grant funding sources were shared and cities had the opportunity to share their needs and concerns. Gordon Dromgoole also attended the meeting.

**6) NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) Rate:** Larry announced the LGIP rate is 1.7 as of December 18, 2017. It was 1.15 on January 1, 2017, indicating a significant increase and expecting to continue.
- b. Special Districts Association of Oregon Conference - February 9-11 FINAL OFFER:** Barbara announced a complimentary registration is still available. It must be submitted this week. Julie has a registration packet with her.
- c. Special District's Insurance Services (SDIS) Safety Grant Update:** The grant was denied. Mike will be exploring other funding options for enhanced security at Miller Woods.
- d. Oregon Century Farm:** Larry reported receiving \$250 each from Charlie Chegwyn and Betty Chegwyn to support the Oregon Century Farms Program. Their donations were sent in with the district's support check, also for \$250.
- e. District Board Workshop Report:** Larry relayed the group's unanimous decision to look at future funding opportunities for the district. Barbara suggested forming a committee to focus specifically on future funding, and meet with Larry on a regular basis. Pat FitzGerald, Leo Krick and Gordon Cook volunteered to serve on this committee.
- f. Proposed Support for Greater Yamhill Watershed Council (GYWC):** Larry stated he would like to see the district provide monetary support for the GYWC. He proposed an annual minimum support of \$500. A discussion ensued and Sam Sweeney moved and Pat FitzGerald seconded to provide GYWC a minimum of \$500 annually beginning with \$1000 this year. The motion passed unanimously.



<b>VOTE RECORD: Provide GYWC with a minimum of \$500 annually and \$1000 this year.</b>					
	<b>DIRECTOR</b>	<b>Yes/Aye</b>	<b>No/Nay</b>	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Seconded</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted	Barbara Boyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Accepted as Amended	Gordon Cook	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tabled	Dave Cruickshank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gordon Dromgoole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Pat FitzGerald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Leo Krick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sam Sweeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**The board meeting recessed at 9:00 am for a Local Work Group Meeting.**

**g. Local Work Group (LWG) Meeting (1 of 3 Meetings):** Thomas Hoskins, of NRCS, conducted an LWG meeting from 9 – 10 am. This was the first of three Local Work Group Meetings held this month. The other two were held at different locations in an attempt to encourage attendance.

**The board meeting resumed at 10 am.**

**7) DISTRICT MANAGEMENT:**

- a. Annual Volunteer Report:** Mary provided the board with the total number of volunteer hours in 2017. Volunteers donated 3034 hours.
- b. Board Committee Assignments & Appointments:** Board members received a list of current committee assignments and appointments. Barbara suggested they review this information for further discussion at the next board meeting. She encouraged members to consider serving on the Employee Resource Committee. Barbara, Leo and Gordon Dromgoole have been on the committee for many years and she encouraged other board members to consider serving at this capacity. She noted it is a good chance to interact with district employees.

**8) EDUCATION & OUTREACH:**

- a. Newsletter:** Mary announced the newsletter will go out this week. It includes the order forms and catalog for the 2018 Native Plant Sale.
- b. New Website:** Julie and Mary shared the enhancements of the new website and encouraged board members to visit the updated site and online Native Plant Sale. The new website provides a fresh and updated design and is now mobile friendly. The site is more user friendly with drop down menus, additional search functions, and improved menu organization. The new shopping cart, store front, and payment options allow for easier ordering and simplified bookkeeping steps.

**9) LAND USE:**

- a. Land Use Table:** There were no questions or comments.
- b. Docket C-24-17/SDR-25-17 Letter:** Larry reported the letter in opposition to the solar facility in Amity was composed and submitted. A copy of the letter was included in the board packets.
- c. Letter to County Regarding Solar:** Larry wrote and submitted a letter to county commissioners and planning department suggesting a change in ordinance to strengthen local land use policy regarding solar installations. The letter supported the planning commission’s recommendations to review the county ordinance and see if they could use that process to limit solar operations on high value farmland. A copy of this letter was included in the board packet.



**10) PROTECTED PROPERTIES:**

- a. **Yamhela Oak Conservation Overlook (YOCO):** Mike reported he is conducting preliminary planning for next year. The property requires some culvert replacements. He is also working on a new access to the property.
- b. **Mt. Richmond:** Mike shared RCPP has wrapped up on this property with a successful outcome. Norvella is very pleased.
- c. **Muddy Valley Habitat Reserve:** Mike is going out to Muddy Valley tomorrow with the insurance risk assessor to perform a spot check on this property and Miller Woods.
- d. **Chegwyn Farms:** Mike and Barbara met yesterday with a title company and an attorney, regarding the land dedication request by developer, Alan Ruden. There are still more steps in the process but things are moving forward. Larry called three Realtors for a Market Analysis on the 3 acres. One Realtor gave a tentative value of \$250,000/acre. He announced there is nothing new to report on the walnut lease. Larry received a voicemail from Jack Bernards stating he might know farmers interested in leasing the orchard. He will follow up with Jack.
- e. **Miller Woods:** Mike and Sonya are ramping up for the US Fish and Wildlife (USFW) grow-out with the help of Volunteers. Mike and Sonya are attempting live stake plantings at the nursery for these grow outs. This should reduce the need for temporary nursery hires. Mike announced that he is having a meeting today with Columbia County SWCD to discuss growing out plants for them. He continues to keep in touch with Jackson Family Wines. Sonya and Mike are working with them to coordinate a work project at Miller Woods for a crew of 70 volunteers.

**11) NOXIOUS WEED REPORT:** Mike submitted two grants to the Oregon State Weed Board. The grant request for \$114,000 would support a new position to work with roadside inventory and treatment of the following Class A listed weeds: mouse-ear hawkweed; garlic mustard; and knotweed.

**12) STAFF REPORTS:** No Comments.

**13) BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:**

- a) Gordon Dromgoole reported on a conference he attended in Tennessee.
- b) Barbara announced she was invited to a luncheon on Friday for the Oregon Community Foundation (OCF). A small group was invited to Marilyn Wert's house for lunch to discuss future funding priorities for 2018. Barbara will be representing the district as OCF has expressed interest in funding more environmental projects.

**14) AGENCY REPORTS:**

- a. **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS):** Thomas thanked the district for allowing the Local Work Group meeting to occur during the district's board meeting. He reported they have finished accepting Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) applications and NRCS Portland is conducting the ranking process now. There will be two more rounds of EQIP funding this year and March 25<sup>th</sup> is the next deadline.
- b. **Greater Yamhill Watershed Council (GYWC):** Luke thanked the district for their support. He reported they are continuing their Cozine Habitat Restoration Outreach and are having good success. They will be applying for an Oregon Community Fund Grant for the creation of a quarter-time position to assist with this project.

**15) PUBLIC COMMENT:** Jordan Anderson, a guest at the meeting, stated he would like to volunteer at Miller Woods and the Native Plant Sale. Mary will meet with him after the meeting.

**16) ADJOURNMENT:** Barbara Boyer adjourned the meeting at 10:49 am.