



Providing Natural Resource Leadership

**2A**

Approved:

## Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 12, 2016

Yamhill Soil and Water Conservation District

Miller Woods – 15580 NW Orchard View Rd., McMinnville, OR 97128

### In Attendance:

Directors	Present
Barbara Boyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gordon Cook	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dave Cruickshank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gordon Dromgoole	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pat FitzGerald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Leo Krick	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sam Sweeney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Other	Present
Commissioner Primozych	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ken Nygren	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tim Butler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

SWCD/NRCS	Present
Larry Ojua	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Julie Lorenzen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Josh Togstad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Marie Vicksta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Michael Crabtree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sonya Wilkerson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mary King	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Thomas Hoskins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Amie Loop-Frison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sergio Villaseñor	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 1) CALL TO ORDER:

Barbara Boyer called the meeting to order at 7:32 am. Barbara congratulated Gordon Dromgoole for receiving the Sesquicentennial Award.

**Late Agenda Items:** SDIS Insurance and Department of the Interior/BLM letter.

- 2) **PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:** The board reviewed the minutes from the September 14, 2016 board meeting. Sam Sweeney moved and Dave Cruickshank seconded to accept the minutes as presented with spelling corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote Record – Approve the September 14, 2016 Board Minutes with spelling corrections					
		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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Gordon Dromgoole	<input 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"/>

- 3) **TREASURER'S REPORT:** The board reviewed the September Treasurer's Report. Dave Cruickshank moved and Sam

Sweeney seconded to accept the September 2016 Treasurer's Report as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote Record – Approve the September 2016 Treasurer's Report					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled		Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Motion	Seconded
	Barbara Boyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gordon Cook	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Dave Cruickshank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gordon Dromgoole	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4) **CORRESPONDENCE REVIEW:** Miscellaneous flyers, invitations and newsletters were circulated along with a thank you note from McMinnville FFA students.

5) **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Annual Meeting:** Jim Johnson, Oregon Department of Agriculture Land Use & Water Planning Coordinator, will be our guest speaker. His presentation is titled "Current and Ongoing Trends and Issues in Oregon Land Use with a Focus on the Willamette Valley". Bryce Borland was asked to provide a short presentation at the annual meeting, highlighting his attendance at the Summer Ag Institute. Bryce is a teacher at Yamhill/Carlton Middle School and the recipient of the district's sponsorship to this event. Julie will follow up with him to confirm his participation and attendance.

**Conservation Award Winners Announcement:** Barbara announced two of the selection committee's award choices. The George E. Otte Conservation Landowner Award will go to Leo and Mary Krick of Cherryhill Ranch, and Luke Westphal will receive the Frieda L. Miller Conservation Educator Award. A choice has been made for the Urban Conservationist Award and following their notification, the winner will be announced. Barbara noted she has not been able to contact and notify the winner.

**Cultural Resource Contract:** Larry reported the cultural resource reports and field work are wrapping up. He has the reports from the two contactors and he has forwarded them to NRCS for review. Upon approval the district will pay the contractor and then submit a request to NRCS for reimbursement.

**OACD Monthly Teleconference Report:** Pat shared the five topics discussed at the monthly teleconference. He announced the OACD meeting will be held October 18 – 20 at the Monarch Hotel and encouraged the district to participate.

**North Yamhill SIA Enhanced CREP:** Josh and Marie delivered a presentation on this project, which included drone photos, maps and project facts. They will be documenting the steps throughout the project with photo points, drone photographs, and newspaper articles, and plans to offer future site tours.

**No-Till Drill:** Dave Cruickshank used the drill and reported it worked well. There is a list of Hazelnut growers who would like to use it when the timing is right.

6) **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Turner Creek Property –Tour:** The board will tour the property owned by Donn Callahan and Nancy Woodworth following today's board meeting. Donn and Nancy are considering a donation of their 130 acres on Turner Creek Road.

**Tim Butler of ODA – Weed Districts Funding:** Tim Butler shared his expertise on the difference between a Weed Board and a Weed District and provided beneficial hand-out materials. He updated the group regarding upcoming weed funding initiatives at the state and county levels. Tim suggested the district meet with the county Commissioners regarding this issue.

**Update on Grand Island:** Sam provided a presentation of the detrimental impacts to Grand Island in response to the flood plain permit submitted by Baker Rock. He presented a *draft* letter written to the Yamhill County Planning Department requesting the district to be allowed to present testimony at the scheduled hearing. Dave Cruickshank moved and Pat FitzGerald seconded to approve sending the letter with the request for the district to submit testimony at the hearing.

Vote Record – Approve the district submit testimony at the Baker Rock flood plain permit hearing					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled		Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Motion	Seconded
	Barbara Boyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gordon Cook	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Dave Cruickshank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gordon Dromgoole	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Pat FitzGerald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>

**Oregon Ag Heritage Program:** Larry provided information on the upcoming listening session relating to the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program. The listening session provides an opportunity to hear more about the proposed program that is recommending funding for working land conservation easements and covenants, and planning efforts relating to agricultural land succession.

**OACD Update/Bylaws/Other:** Pat reported that Nellie McAdams and an attorney have reviewed the OACD bylaws. The most noted change was to allow districts to set up payment plans and to change the fiscal year to match OWEB.

**7) DISTRICT MANAGEMENT:**

**Budget Update:** Larry presented a financial report detailing the district's long-term land protection funds, including a spreadsheet indicating expenses and dedicated funds. He further explained the differences in cost and responsibilities to care for easements as opposed to land acquisitions. Larry also spoke to trends, projections and various annual obligations as well as potential revenue sources such as donations and various grants. Following his presentation Larry answered questions to the board's satisfaction.

The group discussed various financial concerns and processes for district-owned properties such as; preventative evaluation of facilities, unforeseen property expenses, potential revenue sources, general liability concerns, and processes for selecting protected properties for life-estate planning. Larry explained that planning is based on many of these variables.

**SDIS Insurance:** The district has received the new health insurance plans and costs for the coming year. Larry proposed the Employee Relations Committee review this information and prepare a recommendation for the next board meeting. The board concurred. Staff comments will be solicited and considered. SDIS offers discounts for participation in designated self-assessments. Two self-assessments remain open to the district with a savings of 2% for each completion. Julie will email the information to the board and the topics will be discussed at the next board meeting.

**Fire-Dependent Ecosystems Restoration (FDER) Project:** Mike shared a letter he received from the BLM regarding an environmental assessment for the Fire-Dependent Ecosystems Restoration Project. He explained how this project could help us manage some of the district's land and requested the board approve a letter of support. Pat FitzGerald moved and Sam Sweeney seconded to have Mike submit a letter of support of the FDER Project to the BLM. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote Record – Approve Mike submit a letter of support for the FDER Project to the BLM					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Accepted as Amended <input type="checkbox"/> Tabled		Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Motion	Seconded
	Barbara Boyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gordon Cook	<input checked="" 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 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"/>

**8) EDUCATION AND OUTREACH:**

**Plant Propagation Workshop:** Marie announced the first cooperative workshop with Polk and Marion Counties was a success with over 55 people in attendance. The class focused on plant propagation and was held at the Independence Civic Center.

**Land Stewardship Series:** Marie shared the topics, dates and times of the upcoming Landowner Stewardship Classes: October 18 & 25 and November 1 & 8. She noted the current article in the News Register and is hopeful this promotes registration.

**Pesticide Collection Event:** Marie reported the district will be partnering in the upcoming pesticide collection event with Polk SWCD which will be held at the Wilco Agronomy Center in Whiteson on November 19.

**9) LAND USE:**

**Land Use Table:** Pat shared concerns for Docket FP-06-16, dated October 5, request for a floodplain development permit to secure the footing for the ramp to the boat dock as well as the development of a retaining wall on the Willamette River. He suggested the board submit a letter emphasizing the necessity for accurate engineering plans for the proposed retaining wall. Pat FitzGerald moved and Sam Sweeney seconded to submit a letter to the Yamhill County Planning Department requesting they conduct a thorough engineering review and the potential impacts to neighboring properties. The motion passed unanimously.

<b>Vote Record – Approve submitting a letter to the Yamhill County Planning Department regarding FP-06-16</b>					
		<b>Yes/Aye</b>	<b>No/Nay</b>	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Seconded</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Accepted</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Accepted as Amended</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Tabled</b>	Barbara Boyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gordon Cook	<input checked="" 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 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"/>

**SOLAR:** Barbara noted that a letter from the Board of Agriculture to LCDC Commission on the solar issue, and a letter from ODA to head of LCDC will be forthcoming. She noted interview calls received from Capital Press as well.

**10) PROTECTED PROPERTIES:**

**Yamhela Oak Conservation Overlook (YOCO):** Mike reported the compact track loader will be moved to the Cooke property early next week and work will be performed as the weather permits. Herbicide spraying was done in early spring and extensive mowing was completed in early summer. Mike will perform additional spraying next week.

**Mt. Richmond Update:** Mike stated that work has been completed and the RCPP requirements have been satisfied in the project area on the property. The 49 acre area, referred to as the bison pasture, had been neglected for many years and had significant populations of blackberries and Scotch broom. The district accomplished extensive mowing, spraying, and clean-up of large materials in the project area to make future management easier and less expensive.

Amie noted that Mt. Richmond has been selected as a site for the WWMP monitoring program and pilot study. Representatives from ODFW and BPA will begin their survey work tomorrow and schedule additional site visits in the future.

Andy Gallagher is coming out to the property the following week to conduct prairie sampling, inspect prairie soils, and evaluate the characteristics of the vegetative community. This work is in partnership with the Mary’s River Watershed Council, Benton SWCD, and NRCS. Amie stated the district is providing four sites in the county, and sampling will occur this fall and next spring.

Amie has completed inventory work and prepared an annual report for Mt. Richmond. Photo points will be taken and added to the report when the weather permits.

**Muddy Valley Project:** It was with great enthusiasm that Larry announced publicly the closing of the Berthelsdorf property on Friday, September 30. The property is now referred to as the Muddy Valley Habitat Reserve. Larry noted that closing this property required a great deal of staff work throughout the year to satisfy Bonneville Power Administration's requirements. Completing the due diligence requirements, drafting the conservation easement, preparing the tenant agreements and completing the real estate closing process involved a team effort. Larry also stated his appreciation for the assistance provided by Jana Rofsky from The Nature Conservancy who supplied support and expertise during the entire process, and the district staff members who participated and helped with the many aspects of the project from start to finish. Victor and Theresa Berthelsdorf have signed the tenant agreement for the residence. David Lehman will be signing the agricultural lease later this week. Once signed, both agreements will be sent to BPA. The Berthelsdorf family informed Larry they are working with their accountant regarding a potential donation.

Larry shared an unexpected financial expense presented at closing. The original purchase and sale agreement stipulated the buyer (BPA) to pay the title insurance. As the settlement statements were drafted and the closing process moved forward, BPA notified the title company they would not cover these costs. This resulted in the district covering the \$4,650 cost of title insurance in order to close the transaction. Jana and Larry requested an exception from BPA. A response has yet to be received and Larry is doubtful they will cover the cost.

Larry noted a very positive relationship with Theresa and Victor as things have moved forward with the change in ownership. The district will be spending more time on the property in the future to fulfill management and stewardship responsibilities. Larry has visited the property twice since closing. Mike shared he recently replaced a damaged culvert, and Amie is conducting turtle surveys with ODFW on the property.

**Chegwyn Farms Update:** Mike reported spot spraying was completed around the home site area. The district will be connecting with Kamal regarding the walnut harvest.

**Miller Woods Update:** Mike shared that USFW will be picking up some of their plants this month which is earlier than expected. Inventory work is completed and numbers came out great, with over 2000 surplus. Mike and Sonya will be seeking opportunities to sell excess plants to make room for next year's grow-out and plants for the native plant sale. Mike mentioned a potential sale to the Yamhill County Parks Department. Larry encouraged the board to walk through the nursery and Miller Woods property, noting the property looks well-groomed and very organized. He stated that Sonya is doing a great job managing and working with volunteers. Mary noted Wendy Stassens from the Green Living Guild presented a check to Natural Connections for \$2406. She was pleased to hear of the upcoming restroom project. Larry shared that the septic system is on the list for next year.

**11) NOXIOUS WEED REPORT:** Mike noted that he will be conducting knotweed spraying following today's meeting.

**12) STAFF REPORTS:** The board had a few questions and comments regarding the pump purchase for the sprayer. Mike was able to answer the questions to the board's satisfaction.

**13) BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:** There were no board member reports.

**14) AGENCY REPORTS:**

**NRCS Report:** Thomas requested 25 to 30 minutes on the November Board Meeting agenda to present a listening session for the Conservation Implementation Strategy. He noted that he will still plan the Local Work Group Meeting but will try to have mini meetings to involve as many people as possible. A handout will be provided in the board packet to support his presentation.

**Official EQIP** sign-up deadline is November 18 for the Hawn Creek, North Yamhill, South Yamhill and Palmer Creek Watershed.

Amie noted that the RCPP deadline is also November 18.

**Sergio Villaseñor** is acting NRCS District Conservationist for Washington County.

**ODOT Resource Inventory:** Thomas will provide materials to Julie next week and she will circulate them to the board via email.

**Yamhill County Commissioners Update:** Commissioner Primozych reported that the county will be receiving money to repair the bridge on Palmer Creek. It did not receive funds to repair the bridge in Sheridan and load limits will be implemented in December.

**15) PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.

**16) ADJOURNMENT:** Barbara adjourned the meeting at 10:11am.