



Approved September 20, 2022

Clackamas SWCD Board Meeting Minutes for August 16, 2022

PRESENT	Directors:	In Person: Jeff Becker (Chair), Roger Fantz (Treasurer), Don Guttridge (Secretary), Joan Zuber Via "Zoom": Jesse Nelson (Vice Chair), Jan Lee
	Associate Directors:	Via "Zoom": PK Melethil, Anna Rankin
	Directors Emeritus:	
	Staff:	In Person: Jason Faucera, Tami Guttridge, Lisa Kilders, Chris Lapp, Sam Leininger, Jenne Reische Via "Zoom: Courtney Gattuso, Cathy McQueeney, Nathan Tucker
	Partners:	In Person: Kim Galland, Natural Resources Conservation Service
	Guest:	Joe Matteo and Jessica Sernach (The Hamlet of Beavercreek)
NOT PRESENT:		Jim Johnson, Board Director

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 4:03 p.m., August 16, 2022, in the Clackamas SWCD conference room at 22055 S Beavercreek Rd, Beavercreek, Oregon.

Chair Becker asked if there were changes or additions to the agenda. There were no changes or additions requested, the agenda stands as written.

B. Public Comment – No public comment was given.

C. Director reports –

- Director Guttridge reminded everyone to stay hydrated and keep cool.
- Director Lee reported that the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts’ annual meeting would be held on November 1 and 2, 2022. The Soil and Water Conservation Commission met on the morning of August 16.

- Associate Director Melethil mentioned that cemetery easements might be something to investigate in the future.
- D. Partner reports** – Kim Galland with the Natural Resources Conservation Service reported that she continues to be the only employee in the office at this time. Galland will be working with the conservation district staff on a public relations photo tour soon.
- E. Manager’s report on committees** – District Manager (DM) Lapp reported on the following committees:
- The Finance Committee continues to exchange emails on day-to-day transactions.
 - The Strategic Planning Committee exchanged emails to finalize an external stakeholder list and foundation questions for Amy Stork Consulting.
 - The Equity Team met on August 4, 2022, and will report later in the meeting.
 - The Eagle Creek Community Forest Advisory Board met on August 5, 2022. Highlights of the discussions included recent improvements to deter trespassing, progress of the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) Fuels Reduction project, discussion of upcoming pre-commercial thinning needs, and fire season closure signage.
 - The Working Lands and Natural Lands Protection Committee met on August 5, 2022. Highlights include discussions about Metro’s new ag lease manager, a review of progress at the Eagle Creek Community Forest and Camp Adams easement, evaluation of a request to hold an easement, and preparation for strategic planning this fall.

2 – MINUTES

- A. July 19, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes** – Board meeting minutes for the July 19, 2022, regular board meeting were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to approve the July 19, 2022, Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Lee, and Nelson. The vote carried unanimously.

3 – FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Review and accept financial reports** – Staff Tucker reviewed the July 2022 Financial Reports. Tucker noted that reports were not up-to-date due to his vacation at the beginning of the month and that discrepancies are a timing issue not a monetary one. Total assets for July 2022 are \$10.6 million, Total Liabilities are 6.1 million, for net assets of 4.5 million. The Districts debt to equity is 1.34 to 1. The District received \$14,881 in revenue in July of which \$9,695.10 was tax revenue. Total Expenditures for July were \$33,210.99, this did not include payroll expenditures.

Directors Fantz/Guttridge moved/seconded to approve the July 2022 financial reports as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Lee, and Nelson. The vote carried unanimously.

Director Zuber arrived at 4:18 p.m.

- B. Disbursements** – Staff Tucker reviewed the August 2022 disbursements. The Automatic Clearing House payments totaled \$466,203.14. The large balance was due to loan payments made to Zions Bank.

Checks for August 2022 were numbered 101086 to 101116 with no breaks or voids in the sequence. The checks totaled \$74,515.96 with \$21,131.14 from the conservation fund.

Directors Guttridge/Lee moved/seconded to accept the August 2022 disbursements as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. The vote carried unanimously.

4 – OTHER FINANCIALS

- A. Equipment Rental Rates** – DM Lapp asked the Board to review the existing equipment rental rates. Lapp noted the rates have not changed since 2020, however, the program has been on hold for the last year. The District would like to keep rates high enough to maintain the equipment, but low enough to make the equipment accessible to those who need to use the implements but cannot afford to keep and maintain their own.

Directors Guttridge/Zuber moved/seconded to retain the 2020 Equipment Rental Rates as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. The vote carried unanimously.

- B. Draft Resolution 2022-004 Operational Costs** – DM Lapp reported that the Finance Committee and Director Guttridge would be meeting on Thursday, August 25, 2022, to review the Draft resolution 2022-004. Lapp hopes to have this resolution ready to review at the September Board Meeting.

5 – PROJECTS, PROGRAMS

- A. Courtyard Project** – DM Lapp reported that he had met with two contractors regarding stamped concrete resurfacing for the plaza area. This project will be discussed as part of the strategic planning.
- B. Equity Statement Analysis** – Staff McQueeney hoped that the Board members had a chance to read Scott Eden’s biography.

McQueeney reviewed the most recent Equity Statement Analysis of input gathered from Staff and Board Members. The analysis from the last meeting and the current one will help guide the Equity Team in drafting a statement for the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District. The Team hopes to have a statement ready for review at the September 2022 Board Meeting.

McQueeney also noted that she had been asked to check with a job applicant about the pronouns the applicant uses. The applicant was impressed that the District cared to know what pronouns they used.

6 – PERSONNEL

- A. **Compensation Study** – DM Lapp reported that the District had contracted with HR Answers through the Special Districts Association of Oregon to conduct a market survey as part of a compensation study. Outreach will be done with like municipalities and conservation districts. HR Answers will compile the information and report it back to the District.

7 – BOARD AND MANAGER REPORTS

- A. **Management reports – Land Management and Planning Departments** – Staff Faucera and Staff Reische presented an overview of the Conservation Activity Tracking System (CATS). Faucera noted that the roots of the system began in 2006 and that in 2012 the ACCESS-based system was put together to track the work of the Planning Department. The system makes it easier to track planning reports, contacts, and planner assignments, and helps with reporting issues. The WeedWise department also uses the program to track calls. Using a database reduced the need to keep paper files and cut down on duplicate files. Staff Reische showed the Board the contact pages and explained how information is entered. Reische noted the activity log and how it helped planners track what was going on, goals noted, and resource concerns. It is a powerful tool for District Employees.

Please see both the Land Management and Planning Department reports that are part of these minutes.

8 – PROPERTY, PLANNING

- A. **United States Geological Survey (USGS) vehicle parking request** – DM Lapp reported that he had been approached by the Director of the USGS' Oregon Water Science Center (OWSC) regarding a request to park a vehicle at the District office. The vehicle is one used by a USGS employee who lives near the office. If allowed to park at our office, this person would need access to the property to pick up and drop off the vehicle as needed. In return, USGS could provide support to the District. The agency's mission is to explore the natural world around us and provide reliable scientific information to help Federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, and the public make well-informed decisions.

Lapp asked if the Board would like more information regarding the proposal, and if they might be willing to enter into an agreement with the USGS. The Board asked for more information and was interested in trying a short-term agreement to see how things worked out, noting they did not want to prematurely set a precedent. DM Lapp will follow up with the USGS.

- B. **Conference Room Use Policy** – DM Lapp reported on requests for the use of the District's Conference room. Lapp has been working on a policy regarding public use. Currently, there has been a request to allow the Dry Farming Institute to use the room in October. Staff McQueeney is a board member of the Dry Farming Institute. Lapp asked if the Board would grant their permission for the October meeting.

Directors Guttridge/Lee moved/seconded to allow the Dry Farming Institute to meet in the District Conference Room on October 25, 2022. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. The vote carried unanimously.

Staff Faucera noted that when a policy is developed the District will need to review the lease with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to make sure there are no conflicts with that agreement.

- C. **Strategic Planning Process** – DM Lapp reported that he was accumulating documents for the facilitator. Amy Stork Consulting will be doing internal and external interviews. Lapp noted that a few of the Board members had not completed the doodle polls regarding dates for the Conservation Resource Center tour and the November retreats for the planning process.

9 – OTHER REPORTS

- Chair Becker asked if staff could explain moisture conservation spraying. Staff explained that this is herbicide spraying around single trees to keep weeds from competing with the plants for water.
- Becker asked the Board if they would like to consider other times to meet. He is no longer working and could accommodate other times. Director Nelson said meeting earlier in the day would be more convenient for him. Director Lee noted she had a standing meeting from 2 to 3 each board meeting Tuesday. DM Lapp will send out a doodle poll to see what times may work best for all Board members.
- Staff Guttridge asked that Board members complete the video reviews that were requested to provide the District with a 2% discount on insurance.
- Director Lee reported that she would be attending the Clackamas River Basin Council's Annual Watershed Celebration on Thursday and would be willing to represent the District. Board Directors suggested that Lee should be reimbursed for the cost of the dinner.

Directors Fantz/Zuber moved/seconded to reimburse Director Lee for the cost of the Clackamas River Basin Council's Annual Watershed Celebration, \$50.00. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Nelson, and Zuber. Abstained: Lee. The vote carried by majority.

- Staff Kilders reported that the District would like to post pictures of the sitting Directors in the hallway outside the conference room. Please be prepared to have your picture taken at an upcoming meeting.

ADJOURN AND NEXT MEETING

- The next regular meeting will be on September 20, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.
- There being no further business, Chair Becker adjourned the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami L. Guttridge
Office Administrator



August 16, 2022

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Summer EQIP Project Implementation

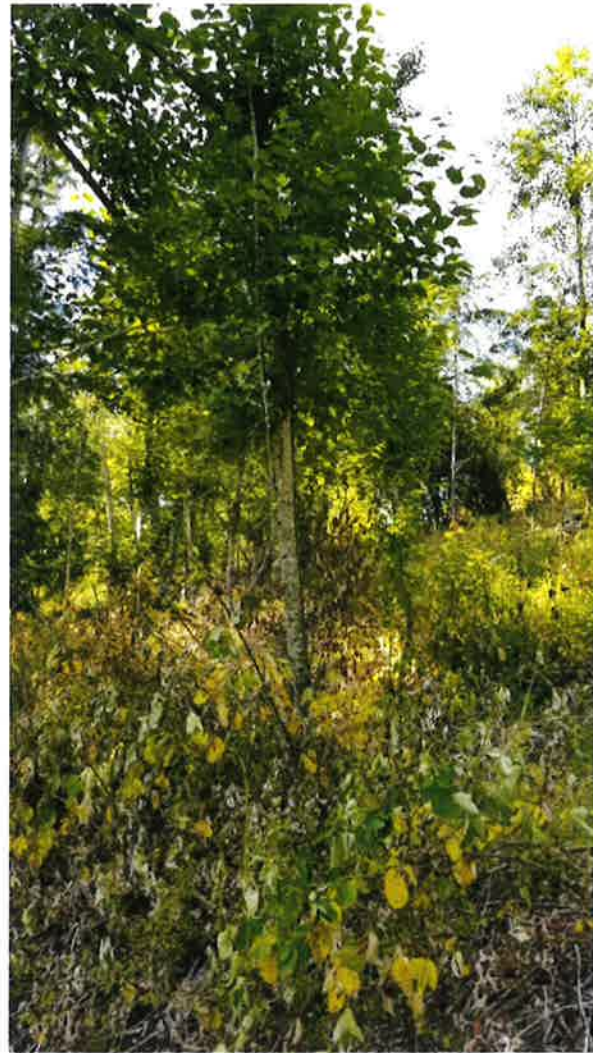
Staff have been busy following up with clients with NRCS EQIP Contracts for oak and forest habitat projects. This time of year landowners are completing conservation practices including moisture conservation maintenance sprays around new plantings, herbaceous weed control to control invasive weeds, and wildlife habitat structures. Staff check-in with landowners prior to conservation practice completion deadlines to determine the status of on-the-ground work and assist in coordinating project work with contractors, as needed. This year has been particularly difficult for landowners with the prolonged rain making it difficult to complete spray work. Once the landowner completes a conservation practice, staff follow-up with a project site visit to certify the practice. From there, staff have an NRCS Practice Certification form to complete, including photos and herbicide application information, when applicable, to submit to the NRCS District Conservationist (Kim Galland). Practices can only be certified by District or NRCS staff with Job Approval Authority (JAA) for the practice and level. Kim reviews the certification and if all looks good, she submits the practice(s) for payment to the state Financial Office. Landowners receive payments through direct deposit from NRCS. Here are some examples of practices staff recently certified:



Staff certified a moisture conservation treatment on an Oak CIS project site in Molalla, where staff has been coordinating contractor work for this multi-year project.



Staff certified and helped coordinate an herbaceous weed treatment spray on an Oak CIS project site in Canby where the landowner hired a restoration contractor to complete the treatment.



Staff certified an herbaceous weed treatment spray on a Forest Diversity EQIP project site in Oregon City where the landowner completed some work on his own in May and hired a restoration contractor to complete a larger treatment.



Staff inspected the first phase of a brush management practice on an oak habitat project in the Wilhoit area. Oak seedlings and shrubs will be planted in this area this winter.



Staff certified a raptor perch wildlife structure on an Oak CIS project site in Canby next to the Molalla River.

White Rock Larkspur Conservation

Staff have been working on Oregon white oak properties, both private and public, for many years. On these sites we look for a variety of rare plant species, many of which are only found in oak and prairie habitats. We explain to the landowners and managers what species we are looking for and provide them with identification information if they are interested. There are many oak and prairie plant species that are rare, but not federally listed as threatened or endangered. One of these species is white rock larkspur (*Delphinium leucophaeum*), a perennial wildflower only found in the northern Willamette Valley, typically on thin, rocky soils. White rock larkspur is an Oregon state endangered plant, an Oregon Conservation Strategy species, and highlighted with a variety of other rare oak and prairie plant species in the 2010 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Western Oregon and Southwestern Washington Prairie Species Recovery Plan. The Prairie Species Recovery Plan states there are fewer than twenty known locations for this plant across its range in Clackamas, Marion, Multnomah and Yamhill Counties in Oregon and Lewis County (Washington). Most of the known sites for this plant are in Clackamas County.



White rock larkspur single flower in Lake Oswego.

Staff received a request for technical assistance this past spring, by a Friends of the Park Group and the Oswego Lake Watershed Council (OLWC) for help supporting a white rock larkspur population at a public park in Lake Oswego. On this site, white rock larkspur is growing along a frequently used trail system, with many common invasive weeds and a variety of associated native oak woodland plants, including blue-eyed Mary (*Collinsia verna*), fernleaf biscuitroot (*Lomatium dissectum* var. *dissectum*), Oregon sunshine (*Eriophyllum lanatum*), ookow (*Dichelostemma congestum*) and chocolate lily (*Fritillaria affinis*). When we find a rare plant growing with other rare plants in a large area, we often refer to this as “remnant habitat.” Staff was incredibly excited to see white rock larkspur and these other plants in bloom in our Clackamas! We continue to work with the City of Lake Oswego, Friends of Group and OLWC to support the rare plant population with technical advice on weed control techniques.



White rock larkspur (*Delphinium leucophaeum*) in Lake Oswego.

Not long after touring the public park site in Lake Oswego, a new landowner we have been serving with an oak property in Oregon City contacted us. The landowner has both oak and madrone trees on a rocky, thin-soiled property and is interested in restoring the native plant community. Staff provided him with a list of native plants to look for on his unique property and he managed to find white rock larkspur! The landowner is excited about finding the plant and has asked staff for technical assistance to support and expand the population on his property. Staff was excited about this rare find and encouraged that our landowner education about these rare species helped a landowner find a rare plant on their own.

Planning staff then followed up with the NRCS State Plant Materials Specialist, Kathy Pendergrass, as she is our go-to colleague for rare plant advice on private lands. With Kathy’s encouragement, we also engaged the new Native Plant Center Coordinator with Metro, Hannah Schrage, to find out if Metro would be able to propagate these plants for species recovery efforts, as well as OLWC due to their focus on oak habitat. They are working to engage Oregon Department of Agriculture, the entity that oversees state-listed species, for assistance on the legalities of working with the state endangered plant and to discuss the idea of mixing genetics from multiple sites (public and private). If all goes

well, our small working group hopes to help coordinate seed collection from larkspur plants at multiple sites. Metro can work on propagating the seed at the Native Plant Nursery, with ODA approval, and work on establishing more larkspur populations on Metro lands. In addition, staff will assist the private landowner with his larkspur population, and consider adding additional larkspur genetics to his site, if ODA approves this approach to species recovery.

In the long term, staff is hopeful that this process can pave the way for other rare plants we observe on private and public lands, and where private landowners are interested, we can continue to support efforts to enhance these species' populations and diversify their genetics with help from partner agencies, including Metro. Staff finds this pilot effort particularly rewarding, as it feels like another step towards supporting these rare and declining oak and prairie habitats.

CSWCD Technical Staff Respond to Emerald Ash Borer Arrival

This June the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) was identified at an elementary school in Forest Grove by Dominic Maze with the City of Portland. EAB is often introduced through infested pallets, nursery stock, and moving firewood. EAB only attacks dying trees in China, but in the United States, it will also attack a healthy ash tree. This has caused ash trees in eastern states to suffer almost 99% mortality and caused billions of dollars in damages in urban settings.

Studies have shown that Oregon's one native ash tree species, *Fraxinus latifolia*, is susceptible to EAB. It is speculated that Oregon has 5-10 years before we start to see the eradication of ash trees due to the similar timeline that occurred in Michigan. A study by Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) in Portland completed a study on Johnson Creek that showed that Oregon ash is one of the most dominant trees species in riparian areas. It is predicted that there will be extreme solar loading to waterways when the ash starts to decline. The EAB Readiness and Response Plan published by Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) and Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) predicts that 11 threatened and endangered species in Oregon are likely to be impacted by EAB and seven of those species are Salmon/Steelhead.

The impacts of EAB arrival are severe and District staff is preparing for the implications. Members of the planning team and Weedwise have conducted meetings to discuss next steps and current guidelines being offered by ODA and ODF. Planners have started to provide handouts to landowners during site visits and outreach materials are being worked on by our outreach staff. Riparian and urban technical assistance is expected to dramatically increase in coming years as we start to see the decline in Oregon Ash.

Naturescaping Assistance on Rural Properties

Planning staff have recently worked with several rural landowners on hedgerows and naturescaping around their farms. Purposefully planting native plants on a farm properties is a great way to enhance wildlife and pollinator habitat, reduce wind, moderate temperature, reduce weeds, protect against airborne particles, reduce traffic noise or trash and enhance landscape aesthetics. Plants can also help farmers manage excess water on-site and reduce chemicals and fertilizer costs.

Supplemental plantings are not intended for production areas such as those used for crops, livestock or timber, but to improve habitat in unused property corners, roadsides, and landscape areas. Using select native plants can be a way to improve and enhance the character and functionality of a farm site. Nest boxes and other wildlife structures or water features can be added to enhance wildlife habitat.

In a forested setting, pruning or thinning and planting new trees of the desired species may be a way to enhance views, reduce wildfire risk, or begin the gradual work of improving the overstory. Protecting high habitat value mature native trees is important, and they provide overstory shade and a windbreak, which helps keep homes at a more uniform temperature, saving energy, and similarly provides insulated microhabitats or shade during hot times.



Photo credit: Mace Vaughan, Xerces

Planning staff can recommend site specific native shrub and tree species who may have a feature they want to screen, such as a neighbor's yard or a highway. There are lots of useful low maintenance native plants that are suited for many of these areas to serve as visual barriers, to enhance forest edges, compete with weeds, connect patch habitats. Or, landowners may want a native groundcover to keep weeds at bay and reduce maintenance, such as Kinnikinnik, strawberry, salal, Oregon geranium, or swordfern. In open areas, perennial flowering plants like goldenrod, yarrow, lupines, Oregon sunshine and many others can be used to establish permanent flowering vegetation islands. If there is a wet swale or pond feature, many moisture adapted plants can be used to create a haven for aquatic insects and amphibians.

NRCS Pasture Training

In July, planning staff Anna and Suzi attended the NRCS pasture training presented by Kari Littrel, the State Pasture and Rangeland Management Specialist. Planners Scott and Nicole attended the training in the past and recommended it. The training site was near Creswell in Lane County, at a cattle operation. Their pasture was composed of mainly tall fescue and perennial ryegrass in a beautiful Oregon white oak savannah complex.

Topics included annual forage production estimation methods for grazing and engineering considerations for livestock watering facilities. Participants learned how to inventory pasture using a modified step-point survey and pasture clipping undesirable and desirable species. After estimating total forage production, the pasture condition score helps to adjust the clipping data to represent the entire area, which then informs potential management improvements. The process helps determine monthly forage production from benchmark conditions or changes from prescribed grazing practice implementation. Planners provide this data to land managers to determine the number of animals the pasture can support or the additional hay requirements necessary at current animal stocking rates. In addition, during the training planners measured slope using hand levels and clinometers with an NRCS engineer. This information helps increase the accuracy of soil erosion predictions and aids watering facility design. Overall, all the skills covered are valuable for our work with landowners that raise livestock.



Participants gathered around a transect to conduct pasture clipping data.



Conservation Specialist Anna Beebe in the field holds a modified step point data sheet for pasture inventory.

Land Management Program Bi-Monthly Report

August 16, 2022

Eagle Creek Community Forest (ECCF)

Our tour of the ECCF with staff and partners on June 23 went very well. There were 17 attendees on the tour including staff, board, and advisory committee members. Attendees shared conversations about stream habitat, fuels reduction, recreation, harvest/thinning strategy, maintenance, trespass, and partnerships. Mark Shaw from Clackamas County Parks was present and echoed the SWCD's desire to partner on a potential for future recreation, and Dave Bugni was present to talk about habitat and his work for fuels reduction on nearby properties. A second tour was provided in July for our strategic planning facilitators and for a few folks that had yet to visit the forest.



Figure 1 – Participants on Eagle Creek Community Forest Strategic Planning Tour, June 23, 2022

The advisory committee held its summer quarterly meeting on August 5, 2022 over Zoom. Minutes for the meeting are available with the Board Meeting packet. One of the main conversations revolved around our thinning strategy and ensuring that while a more specific short and long-term management strategy was developed, that thinning, and maintenance should continue to occur.

The committee also discussed fire season closures and were supportive of staff recommendations for closing the forest to all visitors when the Oregon Department of Forestry Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) reaches level three: <https://gisapps.odf.oregon.gov/firerestrictions/ifpl.html>. This would remain in effect until the level drops to level 1 again in late summer or fall.

Moving forward, meetings will follow a regular schedule to avoid the need to conduct polls to set meeting times. The initial time proposed is first Thursdays of February, May, August, and November at 9am. Barring any negative feedback from the committee, we'll proceed with that structure, making the next meeting November 3.

Over the past two months, staff have been preparing the forest for fire season. Justin conducted his spring maintenance herbicide treatment June 3rd. We've also coordinated with Estacada Fire to add their padlock to the gate. Lisa designed signs that we'll put on the front gate to indicate that parking is not allowed in front of the gate and the second of which we'll close the forest to access for fire season. Lastly, Justin was able to place boulders from the Conservation Resource Center project along the embankments of the entry to the forest to deter the observed ATV trespass around the gate.



Figure 2 - Boulder placement along entry embankment at the ECCF

Conservation Resource Center (CRC)

Staff have been gathering estimates for work to be completed at the CRC. We are getting estimates to install a more structurally sound roof on both the RV Barn and the Machine Shed. While both structures have a light layer of insulation to prevent condensation, neither has sheathing nor will support someone walking on the roof. We are gathering estimates for both metal and comp roofing and will select the choice that is best for long-term maintenance and durability. We are gathering quotes for painting the outbuildings as well.

Before working on the roofs of both buildings, we have arborists on site to complete work on both the Doug fir woodlot and ash trees along the creek. There are about 12 Doug fir trees that line our buildings that will be limbed up 20-30 feet above the buildings and from which the dead wood will be removed. There is an additional dead fir that will be topped to a safe height and left as a snag for wildlife habitat.

The Ash trees are being pruned to reduce hazards and increase tree health. These trees are close in proximity to the lone creek crossing and staff have been avoiding the area until the hazards are cleared. We considered removal due to the recent Emerald Ash Borer populations found in the region but felt that until the trees were affected that the trees would continue to provide shade and could buy us time to plan for replacement plantings along the creek.

We are working to schedule a tour of the CRC this fall to refamiliarize folks with the property and to call attention to areas to discuss during strategic planning.



Figure 3 – Bartlett Tree Experts on site pruning Oregon Ash trees

Working and Natural Lands Protection Committee (WNLPC)

The Working and Natural Lands Protection Committee met the afternoon of August 5 over Zoom to discuss ongoing topics, existing projects, assistance requests and land management program development. Highlights include discussion about Metro's new ag lease manager, review of progress at the Eagle Creek Community Forest and Camp Adams easement, evaluation of a request to hold an easement, and preparation for strategic planning this fall.

Significant parts of the conversation centered around the committee's desire to prioritize working agricultural land protections above other opportunities at this time, especially those with a water right. If agricultural properties have other potential benefits for wildlife and water quality improvements, that could increase their priority, but protecting farmland from non-farm uses would be the main goal. Another type of land to protect could be where we have a long-term relationship with landowners and the District has invested significant dollars in restoration on their property.

We reviewed a request for the District to hold an easement on a property in the Molalla area. This property has significant cultural and wildlife value and the committee was impressed with the work and care that the landowners have put into the property. Because the District has limited resources at this time and because the property isn't a working farm, the committee felt it wasn't in the best interest of the District to pursue an easement at this time. It was recommended that we reach out to partners to see if a match could be found for protecting the site for its cultural significance.

Another area of interest of the committee would be to see the District become more involved in planning and policy decisions that affect working lands. While the Oregon land use planning system protects a significant portion of working lands, there are still pathways for non-agricultural use to take land out of production. The District could play a role in support of protecting lands from non-farm use.

High level goals and direction for the Land Management program will be discussed during strategic planning. The District has limited resources to fund or maintain easements or acquisitions currently, but the committee could see the District in a role of connecting those looking for easements with other organizations working in that space. Clarifying board and staff visions will be essential in developing a successful path forward and ensuring that we can develop the resources needed to achieve that vision.

The WNLPC will meet again in the fall before strategic planning to develop some recommendations for the board and staff to discuss.

ODF Fuels Reduction Grant

Work on the Fuels Reduction Grant near the ECCF has stopped for the summer, but this fall activities will pick back up with some riparian plantings and continued pruning work. We are developing an RFP to find a contractor to work with out last site that we'll release on August 15 and close September 5th. Our goal is to make recommendations to the board on a contractor at our September meeting so that work can begin this fall for this last site.

Eagle Creek Community Forest Advisory Committee Minutes - Draft

Date: August 5, 2022

Time: 9:00 - 10:30 AM

Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

Roger Fantz – Clackamas SWCD Director

Dave Bugni – Neighbor, Friends of Eagle Creek

Jason Faucera – Clackamas SWCD Staff

Rob Guttridge – Forest Landowner

Justin Cooley – Clackamas SWCD Staff

Welcome/Introductions/Updates

Staff Cooley shared a photo of boulders that were placed along the entry to the Eagle Creek Community Forest (ECCF) to deter the public from bypassing the gate. Tracks were observed immediately following the installation the new gate and we hope this new measure will reduce off-road access. Staff Faucera shared that we now have a Knox Lock from Estacada Fire Department on the gate along with two district padlocks, one for sharing that can be changed and the other more permanent with a combo for staff only.

Dave Bugni discussed the progress of the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) Fuels Reduction project he is implementing in partnership with the SWCD. Significant progress has been made, with mastication and thinning efforts this past spring. This fall additional pruning and planting will take place with the potential for more mastication and thinning as well. The grant was for \$294,000 and we have spent just under half.

Dave also shared that he has had discussions with neighboring property owners about becoming a part of the Greater Eagle Creek Community Forest in some fashion as there are several more areas with significant habitat that could benefit from the expertise that the Community Forest has brought together. He'll continue to engage folks and explore those opportunities.

Charter and Appointment of Committee Chairperson

This item was postponed until a more significant number of the Advisory Committee is present.

CSWCD Strategic Planning Sessions Update

Staff Faucera reviewed the timeline and process for the District's strategic planning efforts that will dedicate time discussing the high level objectives for the Eagle Creek Community Forest. Facilitators for the planning process were brought to the forest in July to familiarize themselves with the property. They were also provided with background materials, including the current management plan which will be the starting point for discussions. Once the high-level goals for the forest are formalized, more detailed operational plans for short- and long-term management will be developed. The planning process will kick off this fall around October and will run through next spring.

Short Term Thinning Plan

Staff Cooley discussed the planned operations for FY22-23 for the District which runs from July 2022 through the end of June 2023. Dollars are allocated to begin a thinning plan for Stand 10 with a consultant. Additionally, funds have been set aside for pre-commercial thinning on stands 3 and 6 which will provide three days of treatment. The area these treatments will cover will depend on several factors, but the treatments will be prioritized to ensure the most needed areas are addressed first. It was generally agreed upon that while there needs to be a more specific management plan for timber management, thinning should not be postponed while developing that plan.

Dave Bugni shared that he has been working with Clackamas River Basin Council (CRBC) on a grant to conduct work across several different objectives in the Eagle Creek watershed including habitat improvements and fuels reduction. He indicated that the SWCD could jump onto the grant to conduct some fuels reduction at 1:1 cost share rate in 2023-24 if the grant is received and asked if the District was interested. Staff Faucera will follow up with Dave once we have a staff discussion about the extent of the work we'd like to complete in the coming years.

USFS Community Forest grant requirements

Staff Faucera shared the requirements for the US Forest Service Grant as was requested in the February meeting. The District received \$550,000 toward the purchase of the forest and with that are required to provide at least one of the following benefits as proposed in the grant application:

- (1) Economic benefits such as timber and non-timber products resulting from sustainable forest management and tourism;
- (2) Environmental benefits, including clean air and water, stormwater management, and wildlife habitat;
- (3) Benefits from forest-based experiential learning, including K–12 conservation education programs; vocational education programs in disciplines such as forestry and environmental biology; and environmental education through individual study or voluntary participation in programs;
- (4) Benefits from serving as replicable models of effective forest stewardship for private landowners;
- (5) Recreational benefits such as hiking, hunting and fishing secured with public access.

Some other important restrictions in the grant are:

- Ensure that appropriate public access is provided to the Community Forest Program land(s) and must be provided on a non-discriminatory basis at reasonable times and places but may be limited to protect cultural and natural resources or public health and safety.
- Ensure that the land be managed in a manner that is consistent with the purposes for which the land was entered in the Community Forest Program and provides defined community benefits outlined in the Community Forest Plan
- Include a statement in the recorded deed(s) for all land(s) acquired stating that if the Community Forest was sold or converted to non-forest uses or a use inconsistent with the purpose of the CFP, the grant recipient or subsequent Community Forest landowner shall:

- (1) pay the United States an amount equal to the current sale price or the current appraised value of the parcel, whichever is greater; and
- (2) not be eligible for additional grants under the CFP.
- The Grant Recipient shall ensure that the land is held by an eligible entity in perpetuity. Eligible entity is defined as:
 - A local governmental entity, Indian tribe, or a qualified nonprofit organization that is qualified to acquire and manage land.
- Ensure that the community forest excludes non-forest uses including the following:
 - Subdivision
 - Residential development, except for a caretaker building;
 - Mining and nonrenewable resource extraction, except for directional drilling for oil and gas development or onsite use of gravel from existing gravel pits;
 - Industrial use, including the manufacturing of products;
 - Commercial use, except for sustainable timber or other renewable resources, and limited compatible commercial activities to support cultural, recreational and educational use of the community forest by the public;
 - Structures and facilities, except for compatible recreational facilities, concession and educational kiosks, energy development for onsite use, facilities associated with appropriate forest management and parking areas; said structures, facilities and parking areas must have minimal impacts to forest and water resources.

Lastly, post-grant requirements are as follows:

- Every five years, submit to the Forest Service a self-certifying statement that the property has not been sold or converted to non-forest uses or a use inconsistent with the purpose of the CFP.
- Will be subject to a spot check conducted by the Forest Service to verify that property acquired under the CFP has not been sold or converted to non-forest uses or a use inconsistent with the purpose of the CFP

Any future management plan edits will need to incorporate the grant requirements and be reflective of the objectives proposed in the grant application.

Discussion Topics – All

Meeting Coordination

Staff Faucera offered that selecting a more regular date for ECCF meetings would make scheduling easier and more easily followed. Those present were supportive of moving forward to offer the committee the first Thursday of February, May, August, and November from 9am – 10:30am as the regular meeting time of the committee. Staff will follow up and determine if this will work.

Fire Season Consideration/Coordination

Staff Faucera showed two signs that will be posted on the gate for the ECCF, one that said, “No Parking, Fire Lane” in red letters and the other that said “Access closed during fire season.” The no parking sign will be hung indefinitely until safe public access is developed. The committee was asked about the timing for hanging the fire season closure sign.

There was some discussion about changing the signage to mirror the common fire danger signs that have the levels listed and an arrow that can point to the current conditions. However, staff recommended that once the sign was up that it would remain until the end of fire season.

Staff felt that ODF's Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) system was the easiest to follow. Given the option of whether to place the sign at IFPL 2 or IFPL 3, the committee felt level three was appropriate.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:17am

Voucher Approval List

8/1/2022

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
8/1/2022	101086	AFLAC	Acct: LGF14 08/2022	\$ 675.73
8/1/2022	101087	Clackamas ESD	Acct: AR530NIS Qtr4 Telecom 06/2022	\$ 895.70
8/1/2022	101088	Covenant Systems LLC	CSWCD: Monitoring July-Sept 2022	\$ 150.00
8/1/2022	101089	Garmin Services, Inc	Acct: DL627537 07/2022	\$ 70.30
8/1/2022	101090	Oregon City Garbage, Inc	Acct: 57768000 08/2022	\$ 105.80
8/1/2022	101091	Pacific Office Automation	Acct: 900-0266949-000 [100-0417] 06/2022	\$ 186.49
8/1/2022	101092	PGE	Acct: 9606754531 07/2022	\$ 786.99
8/1/2022	101093	T-MOBILE	Acct: 961602090 07/2022	\$ 523.87
8/1/2022	101094	US Bank Voyager Fleet Systems	Acct: 869284679 06/24/22-7/24/22	\$ 1,261.02
Subtotal:				\$ 4,655.90

8/16/2022

8/15/2022	101095	Ash Creek Forest Management, LLC	WW-2022-01 Burnt Lake 07/2022	\$ 1,354.00	CF
8/15/2022	101096	Better World Club, Inc	Fit# 3700-0005-9771 07/2022	\$ 360.00	
8/15/2022	101097	Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts	CSWCD: Annual Mbr 07/2022	\$ 3,500.00	
8/15/2022	101098	Coverall North America, Inc	Acct: 157-6800 08/2022	\$ 1,775.00	
8/15/2022	101099	Bridge Tower OpCo, LLC	Acct: 10061313 RFP Audit 07/2022	\$ 59.40	
8/15/2022	101100	Clackamas Dept of Finance	CSWCD: EE/ER Benefits 08/2022	\$ 23,622.06	
8/15/2022	101101	Drew Donahue	Reimbursement: Mileage 07/2022	\$ 43.75	
8/15/2022	101102	Ebb Tide Oceanfront Inn	CSWCD: Lodging [CONNECT-09-2022] 08/2022	\$ 4,291.11	
8/15/2022	101103	Scott Eden	Reimbursement: Mileage 06/2022-07/2022	\$ 51.48	
8/15/2022	101104	Environmental Systems Research Institute Inc	CSWCD: ArcGIS Sub 07/2022	\$ 8,800.00	
8/15/2022	101105	HR Answers	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [SP] 07/2022	\$ 1,116.00	
8/15/2022	101106	Alex Keeve	DOG-2123-4050 06/2022	\$ 1,640.00	CF
8/15/2022	101107	Kuznetsov Thinning Company	WW-2022-07 CRISP 07/2022	\$ 5,539.88	CF
8/15/2022	101108	Oregon PERS	ER:8043 Fee 07/2022	\$ 16.80	
8/15/2022	101109	Sound Native Plants Inc	WW-2022-11 CRISP 07/2022	\$ 6,501.48	CF
8/15/2022	101110	Spire Technologies, Inc	Acct: 02208 09/2022	\$ 2,014.00	
8/15/2022	101111	Springwater Grange #263	CSWCD: Supplies 07/2022	\$ 108.00	
8/15/2022	101112	The Gold Wrench	CSWCD: Rpr Svcs [Veh] 07/2022	\$ 2,224.10	
8/15/2022	101113	The Oregonian Media Group	Acct: 1039096002 [Dir Elect] 06/2022	\$ 244.95	
8/15/2022	101114	VICTORY TRUK'N LLC	CSWCD: Gravel [ECCF] 07/2022	\$ 425.00	
8/15/2022	101115	Wilbur-Ellis Company LLC	Acct: 2266434 06/2022	\$ 77.00	
8/15/2022	101116	Wild Habitat Contracting, LLC	NRCS-EQIP-Soda Springs [WW-2022-12]/EDRR 06/2022	\$ 6,096.05	CF
Subtotal:				\$ 69,860.06	
Total:				\$ 74,515.96	
Total Conservation Fund				\$ 21,131.41	CF

[Signature]
Board Chair

[Signature]
Board Secretary

[Signature]
Roger A. Jansky
Treasurer