



*Coos Soil & Water Conservation District  
371 North Adams  
Coquille, OR, 97423 Phone 541-396-6879*

Coos Soil and Water Conservation District  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
January 26th, 2017  
(Approved February 23, 2017)

**Regular monthly meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM**

**Board members present: Mark Villers, Dan Pierce, Ernie Newton, Adela Villers, Charlie Waterman**

**Absent board members: Chuck Steffensmeier**

**Staff: Caley Sowers**

**Guests present: Roger Dahl, John Fandel (CPA), Eric Moeggenberg (NRCS), Christopher Claire (ODFW)**

7:00PM Mark officially called meeting to order

7:10PM Oaths of Office for newly elected directors – Charlie Waterman, Adela Villers, Chuck Steffensmeier

- Chuck not present/sick, will have to be sworn in next meeting

7:12PM December 2016 draft minutes discussed. Charlie noted several corrections.

**7:15PM Dan moved to approve the December minutes with the corrections. Adela seconded the motion; all in favor (no opposed), motion passed.**

7:16PM John Fandel gave the monthly treasurer's report

- Charlie wanted to know if the District truck is worth keeping due to low mileage it's getting and maintenance costs.
- Charlie said that he would like to see all costs associated with the District truck be itemized in the finance report (insurance costs, etc.).
- Charlie also noted that the advertising expenses for the Guerin Memorial Essay Contest had been billed to the Guerin Essay fund this year; in past, the District has covered those expenses.

**7:32PM Charlie moved to approve the Treasurer's Report with changes to the Guerin Memorial and truck expenses. Dan seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.**

7:36PM Mark stated that he won't be at the February board meeting.

- CONNECT – Caley asked if any directors planned on/were interested in attending
- Date of the conference is May 2-4 in Pendleton
- \$1081 is estimated total cost for one person (includes mileage, per diem, and registration)
- Lodging is separate (approximately \$214 for lodging with government discount)
- The expenses for the conference (and other staff training events throughout the year), are already budgeted for in our Annual Budget up to \$1250

**7:49PM Charlie moved to approve Caley's registration for CONNECT up to \$1900, May 2-4. Ernie seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.**

7:50PM Projects Committee

- Caley explained that there are a variety of projects that need to be reviewed. It would be better if the Projects Committee could meet outside of a regular board meeting to go over all of them in detail
- Caley estimated that a meeting in 3-4 weeks would be ideal; she will need some time to put together a presentation with maps, etc., but the deadline for the small grant team review is likely to be in April or May.

- Director training in Florence – Adela volunteered to attend

**8:00PM** Discussion of current and active projects

- See printed staff report – Caley added that she did not want to go into a great amount of detail on projects, because of the time, as she would like to wait for the project committee meeting
- Caley gave a brief overview of potential projects with Dylan Hitner, Heidi Erikson

**8:20PM** Eric Moeggenberg’s (NRCS) report (See printed report)

- Predicted that federal funding is going to dry up significantly over the next couple of years
- NRCS work group meeting was held in Bandon from 1-4PM on January 12, was well attended
- Eric noted that the Hitner’s were approved for funding through EQIP (haven’t worked out the details)
- NRCS funding of tide gates more likely in future
- May deadline for RCPP proposals (likely last round of funding for RCPP)

**8:30PM** Chris Claire’s report (ODFW)

- Not as many directly Ag-related issues to report on at this time
- Chris talked about a road failure on Old Kentucky Golf Course in the Coos Watershed, which caused flooding of the golf course with 6’ of fresh water
- Flooding/road failure was result of undersized pipe, collapsed, closed itself off. He noted that the agencies (County Roads, NMFS, ACOE, and ODFW) had been on site and were working on trying to do an emergency fix today.
- Elk damage currently curbing down; Elk still out there, but fewer people complaining
- ODFW collecting behavioral information on populations of deer in the area – where do they go and what do they do
- Jordan Cove resubmitting their application – full speed ahead. Meeting on Monday
- ODFW has hired new STEP biologist

**9:00PM** Coquille Watershed Association– Chris gave Ernie’s report

- 18 applications for position of new program manager– CWA committee narrowed it down to 8. Ultimately they hired Caleb Mensner – from the Eugene/Siuslaw area, formerly worked as a restoration contractor.
- Kate Jackson – DEQ – special taskforce to watershed councils – reporting on tide gates, hopefully to get some state level assistance rather than tunneling the issue through watershed councils and Districts.
- Recent OWEB project tour meeting of both Seestrom and Stalley (North Bank Working Landscapes)
- Chris noted that there had been a nice gathering at Coos SWCD office for OWEB project tours, which would never have been possible in the smaller office. Helps to create awareness of Coos SWCD role and participation in local projects and conservation/restoration efforts.
- Emphasis on idea that tide gates and working together with landowners is the future, will bring benefits to both Ag & fish

**9:30PM** Meeting adjourned

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Signature of the Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Submitted by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Caley Sowers

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date