



*Coos Soil & Water Conservation District
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Coos Soil and Water Conservation District
December 2016
Regular Meeting Minutes
(Approved January 26, 2017)

Regular monthly meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM

Board members present: Mark Villers Dan Pierce, Adela Villers, Chuck Steffensmeier, Charlie Waterman

Absent board members: Ernie Newton

Staff: Caley Sowers,

Guests present: Christopher Claire (ODFW)

7:03PM Meeting called to order by Mark

7:05PM Dan asked Adela about some photos of lambs killed by predators on his ranch.

- Animals have been killing lambs recently (3 in the last week)
- Possibly coyotes or wild dogs

7:11PM Caley noted the addition to this month's meeting agenda of the September meeting minutes, which had not been officially approved yet.

7:15PM Charlie Waterman arrived

7:16PM Mark moved to accept the September minutes. Dan seconded the motion. All approved. (Charlie did not vote because he had just arrived).

- Charlie did not get a board packet due to slow holiday mail.

7:18PM Dan mentioned the Offield Creek/North Bank culvert has completely collapsed now. The county put in a temporary bridge but did not remove any of the collapsed road debris from the channel. Chris passed around photos taken on his cell phone.

- Chris explained that the county did not want to wait for an emergency permit so they put the bridge in.

7:27PM Dan moved to accept the November minutes. Adela seconded the motion. All approved (none opposed), motion passed.

7:29PM Charlie said he wanted to go on record to encourage the county to pursue an emergency permit to fix the Offield Creek Channel. He suggested we write a letter.

- Chris mentioned it would be the biggest help to the county if Coos SWCD write a letter to USACE encouraging them to approve the removal of the debris in the channel. He also

mentioned some of the hard asphalt chunks are causing undercutting of the newly placed bridge.

- Caley asked Charlie if he wanted to draft the letter. Charlie said no, he wanted the board to draft a letter. Mark said that he usually has Adela write his letters for him. Adela agreed to take on the writing of the letter on behalf of the board.

7:45PM Charlie moved the district send a letter to County Roads Department to pursue an emergency permit to remove the debris and open up the channel. Chuck seconded the motion. All in favor. (Approved at 7:55PM)

- Express concern about sedimentation into Randolph Slough
- Offer to write a LOS to USACE
- Encourage county to pursue emergency permit
- Chuck suggested we word the letter to double as LOS to USACE, to shortcut having to write a second letter.

7:55PM Dan showed Charlie the photos of the lambs that had been recently killed by some kind of a predator on his property.

8:00PM Review of Newsletter Printing costs and various options (color vs. black and white, and a slightly shorter version of the newsletter that left out several pages previously included). Caley made a recommendation as to what she thought would be most cost effective option. Chuck asked if the newsletter was worth the investment of time and resources that it takes to produce. Caley explained that she felt the newsletter was very important and, though we only do one mailing a year, it helps to maintain public awareness of the District and the services we can offer. It also helps each year by spurring landowners to contact the district with concerns and does lead to actual project development, ie. The Adams Creek Project.

8:12PM Chuck moved that we go with Caley's suggestion regarding the most cost effective option for the newsletter. Charlie seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

8:14PM Agenda

- Employee performance evaluations
- Pay increase
- Skipped Treasurer's Report
- There's room in the budget.
- \$6,000 underspent

8:27PM Charlie moved to make pay raise effective immediately. Adela seconded the motion. Dan abstained from the discussion and vote for a potential conflict of interest, since Caley is technically a relative of his. All in favor, no opposed (Dan Pierce recusing himself), motion passed.

8:40PM District truck maintenance needs repairs/work. Caley explained that this past winter during the slow second half of November and December the truck sat for an extended time and developed heavy mold in the interior, with large mysterious fungus growing out of the carpets which emit spores when cleaning/removing. It could use an oil change at the very least, and possibly to have the seats and floorboards professionally cleaned and never allowed to sit for more than a week in winter.

- Condensation
- Dehumidifiers
- Mark offered to take it home to dry it out.

8:55PM DEQ319 Grant Agreement

- Chuck asked if the tasks and time commitments were reasonable
- Chris explained that most of the time will be in reading the locations where the loggers will be placed.
- MBE/WBE

9:02PM Adela motioned to approve the DEQ319 grant agreement subject to review of final copy. Charlie seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

9:15PM Staff report (see printed report)

9:26PM Chris Claire's ODFW report

- \$3 million budget cut – losing positions but none locally
- Lost 2 positions in past 4 years that will probably never be brought back
- Mentioned that Charlie might contact Stuart about animal damage, as that is one of the areas that might get cut.
- Mentioned that license sales are down in the past 20 years, even though population has gone up.
- More interest in wildlife viewing than hunting, people interested in technology.
- Only 1500 hatchery fish returned, last year was 8,000. Two years of El Nino heavily hurt the population.

9:35PM Meeting adjourned.

Signature of the Chairman

Date

Submitted by:

Caley Sowers

Date