



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 13th, 2018

6:00 PM

USDA Service Center
Pendleton, Oregon

Call to Order - 6:00 pm

Attendees: Board Members - Colin Hemphill (Chair), Tim Spratling (Vice Chair), Gus Wahner, Tom Straughan (Secretary/Treasurer), Aaron Madison. Staff-Kyle Waggoner, Rachel Chambers, Shiloh Simrell. NRCS-Nate James. ODA-Tom Demianew.

- 1) **NRCS Report** - Nate gave a quick update on EQIP in the county. They have a lot of contracts so they will be requesting help from other offices to process the work load. He also mentioned that a new MOA was being crafted between Districts and State NRCS. Once the document had been finalized, Nate would review it with the BOD and would also take the BOD through Civil Rights Training.
- 2) **ODA Report** - Tom gave a brief overview of the SIA process coming into the county. He mentioned that there were some delays in Salem in regards to the monitoring side of the process. However, April 10th will be the open house for the SIA and soon after that Rachel will begin working with the landowners in the project area.
- 3) **Activity Reports: Directors/Staff** - Kyle has been busy training Rachel and Shiloh for their new positions. Kyle also has been prepping for the CIG grant, and there have been multiple small grants keeping him busy. Shiloh and Rachel have both been busy learning each of their positions' duties.
- 4) **Administration**
 - a) February BOD Meeting Minutes and Annual Meeting Minutes (Filed) - Correction on Executive Session formatting
- 5) **Operations:**
 - a. Small Farms Conference Report - Kyle and Gus gave a report on what they experienced and lessons learned at OSU Farm Fair. The Board agreed that it was a beneficial trip, especially to see how small farms operate.
 - b. CIG Proposal Project Updates - Kyle explained the District's 2018 State CIG grant dealing with controlled release nitrogen to the BOD. Discussion on different types of controlled nitrogen product occurred.
 - c. Focus Area Closing Plans - Kyle briefly summarized the plan to close existing Focus Areas and move to new ones by June of this year.
 - d. Grant Updates - Kyle gave an update on all of the District's current projects. See attached sheet for more information.

6) Conservation Plans Approved:

Adjourned 7:05pm

Next Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, April 24th, 2018