1) **CALL TO ORDER & LATE AGENDA ITEMS:** Barbara called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.

2) **BOARD MINUTES: ACTION** The board reviewed the minutes from the November 14, 2018 board meeting. Dave Cruickshank moved, and Pat FitzGerald seconded to accept the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

3) **TREASURER’S REPORT:** The board reviewed the November Treasurer’s Report. Pat FitzGerald moved, and Leo Krick seconded to accept the Treasurer’s Report as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

4) **REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE:** Miscellaneous industry newsletters, publications and minutes were circulated.

5) **OLD BUSINESS:**
   a. **Oregon Stewardship Funding Recommendation Report:** Larry provided an update on the progress of the resolution approved at the last meeting. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has accepted the recommendation of the board for placing the funds which they are allocating to the district. Larry and Barbara are in the process of working with Pioneer Trust Bank and the McMinnville Area Community Foundation to move forward with these two funding allocations.
b. **Property Transfer Update:** Larry reported he and Barbara are continuing to work with TNC. They had a very productive meeting with the McMinnville Area Community Foundation (MACF) regarding the foundation and a future grant agreement. The plan is to allocate $100,000 of the total stewardship donation to the MACF. The next step is to complete a final review of the grant agreement and receive TNC’s approval. The other part of last month’s motion was to secure legal assistance to write the trust agreement. Larry noted he had reached out to four separate attorneys and selected Ken Sherman from Salem. Larry noted that he has a letter of engagement with Mr. Sherman which he will present to the board at some point in the meeting today. He has started work with Ken and Pioneer Trust Bank on the trust agreement. The district and TNC are waiting for final review of all conveyance documents from the State of Oregon, Department of Justice (DOJ). The reason for their review is Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board has investment in one of the Properties. All other reviews are complete just waiting for DOJ approval.

c. **Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) Teleconference:** Pat provided highlights of the November OACD Planning Conference. The, approximately 65, attendees reviewed the entire structure of the organization and notes were made on eight categories and what areas/things are of relevance and suggested changes. Following the conference, eight focus committees were formed, and will now work on bringing these recommendations to create changes to the bylaws. The plan is to have prepared new OACD Bylaws for formal presentation and action at the April CONNECT in Sunriver.

d. **District Partner Gathering-Grain Station on 12/3 – Report:** Larry described the evening as fun and well attended. It provided opportunity to show appreciation for district partners, volunteers, board, and staff.

6) **NEW BUSINESS:**

   a. **Discussion: County Weed District & Appointment to the Committee-Action:** Vern Holm provided a presentation on the difference between weed districts and weed boards at the last Roadside Vegetation Committee Meeting. The suggestion was made that the Roadside Vegetation Weed Committee communicate with the district weed committee to explore the concept for a weed district. The weed district concept would be governed by an elected weed board, like a Soil & Water Conservation District and their board for oversight and guidance. A lengthy discussion ensued, and the district board decided to move forward to research the Yamhill County Weed District and governing weed board concept. Gordon Cook moved, and Leo Krick seconded to move forward in researching the possibility of creating a County Weed District/Weed Board concept. The motion passed unanimously. Sam and Dave will provide staff support to help explore the concept.

   

   ![VOTE RECORD: Approve Moving Forward to Research Forming a Weed District](image)

   

7) **DISTRICT MANAGEMENT:**

   a. **Water Storage Bladders:** Mike reported finding brand new water storage bladders at the Oregon State Surplus in Salem. They each hold 20,000 gallons. They typically retail for about $6,000. Surplus is selling them for $800 each and Mike recommends the district purchase two for fire suppression. Pat FitzGerald moved, and Gordon Dromgoole seconded to purchase two water storage bladders for a total of $1600. The motion passed unanimously.
Wednesday, December 12, 2018
Board Meeting Minutes

VOTE RECORD: Approve purchasing two water storage bladders for a total of $1600.

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<th>DIRECTOR</th>
<th>Yes/Aye</th>
<th>No/Nay</th>
<th>Motion</th>
<th>Seconded</th>
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<td>Barbara Boyer</td>
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<td>Gordon Cook</td>
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<td>Dave Cruickshank</td>
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<td>Gordon Dromgoole</td>
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<td>Pat FitzGerald</td>
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<td>Leo Krick</td>
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<td>Sam Sweeney</td>
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b. Oregon State Weed Board (OSWB) Grant Submittal: Justin announced the district submitted two grant proposals to the OSWB. He explained the make-up of the proposals and is hopeful to get both funded. He suggests the district look for a more sustainable funding source in the future, should the OSWB scale down.

c. Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) Grant Submittal – Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Technical Support: Larry reported the district submitted a one-year grant request to support Amie’s position to continue RCPP Technical Support. Current funding ends September of 2019. Contracts approved for the next fiscal year will need technical work performed past September 2019. The district offered a 25% match and Larry is hopeful the grant will be funded.

d. Engagement Letter from Sherman, Sherman, Johnnie & Hoyt: Larry shared the engagement letter from Sherman, Sherman, Johnnie & Hoyt, LLP in Salem. They will develop a trust agreement at a rate of $295 per hour. The Engagement letter outlines their plans to prepare a trust agreement between Pioneer Trust Bank and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to facilitate the $900,000 donation from TNC. Gordon Dromgoole moved, and Dave Cruickshank seconded to accept this engagement letter. The motion passed unanimously.

e. Resignation of Michael Crabtree: Larry announced Mike’s resignation and that he will be moving with his family to Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. Mike shared that his wife accepted an offer with a college in Coeur d’Alene and the family will be moving sometime in January. He thanked the district for the experience he has gained over the last 14 years and Larry expressed his appreciation for the many things Mike has contributed to the district. Larry will be considering and discussing options to fill his multi-faceted position of responsibilities.

f. Possible Government Shutdown: Larry shared there is a plan in place should the office need to close in case of the potential government shutdown. Communication will continue with the district staff should that be necessary, and he will keep the board posted as well.

g. District Apparel Update: Julie provided an update on how to order the district apparel and had photos and order forms at the meeting. She will re-send an e-mail with details for anyone who may not have received the information.

h. Holiday Luncheon at District Office: Larry invited everyone to the holiday luncheon today at 1:00 pm.
8) EDUCATION & OUTREACH:
   a. **Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Weed Symposium – Dec 4-6 – Corvallis –Report:** Mike and Justin attended the Weed Symposium and found the speakers very educational. They networked with partners and discussed and shared ideas and information for similar situations. Justin added there should be more bio-controls approved in 2019 which is a good alternative, when appropriate, to chemical spraying.

9) Land Use:
   a. **Land Use Table:**
      i. **District Response: North Valley Timber Management Project:** Larry noted a copy of this letter is in the board packet.
      ii. **District Response: Doc C-11-18/SDR33-18 & C-16-18/SDR 24-18:** Larry stated copies of the two letters opposing the above solar requests are in the board packet.
      iii. **Oregon Farm Bureau Letter on Solar:** Larry circulated the written comments submitted to the Land Development and Conservation Department (LCDC) regarding solar installations on high value farmland. Barbara announced the Oregon Farm Bureau presented their opinion on solar installations on Friday. The LCDC website posted all the comments that were submitted to the Rulemaking Advisory Committee (RAC). Their final meeting was yesterday. Barbara served on that committee.

10) Protected Properties:
   a. **Yamhela Oak Conservation Overlook (YOCO):** There is nothing new to report this month.
   b. **Mt. Richmond:** Mike shared the work has been completed on the RCPP contract for this property and it looks very nice.
   c. **Muddy Valley Habitat Reserve:** There is nothing new to report this month.
   d. **Chegwyn Farms:** Mike and Roy burned a large pile of brush on this property. Mike shared that Charlie needs an automatic cart to drive around the property. He recommended the board purchase a used golf cart or similar vehicle for him. The consensus of the board was to find a golf cart or similar vehicle for Charlie. Larry asked the board attendees to let him know if they see such a vehicle and Mike will be looking at the State Surplus. Marie suggested we list district equipment needs in the newsletter.

   The city of McMinnville is conducting a survey of buildable lands in the city. They contacted the district to review the boundaries and conditions of the easement. Mike and Larry provided maps and met with them to everyone’s satisfaction.

   **Miller Woods:** Mike reported the fish and wildlife grow-out is going well. They received the diesel tank donated by Winter Hill Winery. The tank is in good shape and the volunteers will be building a cement pad that will include a curb around it to contain an accidental spillage.

   **Mike announced he has reached out to the LIVE (Low Input Viticulture and Enology) network,** offering bird boxes. The barn is overflowing with bird boxes and this will help get them placed in areas that have lost trees. Nesting boxes for larger predatory birds help control voles in the vineyards. Donations are suggested for the boxes. Mike has already received many inquiries.

11) NOXIOUS WEEDS: Justin announced he will begin an outreach program next month for Garlic Mustard treatment. They will be contacting property owners and asking for permission to treat Garlic Mustard. Mike added that there are funds
that have been set aside to hire technical contractors and they will be utilizing them to spray problem areas. Barbara asked to see the results of the weed mapping project. Justin will provide a presentation on the project which will include maps and other relevant information at the January board meeting.

12) STAFF REPORTS: Leo asked Justin to expound on the trained canine Tualatin district used to find Garlic Mustard. Justin said it could be a valuable method to find isolated Garlic Mustard plants, in the later years of a project, once the populations are small.

13) BOARD MEMBER REPORTS: Pat reported on a meeting he attended in Adel, Oregon. The meeting focused on a partnership with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Beaty Butte Wild Horses organization (BBWH) regarding the over population of wild horses living on BLM land. The herd size will be maintained each year through selective removals and application of fertility control by BLM. Those animals will be relocated to the BBWH Training Facility in Adel to be trained by experienced horsemen and women from the community and then adopted out to qualified people. Go to beatybutewildhorses.com for more information.

Barbara reported on the highlights of the Board of Ag meeting held at the Heritage Center. The speakers were very informative and included Tony Meeker.

Barbara acknowledged Gordon Dromgoole’s last board meeting and thanked him for 30 years of service! Gordon expressed the desire to continue to serve on the Oregon Small Woodland Association.

14) AGENCY REPORTS:
   a. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS): Thomas announced they received a record 28 eligible RCPP applications. Yamhill District received 16 and Polk received 12. They will be able to fund eight of those applications. The sign-up deadline for Ag Water Quality and Forestry is March 15, 2019. There will be a Local Work Group Meeting today at 10:30 AM here in the conference room.

   b. Greater Yamhill Watershed Council: Luke reported they are completing their sixth year of volunteer-led surveys for the wild run of Coho salmon in the four sub basins. The Cozine stream control and native planting initiative project continues.

15) PUBLIC COMMENT: Commissioner Primozich updated the board on the Opportunity Zones and how the funds will be allocated. Opportunity Zones are designed to create activity in the private sector economic development and rural areas have funds set aside for agricultural use. Yamhill county has three opportunity zones and he suggests we familiar ourselves with this program and the available funds. He announced this will be his last “official” meeting with the district and thanked everyone for welcoming him to the meeting. He stated he has enjoyed learning more about agriculture and appreciates the role the district has played in his education.

Ximena Orrego referenced the Oak Accord organization and the need for more participation from the district. Barbara (Board Member of Oak Accord) and Amie both shared they have offered, many times to be more involved with this group but no one from that group has followed up. Ximena will relay this information with the group. She offered to send out information regarding the bird boxes to her AVA. She thinks they will be very interested.

Thank you to Mary King: The board thanked Mary for her service and presented her with a card and gift card. Mary expressed her appreciation and shared how important the comradery with the board and staff has been to her. She will miss everyone very much.

16) ADJOURNMENT: Barbara Boyer adjourned the meeting at 9:25 am.