



Approved December 21, 2021

Clackamas SWCD Board Meeting Minutes for November 16, 2021

PRESENT	Directors:	Jeff Becker (Chair), Roger Fantz (Treasurer), Don Guttridge (Secretary) Jim Johnson, Jesse Nelson (Vice Chair), Jan Lee, Joan Zuber
	Associate Directors:	Anna Rankin
	Directors Emeritus:	
	Staff:	Nicole Ahr, Anna Beebe, Jason Faucera, Lisa Kilders, Chris Lapp, Sam Leininger, Cathy McQueeney, Jenne Reische, Nathan Tucker
	Partners:	Kim Galland (Natural Resources Conservation Service)
	Guest:	
NOT PRESENT:		

1 – CALL TO ORDER and ACCEPT AGENDA / PUBLIC COMMENT / DIRECTOR REPORTS / MANAGER’S REPORT ON COMMITTEES

- A. Call to order** – Chair Becker called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 4:00 p.m., November 16, 2021, via the “Zoom” app originating from the home office of Staff Faucera.

Chair Becker asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. General Manager Lapp asked that Staff Reische be allowed to introduce new employee Anna Beebe to the Board.

Staff Reische told the Board that she was excited to welcome Staff Beebe to the District. Reische noted that an Oregon Department of Agriculture Scope of Work (SOW) agreement will be funding Beebe’s position and that Beebe was a recent graduate of the University of Washington.

Staff Beebe reported that she was from Kitsap County Washington, and had been working on mud and manure management, outreach, and community agriculture. Beebe has a background in soil science. Staff Beebe noted that she was ready to hit the ground running and had already attended a site visit that day with Staff Eden. Staff Beebe thanked the Board for the opportunity to work with the District.

B. Public Comment – No public comment.

C. Director reports -

- Director Guttridge noted that the Financial Policy committee had not yet met, and he hoped that GM Lapp and Treasurer Fantz would set a meeting time soon, it is a priority for the Board.

Director Lee arrived at 4:05 p.m.

- Director Johnson reported that he had participated on the Working Lands panel at the Oregon Association of Conservation District (OACD) Annual Meeting. The Working Lands Committee is doing good work.
- Chair Becker thanked Johnson for his input on the Working Lands panel, he felt it was highly informative.
- Director Fantz noted he was doing well, the stream near his house is flowing faster, and he will be harvesting Christmas trees at the end of the week.

Director Nelson arrived at 4:07 p.m.

- Director Zuber also thanked Director Johnson for his presentation at the OACD Annual Meeting.
- Director Nelson reported tree digging season was beginning at his nursery.
- Chair Becker thanked Director Lee for her work with OACD. He also noted he was proud of the input from Director Johnson and Staff Faucera at the OACD Annual Meeting.
- Director Lee appreciated all the support from those who attended the OACD Annual Meeting.
- Associate Director Rankin welcomed Staff Beebe and gave an update from the Pudding River Watershed Council (PRWC). The proposal for the large woody debris project on Abiqua Creek has been submitted to the State for permitting. She noticed an increase in turbidity of stream waters, possibly from the wildfires. Rankin encouraged the Board to appoint a board member to serve on the PRWC board. Unfortunately, the workload in the watershed is more than Rankin can manage by herself, so the PRWC may be asking Marion SWCD to take over the Pesticide Stewardship Strategic Partnership work in the watershed.

B. Partner reports – Kim Galland of the Natural Resources Conservation Service reported that she had met with Staff Beebe and Staff Eden at a site visit.

Galland reported that the Environmental Quality Incentives Program application deadline was on Friday, November 19, 2021. She noted that she had several oak projects and a few irrigation projects that were likely to receive funding, there are also a fair number of forestry applications.

Galland noted that her employee on parental leave had extended his leave through December.

Galland was asked about Urban Conservation grants. Galland noted that although this program is technically an NRCS program, the Farm Services Agency is administering it out of their Multnomah County office. This program is being managed at the State level, not at the county level. Most of the grants are being issued for innovative programs such as food waste

composting, aquaculture, vertical farming, and urban community gardens.

- C. **Manager's report on committees** – GM Lapp reported that the Finance committee had been exchanging emails, the Personnel Committee had met on October 28, 2021, and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Action Team met on November 4, 2021. The Personnel committee and DEI Action Team will report later in the meeting.

2 – MINUTES

- A. **October 19, 2021, Regular Board Meeting minutes** – The minutes of the October 19, 2021, Board meeting were presented to the Board. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Guttridge/Nelson moved/seconded to approve October 19, 2021; Board meeting minutes as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

3 – FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. **Review and accept financial reports** – Staff Tucker presented the October 31, 2021, financial reports. The Districts total assets were 10.3 million, total liabilities were 6.8 million, for a total net asset of 3.4 million. The District has currently received \$400,000 in tax revenues in early November 2021.

Directors Fantz/Guttridge moved/seconded to accept the financial reports as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. **Disbursements** – Staff Tucker presented the November 2021 disbursements to the Board. Tucker reviewed the Automatic Clearing House payments with the Board, he noted that the listing for Bryt is the new loan processing software. Tucker hopes to roll-out the program in December. Tucker next reviewed the voucher list, with checks numbered 100800 to 100833 with no breaks or voids in the sequence. Disbursements totaled \$69,133.43, with \$16,951.30 from the Conservation fund. Director Fantz noted that two checks from the first of the month check run had been held for release with the month-end check run. Director Guttridge noted he had not signed the checks as they did not meet the Board's policy criteria for the first check run.

Directors Fantz/Nelson moved/seconded to approve the November 16, 2021; Disbursement List as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

4 – OTHER FINANCIALS

- A. **Approval to make loan payments in early check run** – Staff Tucker asked the Board to approve processing the payments for the Conservation Resource Center and Eagle Creek Community Forest Loans in the early December check run, and to make a payment on-line to the Department of Environmental Quality for repayment on loan R22405; classing these as recurring payments.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to approve these as specific, one-time non-recurring payments to Zions Bank for the interest on loans for the Conservation Resource Center and Eagle Creek Community Forest and an on-line payment to the Department of Environmental Quality for Loan number R22405. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Fantz asked Staff Tucker about the audit. Tucker reported that he was collaborating closely with the auditor and had received a list of code corrections and had responded to several final questions.

- B. Partner Support Grant Review Committee** – Staff McQueeney reported that the committee met on November 4, 2021, to review the current application for watershed council support grants. The committee agreed that they wanted to keep the process simple, and the funding unrestricted. There is currently \$65,000 budgeted for support to nine watershed councils. The District was informed that the Sandy River Watershed Council would be disbanding. The committee recommended a one-year grant cycle be reinstated. The committee consisted of the following people: Directors Becker, Guttridge, and Zuber, Director Emeritus Weinberg, and Staff Klock and McQueeney.

Directors Fantz /Guttridge moved/seconded to accept the committee recommendation to change the funding cycle for Watershed Council Support Grants to 1 year. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Request for Quote (RFQ) for strategic planning** – GM Lapp asked for Board approval to hire a qualified facilitator to help the Board and staff with the strategic planning process. Lapp provided the Board with an RFQ and scope of work that he would like to send out. The Board discussed the need for a facilitator and the desire to avoid an expensive process as experienced in 2008. GM Lapp noted this planning is to be for the next 3 to 5 years with timelines and concrete measurable plans. He also noted that staff will write the plan, not the facilitator. The facilitator's job would be to help draw out ideas from Board and staff and make it a smoother process, this would also free up staff to be able to share their ideas.

Directors Fantz /Lee moved/seconded to authorize the Request for Quote as presented to seek a facilitator for strategic planning. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

5 – PROJECTS, PROGRAMS

- A. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Action Team report** – Staff McQueeney reported that the DEI Action Team met on November 4, 2021, to review proposals from several companies for facilitation services to assist in a DEI plan for the District. McQueeney provided a proposal from Yee Won Chong Consulting, LLC. The committee feels that this contractor can assist the District with identifying and prioritizing training needs for the future. The District budgeted \$8,000 in the FY21/22 budget for DEI training. Staff McQueeney noted that the committee had asked the company to make a change in the proposal, so the quote may end up more than the \$8,000 budgeted.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to contract with Yee Won Chong, LLC with a not-to-exceed contract of \$12,000. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Nelson. Opposed: Johnson, Lee, Zuber. Motion carried by a majority vote.

Staff Faucera asked if those Board Directors who opposed the hiring of a facilitator for DEI work would share their objections with the staff so that the DEI Action Team would know how to proceed. Objections were discussed. Directors wanted to know what training was available through the Special District Association of Oregon. Staff McQueeney noted that SDAO had little in the way of DEI training and the Board and Staff had already reviewed it.

Staff Faucera thanked the Directors for their candor.

Chair Becker noted that the training with Yee Won Chong would help the District reinforce what the District does well and help to improve areas where the District might be falling short regarding DEI. This is especially important to the staff who have been involved in the matter.

- B. **Draft Advocacy Policy** – GM Lapp presented a draft advocacy policy for review. The policy follows the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) template. Lapp is looking for a comprehensive structure that the District can be comfortable with regarding policy statements from the District and delegating authority regarding presentations to legislature or elected officials. Lapp would like to have Board input.

Discussion included a past policy or a document directing only the Board Chair or District Manager speaking on behalf of the District. Also, there was a concern that employees speaking on behalf of the District use authorized statements. There was recognition that the template was long and only specific portions would be made into policy. Chair Becker asked the Board to review the wording and get back to GM Lapp and asked that this policy come back to the Board in December for review. Staff Guttridge will see if she can locate the policy referenced in the discussion.

6 – PERSONNEL

- A. **Hybrid Telework Policy #P-2021-102** – GM Lapp presented a telework policy that has been reviewed by both the Personnel Committee and the management team. The policy is to formalize working arrangements that have been in place since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. The policy out-lines expectations regarding employees working from home, and clarifies guidelines regarding equipment use, work-schedules, and travel compensation. The policy offers structure and guidance to the entire District.

Directors Nelson/Fantz moved/seconded to approve Hybrid Telework Policy # P-2021-102 as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. **Interim Land Management Program Lead** – GM Lapp noted the need for a Land Management Program Lead. Lapp is currently working on a position description and a recruitment action for this budgeted position. In the interim Lapp has appointed Staff Faucera to take on this work. Faucera has other duties he will continue but will be the point person regarding the Eagle Creek Forest and the Conservation Resource Center.

7 – BOARD AND MANAGER REPORTS

- A. **Oregon Association of Conservation District (OACD) election ballot** – GM Lapp presented the ballot for the OACD board member election. Director Lee noted that both candidates were running unopposed.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to approve the ballot for Oregon Association of Conservation District Board positions for Karen Stutzman and Justin Ferrell. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. **December Board Meeting Date** – GM Lapp reminded the Board of the December Annual Meeting and Board meeting date and asked if any Board members would be unavailable to avoid not having a quorum. No Directors said they would be unavailable.

C. Management Reports

- Staff Reische reported she was happy to welcome Staff Beebe to the District.
- Planners have been busy with oak projects; Staff Eden has been working on a Conservation Implementation Strategy project in Molalla with oak.
- Staff Cloutier made a presentation to forty members of the Valley View Riders, resulting in calls asking for assistance with mud and manure management. *Please see the Conservation Planners report which is a part of these minutes.*
- Staff Kilders showed the Board a Certificate of Recognition received from the Special Districts Association of Oregon for the Districts septic loan program.
- Kilders reported that she had been to Director Nelson's nursery helping to film a video about the smart sprayer and windsocks used to reduce pesticide drift. Kilders noted that Clackamas River Water Providers was providing funding for the video.

- Kilders is working on a new Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) brochure for Staff Donahue and others to use.
- Staff McQueeney has been busy working on the DEI Action Team and with the Oregon Conservation Education and Assistance Network (OCEAN). *Please see the Education and Outreach report which is a part of these minutes.*
- Staff Leininger wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
- Leininger reported that November's weed of the month is Spurge Laurel, which is neither a spurge nor a laurel. Now is the time to treat it as its leaves stay green when other trees are losing their leaves, making it easier to spot.
- Leininger noted that staff has transitioned from field work to reporting and planning. Staff Karr and Gattuso treated and surveyed 1300 acres during this year's field season.
- Staff Cooley is still working on weed control in the Beachie Creek fires recovery area.
- Leininger reported damage to the gate at the Eagle Creek Community Forest. The damage happened during a successful search and rescue operation on our forest property. Staff Leininger and Cooley have temporarily chained/secured the damaged gate.
- Leininger is currently working on vegetative management contracts, and he noted that costs would be going up. *Please see the WeedWise report which is a part of these minutes.*
- Staff Faucera reported that the group working on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife habitat tax program has a tentatively scheduled meeting with Rep. March in February. If this program receives funding it would help provide support for wildlife habitat on private land.
- Faucera reported that he had attended the OACD annual meeting and spoke as part of the Working Lands Panel. He complimented Director Lee regarding her work putting together a Working Lands Guidebook.
- Faucera is planning to convene a meeting of the Eagle Creek Community Forest Advisory Committee hopefully in January. He is also coordinating with Staff Reische and the planning department to tour the property.
- Faucera also thanked Staff members Cloutier, Eden, Kilders, and McQueeney for their help in water quality monitoring in the Molalla for the National Water Quality Initiative project. Faucera hopes to do more sampling to better understand which tributaries are contributing the most sediment to the river. The monitoring will help staff with targeted outreach in the area.
- Faucera participated in training on climate resiliency and how to talk to landowners about it. There is a need to engage people on a scale they can understand and present practices they can implement. There is good outreach material available through the Oregon Climate and Agricultural Network.

8 – PROPERTY, PLANNING – No items to report

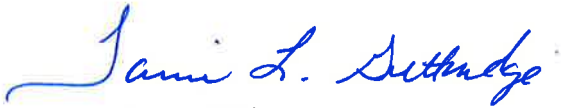
9 – OTHER REPORTS

- Director Fantz reported he would be available to sign checks on Wednesday.
- Chair Becker asked Staff Kilders to save him area for a short message in the annual report.

ADJOURN AND NEXT MEETING

- The annual meeting will be on December 21, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.
- The next regular meeting will immediately follow the annual meeting on December 21, 2021.
- There being no further business, Chair Becker adjourned the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami L. Guttridge
Office Administrator



November 16, 2021

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

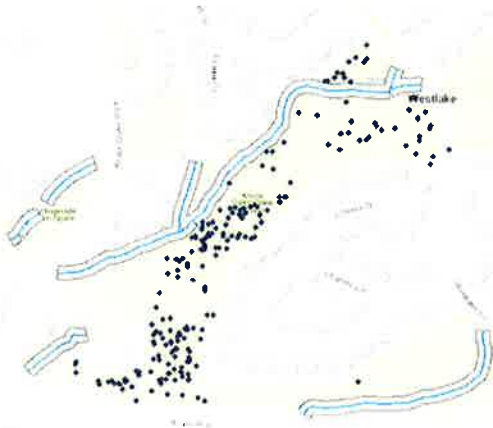
Westlake HOA Oak/Ash Woodland Project

For several years the District has been partnering with the Oswego Lake Watershed Council (OLWC) on a large urban natural area project to support Oregon white oak habitat. The Westlake Homeowner's Association off Kruse Way in Lake Oswego has several natural areas, including one large block of roughly 16 acres of Oregon white oak and Oregon ash woodland habitat. This large and unique oak stand in the urban area is categorized as a core oak habitat for connectivity based on the Oak Mapping Prioritization Effort that was recently discussed at the October District Board meeting. In 2018 OLWC and the HOA reached out to the District for technical assistance with the oak habitat on their property. The natural area has been of interest by other conservation organizations in the past, as it is rare to find a large, intact block of Oregon white oak in the urban area. The oak trees are in good shape but have been threatened for years by major weed infestations growing into the natural area. The main weeds on the site include English ivy, English hawthorn, English holly, and Armenian blackberry. Also, many Oregon ash trees are growing in the natural area and beginning to compete with the large oaks and making it difficult for oak regeneration. OLWC staff



Arborist climbing Oregon ash tree to top it at the site.

requested District technical assistance and funding to restore the oak habitat in the HOA natural area. In this case, planner Nicole Ahr recommended weed control and to remove ash trees in the drier areas, where oaks could be released and allow space for more oak regeneration. The District provided some funding towards the project for a larger grant that OLWC received from the City of Lake Oswego through their Habitat Enhancement Program. The HOA has also provided funding towards this work. Nicole has provided technical assistance on multiple occasions for this project, including field visits and meetings with City of Lake



Location of completed tree treatments for oak release.

Oswego staff in planning and Oregon Department of Forestry to support the habitat work. Since the project began, OLWC has hired restoration contractors and led volunteer crews in the HOA natural area to complete many tasks including ivy removal, weedy tree removal, blackberry treatments, plant surveys, and more recently, removal of competing ash trees. Nicole worked closely with OLWC and the HOA to explain to the City of Lake Oswego the importance of removing competing native trees (in this case Oregon ash) in some areas where they were competing heavily with the oaks and leaving no room for oak regeneration. OLWC has worked closely with the city to gather the proper permits for tree removal and hired an arborist crew to complete the tree work. This work has involved cutting down trees, girdling trees, and topping trees to provide a variety of habitat types with the dead trees too. Tree removal work began last year and will be completed this coming March of 2022. This project will be a fun one to continue to visit and learn from over this long-term transformation.

Implementation Update on Oak CIS Restoration Projects



Forest stand improvement implementation - clearing competing trees.

Planner Scott Eden is helping the landowners implement two additional oak habitat restoration projects that have recently completed significant steps. At one site south of Molalla, seven acres of forest stand improvement and slash management were recently completed. Competing ash, hawthorn, cherry and brush were cleared out around significant oak trees to reduce competition for sunlight and promote native vegetation. Several small wildlife habitat brush bundles were constructed, while other woody debris was exported for firewood or burned in piles. In the spring, additional practices such as brush management and seeding conservation cover will be conducted to further improve the understory vegetation.

At another site on east of Molalla, work continued controlling blackberry with a fall spray and cutting and stump treating scotch broom. Native forbs and grasses were also hand seeded in steeper areas to reintroduce native vegetation. The past work on this site had included brush management treatments to control weedy vegetation such as scotch broom and blackberries well as removing small competing fir and hawthorns adjacent to oak trees, and additional tree/shrub plantings of oaks and oak associated shrubs. This site had been logged many years ago, and without replanting was coming back in scotch broom and blackberry brush. This project has been working to convert it to a more open oak savanna habitat.



Contractors seeding at one of the sites.

Planning Team Shares Horse Conservation Knowledge with Valley View Riders

Sometimes luck favors the willing and during a late summer technical site visit, planner Suzi Cloutier found herself agreeing to give a talk to a local trail riding club. Suzi took on the charge and created a seasonally perfect presentation for the 42 attending members of the Valley View Riders meeting earlier this month. Mud, manure and winter pasture management were the timely topics of the night and Suzi's one hour talk was peppered with fun and not-so-fun facts about our horses, and the impacts that the way we manage them on our farms can have, not only on our own horse's wellbeing but on soil productivity and health, water quality, weed production, drinking water, and fish.

Suzi's presentation talked about the role of Conservation Districts and how we help folks just like them. She highlighted the do's and don'ts of manure management, including manure containment structures and minimum standards for keeping that stuff wrangled. She spoke about how manure can be a nightmare or a gift for our properties depending on how it is stored and composted and reapplied to pastures. Do you know that there are some horse owners who ignore their 'free manure resource' and apply commercial fertilizer every year? Yikes!

She spoke about pasture health. How to get it, and how to keep it. How we are just grass farmers who happen to have horses so we must think that way. When to put the horses out to munch and when to get them off of their pastures for the winter. Did you know that typically 80% of the cost of keeping horses can be in feed alone? With hay prices skyrocketing this past summer, horse owners were keen on learning how to make their pastures work for them and save money on hay costs.

She demonstrated how to keep the herd moving and impacts lower with rotational grazing as well as how to utilize alleys and track systems to rest their precious resource while keeping their best friends happy and healthy along with their grass and the planet. Lastly, she spoke about mud, its management and installing Heavy Use Areas to keep mud under control, keep horse's feet healthy, preserve our streams, wells and groundwater and lastly, to keep poop picking easy-even throughout the winter.

Everyone that evening gained new perspectives on what healthy horsekeeping can look like and just how easy it can be. They all left with the District's new Pasture Bullies Fact Sheets and the knowledge that the District is there to help them with their livestock keeping needs. All they need to do is pick up the phone....and they did! By the following week there were four new Valley View Riders participant phone calls to the District to schedule technical site visits.

Here's to helping horse owners get on the road to healthy, sustainable horsekeeping!



Welcome to the Conservation Planning Team, Anna Beebe!

This month we welcome our newest conservation specialist, Anna Beebe, to the planning team. Anna is a recent graduate from the University of Washington where she received a Bachelor of Science in public health, and a Master's in environmental science with an emphasis in soil science and composting. Anna has five years of experience working in small scale farm settings and she also served an AmeriCorps term with the King Conservation District in 2019. At King Conservation District she assisted with soil health trainings and also rotational grazing workshops. On another AmeriCorp term Anna worked at Common Threads Farm in Bellingham, a non-profit farm aimed at connecting kids with healthy food. In her free time Anna likes to kayak, backpack, and climb. In addition to her great background, Anna is also a Spanish speaker and Wilderness First Responder! We are so pleased to have Anna's various expertise on our team. Please join me in welcoming her to the District.



The Latest from the Education and Outreach Program November 2021

Web Posts

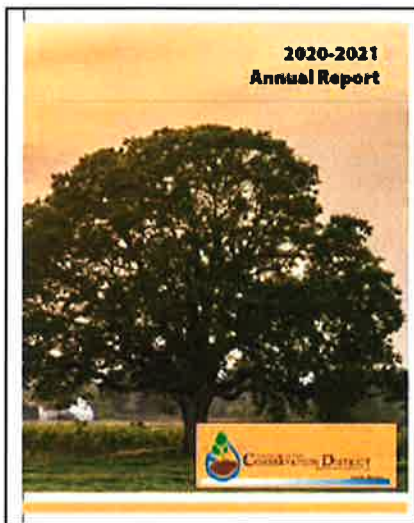
Since last we met, we have posted three articles on our website:

- [Get to Know the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District](#)
- [November Invasive Weed of the Month: Spurge Laurel](#)
- [Tree-of-Heaven Isn't "Heavenly"](#)



November Invasive Weed of the
Month: Spurge Laurel

Annual Report



District staff are busy choosing what highlights to include in the 2020-2021 Annual Report. This annual publication covers events between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

This was an interesting time in the history of our District. We had a horrendous wildfire, an ice storm, a heat dome, and a new manager! There should be no shortage of things to report, just difficulty in decided what to cover!

Our 2020-2021 Annual Report will be presented to the board at our December 21, 2021 Annual Meeting. This will precede our regularly scheduled December 2021 Board meeting.

Clackamas County Climate Action Team

Last week's meeting of the Clackamas County Climate Action Team was cancelled due to a family emergency. This was unfortunate as the County staff and contractor finished a draft Technical Investigation Part 2: Climate Profile and the advisory team has only one meeting to discuss it before the community participation phase of the project.

Manure Management Hits the Newspaper!

The Canby Herald and Molalla Pioneer published our manure management article last week. The title they used was not what we sent, but what counts is the fact that they helped us reach folks in the Molalla Watershed. Bacteria (E. coli) is a tier 1 priority source water quality risk, as determined by the technical advisory committee for the Molalla Watershed National Water Quality Initiatives Project.

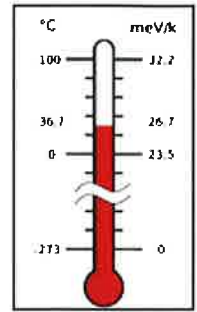
The final Molalla River Drinking Water Sources Protection Plan is available [online](#).



Climate Resilience Training

Last week several planner and outreach staff participated in Climate Resilience Training. It was a three day event and worth every minute. There were many ideas generated for outreach staff to collaborate on with our neighboring District outreach staff.

Continued discussions between neighboring Districts will lead to additional training that we will need to provide service to area producers trying to adapt to the challenges presented by our changing climate.



Small Farm School 2021

The numbers are in! Small Farm School 2021 had 102 participants, with the largest percentage, 34%, coming from Clackamas County. Our team provided 9 scholarships to Black, Indigenous, People of Color students and 21 discounts to students, veterans, and farm interns. There were 14 sessions.

Watershed Council Support Grants

The Watershed Council Support Grant Review Committee met on Monday, November 8th, to review the history and purpose of the District's support grant program. The group also revised the fiscal year 2021-22 grant application form. Cathy will offer a full report on this committee at the board meeting.

Oregon Conservation Education and Assistance Network (OCEAN)

The OCEAN board is excited to announce that the 2022 CONNECT conference will be an in-person event, scheduled for Fall 2022. We have an event coordinator in place and planning for the tracks will begin soon. This will be a "Partner" year and will include conservation staff from the Oregon Conservation Partnership: OCEAN, OACD, Network of Oregon Watershed Councils, and Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts.



DEI Action Committee

The DEI Action Committee met on Thursday, November 4th to review the October board meeting DEI activity and how our organizational equity training will fit in with the District's strategic planning process. The committee also reviewed the proposal provided by consultant Yee Won Chong and made amendments that will better serve our group. Cathy will offer a full report on this committee at the board meeting.

CWMA Ed & Outreach

Education and Outreach staff has been contributing to the planning of the 4-County Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) Pull Together event which will be held on January 19, 2022. Assistance will also be offered for the Columbia Gorge CWMA Invasive Species and Exotic Pest Conference scheduled for March 3, 2022.

Social Media

The District continues to attract participants to our Facebook page. We currently have 1,031 regular followers and last week our posts reached over 10,000 people. Comments and questions from people in the community help shape future website and Facebook posts.



**Have a Happy
Thanksgiving!**



November 11, 2021

WEEDWISE PROGRAM UPDATE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Spurge Laurel: Weed of the Month



This month the WeedWise program is highlighting [spurge laurel for our weed of the month](#). Spurge laurel is a class B noxious weed that is spreading into forest understories, where it can grow to completely dominate the understory.

As an attractive evergreen shrub, spurge laurel was at one time once planted as an ornamental. It has since fallen out of favor, in part due to invasive growth, and the potential for it to cause significant rashes and skin irritation for many people.

November is a great time for the WeedWise program to highlight spurge laurel management. As an evergreen shrub these plants become much more visible on the landscape as many of our deciduous trees and shrubs shed their leaves for the season.

Control of spurge laurel is also very effective at this time of the year either by cutting or removal. Manual removal of plants is made easier but the softening of soils the onset of fall rain. The temperatures are also still mild enough to enjoy spending some quality time outdoors. The WeedWise program has a number of weed wrenches available through our [Weed Equipment Library](#) to assist landowners in removal.

Eagle Creek Community Forest Maintenance



This time of year, the WeedWise program works to provide some much-needed maintenance to the Eagle Creek Forest. This past month, WeedWise Specialist, Justin Cooley was able to initiate some fall weed control activities. Justin was able to spray out the weeds on the road system to maintain the roadbed and reduce fire hazard in the coming year. Justin was also able to manage the encroachment by invasive blackberries along the road system.

This past month the Eagle Creek Community Forest has also posed some unique challenges for the District. Earlier in the month Lisa was notified of a Search and Rescue operation undertaken to find a missing person near the forest. Thankfully, the individual was found, but during the operation, our forest gate was severely damaged.

Justin went to inspect the damage and went to work on getting tools and materials together to get the gate entrance cleared and reopened to allow District access to the forest. Sam joined Justin for a rainy-day work party at the gate to cut the gate free from the post that was ripped out during the operations. Just and Sam were able to temporarily reposition the post and to secure the damaged gate using some chain. Although the gate will still require replacement, it is currently secure and the District has regained access to the forest.

To wrap up the work party, Sam and Justin also collected a trailer load of abandoned tires that were dumped near the gate entrance for proper disposal.

Chris has reached out to SDAO to potentially recoup damages with Search and Rescue. Justin is also drafting a SDIS safety grant application to cover a portion of the cost for a more robust replacement for the gate.

Eagle Creek Community Forest Gate Damage and Repair





BLM and Mt Hood National Forest Reporting



The end of the federal year brings on our annual reporting to our federal partners. Last month WeedWise staff have begun reviewing and preparing our annual reports for work carried out on Forest service and BLM lands.

Our efforts on the Mt Hood National Forest have been undertaken with support for the Forest Service through our Cooperative Agreement, with resources sourced from Retained Receipts, Invasive Species, and Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) funding. These resources are allowing us to treat many priority noxious weeds and prevent their continued spread both on and off the forest.

The Mt Hood National Forest has been a dedicated supporter of our work in the Sandy and Clackamas Basins. Specific project work in these areas have focused on the Lolo Pass hawkweed control efforts, the Clackamas River Invasive Species Partnership work, and Riverside Fire treatments.

Lindsey and Courtney reported **86 treatments** on the Mt Hood National Forest totaling more **than 1331 acres**. Treatments over the last year have focused on the control of priority invasives such as the orange meadow, and European hawkweeds, spotted, diffuse, and meadow knapweeds, Japanese and Bohemian knotweed, false brome, sulphur cinquefoil, and policeman's helmet.

The WeedWise program is currently working on our BLM reporting which has focused primarily on the Sandy and Molalla Subbasins. Funding from BLM has been sourced through a Partnership agreement, Title II (RAC) funding agreement, and a Beachie Creek Fire Emergency Stabilization funding agreement.

Courtney has been working with BLM on policeman's helmet, knotweed, and false brome work in the Sandy subbasin, while Justin has been spearheading our fire-related weed control efforts in the Molalla subbasin.

Feeling the Need to Seed on the Mt Hood National Forest



The WeedWise program recently assisted with a seeding project to help establish vegetative cover along a heavily disturbed roadside area on the Mt Hood National Forest, which is currently under threat from the encroachment of invasive weeds.

Lindsey has been evaluating the need for reseeding and has been coordinating with the Mt Hood National Forest Staff botanist to acquire the approved seed, and belly grinders for completion of the task. Justin joined Lindsey for the day to help spread the seed. With a little luck this effort should help protect the area from encroachment by invasive weeds.

Photos from the seeding



Beachie Creek Efforts



Work on the Beachie Creek Fire in the Molalla River subbasin has continued over the last month. The WeedWise program has been scrambling to get areas treated before the end of the field season.

Justin has been busy coordinating control efforts with two different contract crews over the last few weeks and has been making good progress. As the weather has changed work is slowing down and will soon be completed for the year, but for now we will take advantage of the last of the rain free days.

Justin has also been working to coordinate some of our contracted weed control work in Marion County in cooperation with BLM staff and Marion SWCD, as part of our Emergency Stabilization funding.

Photos from the Beachie Creek Fire





Request for Proposals (RFP)



The WeedWise Program is preparing a request for proposals (RFP) for vegetation management contracts. Sam has been reviewing and updating our contract language ahead, insurance requirements, and proposal documents prior to release. This RFP will be used to award not-to-exceed contracts for the vegetation management services to support district operations for the coming three-year period.

The WeedWise program is expecting an increase in prices for contracted services in the coming contract period. Partner organizations across the region have reported significant increases in contractor costs since the onset of COVID-19. Thankfully, the District has been insulated from these increases due to our favorably timed contracts that were completed in 2019. With the observed regionwide price increases, the strong inflation pressure, ongoing supply chain disruptions, and a narrowing work force, there is little doubt that that we will experience significant increases in contracted expenses.

These anticipated price increases mean that our existing dollars will not stretch as further as they once did, and the need for additional prioritization will be needed to maximize the impact of our implementation dollars.

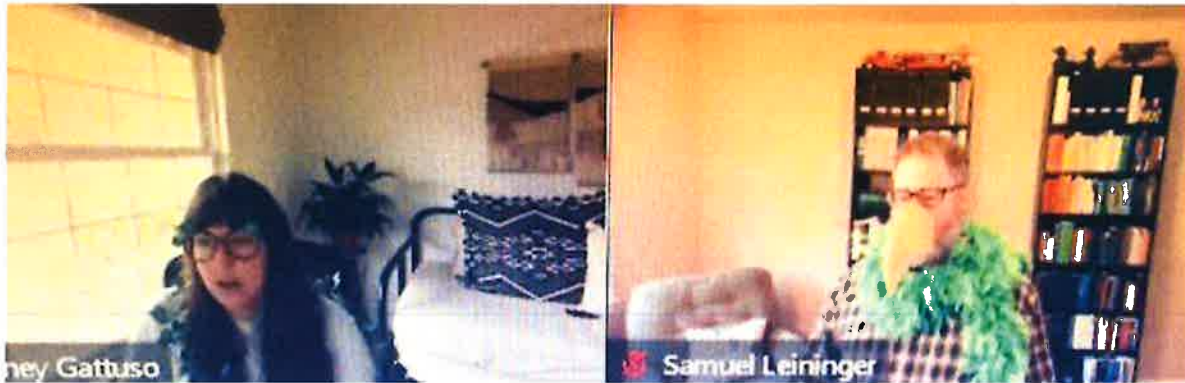
Cooperative Weed Management Areas



Columbia Gorge CWMA

The Columbia Gorge CWMA hosted committee meetings and a general meeting at the end of last month. The October 27th meeting was well-attended and provided an opportunity for CWMA members to hear about the survey response and the progress toward implementing a small grant program. This effort has been undertaken by the Steering Committee to reinvest a surplus of Columbia Gorge CWMA resources into worthy CWMA partner projects.

The October meeting also highlighted our annual Halloween costume party over GoToMeeting. Courtney and Sam were the unanimous winners this year (and the only two participants)! Despite the shyness of others, the costume party was still a lot of fun and folks enjoyed the effort.



English ivy (*Hedera helix*) and Parrot feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*) turned out for the costume contest!

The Columbia Gorge CWMA has also kicked off its planning effort for the Invasive Species and Exotic Pest (ISEP) Workshop scheduled during [National Invasive Species Awareness Week](#) (NISAW). The event is slated to have presentations on:

- Riparian weed control and restoration from former NRCS soil conservationist Chris Hoag
- Horticultural invasives prevention from the [Plantright.org Partnership](#).
- Spotted Lanternfly and Tree-of-heaven update from WSDA
- A presentation on Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK),

The schedule is still being developed but be sure to save the date for March 3rd, 2022.

The Columbia Gorge CWMA is also kicking off reporting season. Courtney is currently soliciting partner project submissions from the current year for inclusion in the CWMA annual report. Courtney is planning to draft an update on her policeman's helmet work in the Sandy Basin on behalf of WeedWise.

4-County CWMA

The 4-County CWMA Steering Committee has been working steadily toward a website redesign for the [4-County CWMA website](#). Courtney and Sam have been heavily involved in the planning process. The Steering Committee is currently drafting the scope of the work and is reviewing the current website structure and content. An RFP for web design services is anticipated in the coming months.

The 4-County CWMA Pull Together Planning Committee has also been actively planning our annual Pull Together conference, tentatively scheduled for January 19, 2022. Cathy, Sam, and Courtney have all been involved in the Pull Together planning process. This year will be a virtual format. As such we are planning a shorter format. Current topics include:

- An Overview of the National Weed Risk Assessments from USDA APHIS
- Improving DEI in the outdoor spaces
- Remote sensing of invasive weeds

The schedule is still being developed but be sure to save the date for January 19th, 2022.

The 4-County CWMA is also kicking off its reporting season. Courtney is currently soliciting partner project submissions from the current year for inclusion in the CWMA annual report. Lindsey is planning to draft an update on the efforts underway in the Riverside Fire area on behalf of WeedWise.

Enjoy the holidays ahead!



Voucher Approval List

11/4/2021

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
11/4/2021	100800	AFLAC	Acct: LGF14 10/2021	\$ 675.73
11/4/2021	100801	Bruce Johnson Construction LLC	CSWCD: SRL-7018 FINAL 10/2021	\$ 12,500.00
11/4/2021	100802	Clackamas ESD	CSWCD: Connectivity [AR 530INS] Qtr1 09/30/21	\$ 894.44
11/4/2021	100803	Covenant Systems LLC	CSWCD: Security [7002-9880/5111-2835] 09/2021-12/20	\$ 400.00
11/4/2021	100804	Garmin Services, Inc	Acct: DL627537 10/2021	\$ 69.90
11/4/2021	100805	Oregon City Garbage, Inc	Acct: 57768000 11/2021	\$ 103.10
11/4/2021	100806	Pacific Office Automation	Acct: 900-0266949-000 [100-0417] 09/2021	\$ 204.16
11/4/2021	100807	PGE	Acct: 9606754531 10/2021	\$ 647.65
11/4/2021	100808	T-MOBILE	Acct: 961602090 10/2021	\$ 526.42
11/4/2021	100809	US Bank Voyager Fleet Systems	Acct: 869284679 10-24-21	\$ 285.42
Subtotal:				\$ 16,306.82

11/16/2021

11/12/2021	100810	Nicole Ahr	Reimbursement: Mileage 10/2021	\$ 407.46	
11/12/2021	100811	American Heating Inc	CSWCD: Maint [CRC] 10/2021	\$ 1,977.00	
11/12/2021	100812	Ash Creek Forest Management, LLC	EQIP-SodaSprings-4008 [WW-2019-02] 10/2021	\$ 1,628.40	CF
11/12/2021	100813	Barbur Blvd Equipment Rentals, Inc	Acct: 3467 Rent [SmFrmSch] 09/15/21	\$ 1,520.00	
11/12/2021	100814	Cascade Septic Tank Service	CSWCD: RprSvcs [SRL-7016] FINAL 10/2021	\$ 9,930.00	CF
11/12/2021	100815	Cedar Mill Construction Company LLC	CSWCD: TI [005] 07/2021	\$ 352.45	
11/12/2021	100816	Clackamas River Water	Acct: 0327327-00 Water 10/2021	\$ 666.06	
11/12/2021	100817	Coverall North America, Inc	Acct: 157-6800/6920 11/2021	\$ 1,363.00	
11/12/2021	100818	Clackamas Dept of Finance	CSWCD: EE/ER Benefits 11/2021	\$ 23,328.24	
11/12/2021	100819	D Franco Contracting Inc	DOG-1922-4039 [WW-2019-03] Powell/Sweet 09/2021	\$ 1,070.15	CF
11/12/2021	100820	Drew Donahue	Reimbursement: Mileage 10/2021	\$ 56.11	
11/12/2021	100821	Scott Eden	Reimbursement: Mileage 10/2021	\$ 249.20	
11/12/2021	100822	Edge Analytical	Acct: CLA08 [Ecoli] 11/2021	\$ 126.00	
11/12/2021	100823	Jason Faucera	Reimbursement: Mileage 10/2021	\$ 80.96	
11/12/2021	100824	Green Banks, LLC	WW-2019-05 [CRISP] 10/2021	\$ 4,322.75	CF
11/12/2021	100825	Catherine McQueeney	Reimbursement: Mileage 09/2021	\$ 174.00	
11/12/2021	100826	My Fleet Center -JiffyLube	Acct: FS149138 [Maint] 11/2021	\$ 564.19	
11/12/2021	100827	National Association of Conservation Districts	Acct: 42075 Mbr 2021/22	\$ 775.00	
11/12/2021	100828	Northwest Local Government Legal Advisors, LLC	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Legal] 10/2021	\$ 200.00	
11/12/2021	100829	OSU FOUNDATION	CSWCD: Mbr/Sponsor 2021	\$ 250.00	
11/12/2021	100830	Special Districts Association of Oregon	CSWCD: Mbr 2021/22	\$ 1,045.29	
11/12/2021	100831	Spire Technologies, Inc	Acct: 02208 Mgmt Svcs 12/2021	\$ 2,014.00	
11/12/2021	100832	Nathan Tucker	Reimbursement: GFOA Mbr 10/2021	\$ 160.00	
11/12/2021	100833	Wilbur-Ellis Company LLC	Acct: 2266434 RelIssuePmt 11/2021	\$ 566.35	
Subtotal:				\$ 52,826.61	
Total:				\$ 69,133.43	
Total Conservation Fund				\$ 16,951.30	CF


 Board Treasurer


 Board Secretary