



Approved March 21, 2023

Clackamas SWCD Board Meeting Minutes for February 21, 2023

PRESENT	Directors:	In Person: Jeff Becker (Chair), Don Guttridge (Secretary) Via Zoom: Roger Fantz (Treasurer), Jim Johnson, Jesse Nelson (Vice Chair), Jan Lee, Joan Zuber
	Associate Directors:	Via Zoom: PK Melethil
	Directors Emeritus:	
	Staff:	In Person: Jordan DeLawder, Drew Donahue, Jason Faucera, Tami Guttridge, Lisa Kilders, Clair Klock, Chris Lapp, Sam Leininger, Heather Nielsen, Jenne Reische, Nathan Tucker
	Partners:	Kim Galland (Natural Resources Conservation Service)
	Guest:	Via Zoom: Jessica Sernach (Beavercreek Hamlet)
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. on February 21, 2023, in the Clackamas SWCD conference room at 22055 S Beavercreek Rd, Beavercreek, Oregon.

Chair Becker asked if there were any changes to the agenda. He noted the request to introduce a new employee. District Manager (DM) Lapp asked to add item 4G to the agenda for approval of septic loan SRL-7020.

- B. Public Comment** – No public comment was given.

C. Director reports –

- Director Guttridge reported that he had attended the first day of the Soil and Water Conservation Commission meeting at the District Office. He helped DM Lapp answer questions during a tour of the facility. Guttridge encouraged other Directors to attend board meetings at other districts to see how they manage board business and to take advantage of

various offered trainings. Guttridge also noted that the Springwater Grange that he belongs to will be holding a scholarship pie auction on Friday, February 24, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

- Director Lee thanked the District for hosting the Soil and Water Conservation Commission and for agreeing to host the Oregon Department of Agriculture Board Training on Thursday, February 23, 2023. Lee reported she will not be able to attend the training, but the Oregon Association of Conservation District (OACD) president, Terry Prigg-Rigsby will give a 15-minute presentation on the OACD.
- Director Fantz noted it was snowing at his place.
- Director Johnson reported that he would have to leave the meeting at 5:00 p.m. to attend an Oregon Board of Agriculture meeting. They will be discussing five (5) land use rules among other topics.
- Director Nelson reported that he would be meeting with other nursery owners about the possible impacts of the Portland Water Bureau's proposed water treatment plant.
- Director Zuber reported that she had attended the Special Districts Association of Oregon Annual meeting virtually. She attended the "Is your website ADA compliant" and feels the District needs to pay special attention to this matter, as many small districts are being sued for non-compliance.
- Associate Director Melethil reported that he had sent an email regarding a wetland's delineation training course at the Clackamas Community College and he would like to discuss attending later in the meeting. The cost will be \$590.00.
- Staff Leininger wished everyone a happy "National Invasive Species Week" from the WeedWise crew.
- Staff Kilders noted that the District will be holding their first in-person workshop since the COVID-19 outbreak. The workshop "Gardening for Wildlife" will be on March 4, 2023.

D. Partner reports – Kim Galland, of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, reported on the Local Working Group meeting held on February 15, 2023. Galland reported that funding for the next year will concentrate on the following items:

- Soil erosion as it relates to mercury and total maximum daily loads (TMDL) for water quality.
- Rainwater harvesting – there may be a small Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) written for this practice.
- Mud and Manure Management is another option for developing a CIS; forestry will remain the same.

Galland also noted that Wallace Jennings in Marion County was working on a Conservation Implementation Strategy for oak, so there may be funding available for oak work if Clackamas SWCD is interested in participating in the CIS that Wallace is writing.

D. Manager's report on committees – DM Lapp reported on the following committees:

- The Finance Committee has exchanged emails.
- The Equity Team met on Wednesday, February 1, 2023. This is a new date for the meetings and all staff and board members are invited to attend. Lapp will be giving a report later in the meeting.

DM Lapp asked Staff Reische to introduce the newest member of the planning staff. Reische welcomed staff member Jordan DeLawder. Staff DeLawder is taking over the position left open by the departure of Anna Beebe. DeLawder will be working with agriculture water quality issues and has been out with other staff members at site visits. Reische asked DeLawder to let the Board know a bit about themselves.

DeLawder greeted the Board and spoke about their background. DeLawder has a degree in Environmental Engineering. They worked in public health and on organic farms. DeLawder also gained experience in writing conservation plans while working for the West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District.

2 – MINUTES

A. January 17, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes – The minutes of the January 17, 2023 board meeting were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

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

3 – FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. Review and accept financial reports – Staff Tucker presented the January 31, 2023, financial reports. Total assets at the end of January 2023 were 12.5 million. Total liabilities were at \$6.6 million and the net assets as of January 31, 2023, were 5.9 million. Revenue income for January was \$123,042.91, with \$ 37,632.63 in tax revenue. Expenses for January totaled \$278,692.79.

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

B. Disbursements – Staff Tucker presented the Automatic Clearing House report for February which totaled \$19,554.09. Tucker also presented the February 2023 disbursement list. Checks numbered 101307 to 101344 with no breaks in the sequence. There was one voided check # 101332, which was voided due to an incorrect amount. The check was reprinted (#101344) for the correct amount. Checks totaled \$112,303.23 with \$17,055.65 from the conservation fund.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to approve the February Disbursements as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. The motion carried unanimously.

4 – OTHER FINANCIALS

- A. Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Onsite Septic Financial Aid Program funds –** Staff Tucker reported on the application for grant funding from DEQ. The District applied for 2.5 million in funding and was awarded \$800,000. The funds are from the American Rescue Plan. The program will be primarily focused on homeowners with failing systems that are 200% below the federal poverty level. This is a grant program aimed at covering 100% of needed repairs or replacements. For those not qualifying for the grant, the District’s septic loan program is still available.
- B. Specific Purpose Grant Funds Acceptance –** Staff Tucker reported that at the mid-year of the budget cycle the District needs to modify the budget. There are funds that need to be appropriated to be used. The staff is requesting that the Board approve, accept, and appropriate specific purpose grants in the current fiscal year, and give the District Manager signing authority for the grants.

Directors Guttridge/Lee moved/seconded that the following Specific Purpose Grants be accepted for the Fiscal 2022/2023.

1. Oregon Water Enhancement Board (OWEB) Small Grant in the amount of \$15,000.
2. Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Capacity Grant in the amount of \$21,555.
3. Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) Monitor Grant in the amount of \$25,000.
4. Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Onsite Septic Financial Aid Program (OSFAP) Grant in the amount of \$100,000 of the \$800,000 Grant Award.

And approve District Manager Lapp to sign needed authorizations for the grants.
 The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber.
The motion carried unanimously.

- C. Resolution 2023-001 Revised Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2022/2023 –** Staff Tucker presented Resolution number 2023-001 to revise appropriations in the 2022/2023 fiscal year budget. The changes are based on the 2021/2022 audit, which was completed in December 2022.

The following table shows the appropriated and unappropriated funds, and then sums them up in order to confirm the figure for the total adopted budget:

	Adopted May 2022	Change	New total
Total Appropriations, All Funds	\$5,525,760	\$82,379	\$5,608,139
Total Unappropriated and Reserved Amounts, All Funds	\$1,953,039	\$29,505	\$1,982,544
TOTAL ADOPTED BUDGET	\$7,478,799	\$111,884	\$7,590,683

Note: This Revised Budget makes no changes to the rate, amount, or classification of the ad valorem property tax imposed by the District for FY 2022-2023.

Directors Fantz/Guttridge moved/seconded to accept Resolution 2023-001 Revising Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Budget as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. The motion carried unanimously.

- D. Approval for purchase of District Tractor and Vehicle** – District Manager (DM) Lapp asked the Board to approve the purchase of a new tractor and new pickup for the District. The tractor would replace the District's existing small tractor with one that has more horsepower, a wider wheelbase, and will be safer overall. Staff Liszka is currently checking the prices available under the state purchase agreement. DM Lapp asked for authority to spend an amount Not-To-Exceed \$60,000 for the tractor.

Lapp also asked the Board to approve the purchase of a new truck. Funding for the truck will come from the U.S. Forest Service through a federal disaster assistance program. The District needs to replace older vehicles, and the opportunity will allow the District to upgrade to a 4x4, with a winch. The vehicle would be used by crews going into remote areas. Lapp asked for authority to spend an amount Not-To-Exceed \$70,000 for a new truck.

Directors Fantz/Guttridge moved/seconded to increase District Manager Lapp's spending authority to purchase a tractor for an amount Not-To-Exceed \$60,000 and authority to purchase a new vehicle for an amount Not-To-Exceed \$70,000. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. The motion carried unanimously.

- E. Approval of the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget Calendar** – DM Lapp presented the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year Budget Calendar to the Board for approval.

Directors Fantz/Zuber moved/seconded to accept the 2023/2024 Budget Calendar as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. The motion carried unanimously.

Director Jim Johnson left the meeting at 4:52 p.m.

- F. Budget Officer Appointment and Budget Committee Member appointments** – Staff Kilders asked that the Board approve DM Lapp as the Budget Officer for the fiscal 2023/2024 budget year. Kilders also reported that there were two positions to fill on the Budget Committee. Terry Muilenburg said he would serve again, and Joe Matteo from the Beavercreek Hamlet Committee has also volunteered to serve a three-year term.

Directors Guttridge/Zuber moved/seconded to appoint District Manager Lapp as Budget Officer and Terry Muilenburg and Joe Matteo as members of the Budget Committee for a three-year term. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. The motion carried unanimously.

- G. Approval for Septic Repair Loan (SRL)7020** – Staff Tucker reported to the Board that the Septic Repair Loan program was back up and running. Four applications have been received, and the first one is ready to begin processing. Tucker asked that the Board authorize District Manager Lapp to sign a loan agreement for \$30,000 for SRL7020. The bid for the job is \$35,780.00, and the borrower will cover the difference.

Directors Guttridge/Zuber moved/seconded to give District Manager Lapp authority to sign the loan agreement for SRL7020 for an amount Not-To-Exceed \$30,000. In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. The motion carried unanimously.

5 – PROJECTS, PROGRAMS

- A. Equity Team Committee** – DM Lapp reported that the Equity Team met on Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. This is a new date and time for this committee. Lapp invited all Board and Staff members to attend these meetings. The team discussed the successes of the last calendar year and had conversations about the definition of an Equity Lens.
- B. Equity and Planning Implementation Proposal** – DM Lapp reported on funding that had been set aside for additional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training. Lapp presented a proposal from Amy Stork Consulting for additional facilitated meetings with Staff and Board Directors with a focus on developing an equity lens to assist in District process and planning.

A motion was made to accept the proposal. There was additional discussion regarding whether funds should be spent on additional strategic planning work or on projects. A motion was made to table the proposal until the Board discussed it further. The motion to table died for a lack of a second. Further discussion of the proposal ensued. It was noted that having a good equity statement and strategic plan was becoming more important when applying for grants.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to accept the proposal from Amy Stork Consulting. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Lee, and Nelson. Opposed: Zuber. Motion carried by a majority vote.

- C. House Bill 2527 – Letter of Support** – District Manager Lapp reported that per the District's Advocacy Policy, and after a discussion with the Board Chair, he had written a letter of support regarding House Bill 2527. This bill relates to the wildlife habitat special assessment. Staff Faucera thanked the District for the support of this bill. The committee received 35 letters of support, and with significant testimony, the bill has passed out of the house committee and onto the revenue committee. If this bill passes it will have an impact on the District's ability to help landowners preserve their property for wildlife and receive a tax break.
- D. Drone Program** – DM Lapp reported that the District has established a drone policy and that Staff Donahue is a trained drone pilot. Donahue is working on getting the Data Management Licensing. Donahue noted that she had help from Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District as they already have an established policy. Donahue invited the Board to attend a demonstration at the April 18, 2023, Board Meeting.

6 – PERSONNEL

A. WeedWise Specialist recruitment – DM Lapp reported that the recruitment for two WeedWise positions is going well. Lapp asked Staff Leininger to speak regarding the recruitment. Leininger reported that Rebecca Sinichko had accepted the position as the Cooperative Weed Management Area coordinator, and after interviews this week the Clackamas River Invasive Species Partnership position is being offered to Monte Mattsson. Both positions have a start date of March 6, 2023.

B. Clair Klock Retirement – District Manager Lapp reported that he had received a letter of retirement from Staff Clair Klock to be effective at end of day June 30, 2023.

Klock spoke to the Board about his history with the District. He remembers being hired in 1998 when the four soil and water conservation districts in the Lower Willamette Basin had 2.25 full-time employees, and now those same districts employ 84 people and have permanent tax bases. Klock spoke about his hopes for the District that include a coordinated weed/pesticide educator, that the new strategic plan keeps the Board and Staff working together, and that the Conservation Resource Center highlights urban and small farm agriculture and becomes water independent with rainwater harvesting.

7 – BOARD AND MANAGER REPORTS

A. Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Training – DM Lapp reported that the Oregon Department of Agriculture would be holding a Board Director Training at the Clackamas SWCD Office on Thursday, February 23, 2023. Eric Nusbaum the SWCD Operations Specialist will be leading the training.

B. Associate Director Appointment Guidelines – Staff Kilders reviewed the Associate Director Guidelines with the Board and encouraged board directors and staff to speak with people regarding joining the Board as an associate.

C. Management Reports – Conservation/Land Management – Staff Faucera and Staff Reische gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Oregon Ag Trust and the work being done with the Trust at the Forest Edge Vineyard. Please see the slides which are a part of these minutes.

Please see the Planning and Land Management reports which are also a part of these minutes.

8 – PROPERTY, PLANNING – No reports

9 – OTHER REPORTS

- Associate Director Melethil asked the District to pay for him to attend a 4-day wetlands delineation workshop put on by Clackamas Community College, at a cost of \$590.00. He also asked that the District pay \$55.00 for him to attend the Urban Ecology & Research Conservation Symposium in Portland.

Directors Fantz/Guttridge moved/seconded to approve allowing Associate Director Melethil to attend the wetland delineation workshop at Clackamas Community College at a cost of \$590.00 and the Urban Ecology & Research Conservation Symposium at a cost of \$55.00. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- Director Fantz reported that he could hear some people over the OWL meeting unit but had trouble hearing others. It is important to speak directly to the OWL and it would be best if people in the back came up to the tables to speak. Fantz also asked if there was a way to see who was at the meeting at the same times screens are shared.
- Staff Faucera reported that a more professional solution for the problems in the conference room would cost approximately \$10,000. This would need to be added to the budget.
- Director Lee noted that many committees use a camera and microphones for a more television-like format.

ADJOURN AND NEXT MEETING

- The next regular meeting will be on March 21, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.
- The first Budget meeting will be on March 28, 2023, at 2:30 p.m.
- There being no further business, Chair Becker adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami L. Guttridge
Office Administrator



February 21, 2022

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lower & Middle Clear Creek Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) Update

Planning staff are keeping very busy with technical assistance and project work in the SIA. Scott Eden continues to work with a small cattle producer in the SIA who is completing a riparian exclusion fence project while seeding and mulching disturbed soil areas and installing water ramps for stable stream livestock access points. This project is being implemented to reduce the impact cattle are having on headwater tributaries of Clear Creek. The cattle are currently excluded from about eight acres of riparian area, which will allow native riparian tree/shrub re-establishment to stabilize streambanks and reduce excess sediment and nutrient runoff that was impairing water quality. Scott has also been working with another cattle operation nearby. At this location the resource concerns are excess manure and organics accumulation in the sacrifice lot, and planners are working with them on updating their conservation plan. They are now planning to gradually reduce animal numbers. Refreshingly, they were already managing their pasture and hay forage well, and their headwater streams already had exclusion fencing.

Staff made several site visits in the Highland area, one to a new rural resident, where we provided recommendations for weed control and improving wildlife habitat. These landowners were also good candidates for the CREP program to revegetate a stretch of a headwater fork of Mosier Creek, where their streamside had few trees and was experiencing streambank erosion. They are considering enrolling in the CREP program to replant the area and stabilize the streambanks with native vegetation.

Another nearby neighbor in the SIA has 80 acres of pasture and forestland and a couple small herds of cattle and goats. We provided recommendations to reduce erosion and

runoff from unimproved farm roads and crossings. They had already kept their cattle out of the creek area and we stressed the importance of keeping those exclusion fences maintained.



Potential riparian restoration project area on Mosier Creek

There are a number of horse stables in the SIA and staff recently provided information on manure management to two boarding facilities. The two stables were interested in learning more about composting facilities and potential cost assistance to build them. They both desire to improve their manure management systems and export or spread a safe stable soil amendment rather than raw manure. Planners are working to follow up with each stable and hope that results in, at the very least, not having uncovered manure piles outside during the wet season. One of them is also interested in potentially vegetating waterways and creating graveled heavy use areas in addition to a manure facility.

Lastly, staff also provided weed control and native planting recommendations to another rural resident along Clear Creek near Viola to improve the riparian vegetation community.

Conservation Outreach in the SIA and Surrounding Areas

On February 1st Conservation Specialist Suzi Cloutier gave her second presentation to an enthusiastic group from Valley View Riders, a local trail riding club with a membership of 130 members.

She gave her first talk in 2021 on mud, manure and pastures. She polled that the membership who asked for a deeper dive into weed management. Since weeds are a by-product of poor pasture health often caused by soil compaction and overgrazing, Suzi took participants backwards to the root of weedy pastures. She began by taking participants through a refresher on horse anatomy, physiology, and evolution and how modern horse management can contribute to the main root causes of their weed issues. In her talk she helped horse owners understand the complex process that leads to grass stress, and mud in the winter and how that leads to weeds in the summer.

Suzi started out demonstrating what a grass plant needs to grow, growth curves, how roots develop (and die) and how much of the grass plant our grazers need to leave behind to help that plant feed itself. She shared pasture growth curves and dormancy times and spoke about threats to growth such as overgrazing and the challenges of compaction.

She spoke about pasture rest periods, rehabilitation, overseeding, and weed treatment times. She taught horse owners about good weeds vs bad (noxious) weeds and the value of having certain wild plants and nitrifiers that animals browse on.

She demonstrated practices that lessen impacts of our equine friends on the soil such as creation of track paddocks, graveled dry lots and rotational grazing. Participants learned about equine physiology and digestion and the natural seeking and feeding behaviors and how to easily continue to enrich our equine friends while resting pastures for the winter.

These talks always lead to such lively Q and A sessions afterwards and inevitably, many phone calls to the District for technical assistance at their properties!



Urban OWEB Small Grant Application

This month our riparian planner, Drew Donahue, in partnership with other planning staff and Conservation Investments Coordinator, Heather Nielsen, submitted an Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) Small Grant application. If funded, the \$15,000 grant would provide funding to three consecutive urban landowners to restore their riparian area along an unnamed tributary to the Tualatin River in West Linn. Project activities include the removal of invasive species, including knotweed, and planting of native trees and shrubs. The Lower Willamette West OWEB Small Grant team covers a mostly urban watershed. Our team representative, Scott Eden, predicts there is a high chance of receiving this grant. If this grant is received, Drew will continue to work with Heather to establish protocols and procedures for this OWEB small grant and others to come. The planning team is so happy to have Heather on board at the District to help us with grants!



A plethora of weeds to tame before planting begins on the Tualatin Tributary project.

The District has a New Drone!

Drew Donahue is pleased to announce that our District has purchased a DJI Mavic 3 Enterprise drone. This purchase was possible by our District Capacity Grant with OWEB and ODA. Drew has also obtained her Remote Pilot Certification for small unmanned aircraft systems from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Drew attended the Drone Pilot Ground School, which was offered free to us from the Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO).

Drew registered the drone with the FAA and Oregon Department of Aviation, as well as established our drone operations manual, drone data policy, landowner permission form, and other documentation needed for flight. Insurance has been obtained for the drone from SDAO's Special Districts Insurance Services and Drew is currently working on obtaining a license from Drone Deploy to allow for drone imagery processing.

A drone can be used in almost every District department including the planning team, Weedwise, outreach, and land management. Some activities include photo points for grant monitoring, stem counts, visual assessments of hazardous areas (ex. steep banks), weed surveys in hazardous areas, the production of outreach materials of project sites, and monitoring and survey's for the District owned properties including the Eagle Creek Community Forest and CRC.

Drew highly encourages Board members to attend the April board meeting in person to see a live demonstration of the District's new drone!



Please Welcome Our New Conservation Specialist!

The planning team is very excited to welcome our newest conservation specialist – Jordan DeLawder.

The District was thrilled to bring on an individual with engineering background; Jordan has a B.S. in Environmental Engineering from Tufts University. Jordan also knows their way around a farm! Jordan previously worked at one of our ag cooperators, Flying Coyote Farm in Clackamas County. At Flying Coyote, Jordan worked on vegetable harvest as well as weeding, bed prep, and adding amendments to the fields.

Jordan is no stranger to conservation districts. Last year they were employed with the West Multnomah SWCD as a field technician working with forest landowners, farms, helping with restoration on sites and GIS projects. Jordan's skills include conservation planning and project coordination, invasive weed management, and native plant identification.

We are eager to put those engineering skills to good use! Jordan has been joining the other planners on site visits and is quickly learning about the resource concerns ag producers face in Clackamas County. Once trained up, Jordan's main focus will be on helping address water quality issues on farms and rural properties.



Jordan identifying meadow forbs.

In their free time, Jordan loves to take photos, and recently did a residency at the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology where they explored the impacts of clearcutting and did a photo series on clear cuts in the Coast Range.

Clackamas/Multnomah Local Work Group Meeting

NRCS hosted the joint Local Work Group meeting for Multnomah and Clackamas counties on February 15. Several of our staff attended the meeting, along with NRCS, West and East Multnomah SWCDs, OSU Extension, Oregon Department of Agriculture and one of our local farmers in Estacada. The annual Local Work Group meeting is one of the ways that the NRCS gathers information on resource concerns and funding priorities that are important to local agricultural producers and conservation partner agencies. This is an opportunity to help guide cost-share funds provided by the Farm Bill so that local needs can be met. Funding pools likely to be continued in Clackamas include irrigation efficiency, forestry, high tunnels and organic farming. Future NRCS funding pools for our county include one geared toward addressing resource concerns related to water quality on livestock operations and possibility a new oak restoration funding pool with the Marion office.

At the meeting Kim Galland also talked about a new Urban Agriculture Program that will likely result in another planner in our local NRCS office (shared between Clackamas and Multnomah counties) and two new employees at the Farm Service Agency in our office. We are very excited to continue learning about this new program and how the District might partner with NRCS to bring additional assistance our urban farmers in Clackamas.

Land Management Program Bi-Monthly Report

February 21, 2023

Conservation Resource Center (CRC)

To provide long term growth capacity for staff at the Conservation Resource Center (CRC), the District is exploring the creation of additional office and climate controlled storage space at the south end of the shop. We've engaged the same designer that designed the NRCS space, and he's provided preliminary drawings to staff.

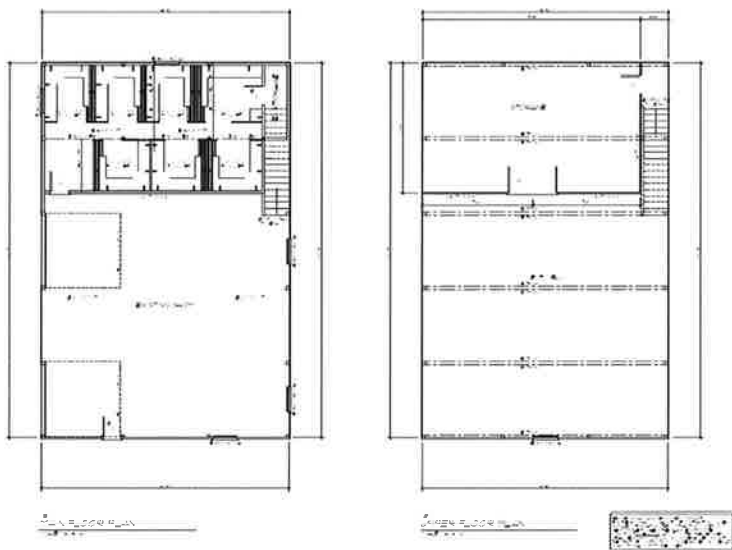


Figure 1 – Preliminary concept drawings have been received for feedback

We've contacted the county with our proposed use, and they've determined we would not need to re-engineer the structure itself for commercial code but would need to get permits for trades like electrical work. We don't plan to add any plumbing to the building.

Our goal is to use existing framing of the stairway and upper platform for storage with offices on the main floor. We will have some challenges for upstairs access for heavy or bulky items but are considering options for tractor access to lift heavy items to the upper floor on pallets.

Additionally, we've asked the designer to create some preliminary plans to expand the equipment rental area on the North side of the barn. These drawings are purely conceptual and will allow us to discuss options more capably as we begin to reimagine the services at the farm. These plans will not be actionable in the near term as the office space build-out is a higher priority.

We are exploring the state's procurement system to get quotes for tractors and other needed items for maintaining the farm and forest. Jason and Gus attended training for the state purchasing system and will begin to use it to find contracts, supplies, and surplus items such as tools. The conversion from the old ORPIN system to the newer Oregon Buys system has made it easier to find contracts and vendors.

Equipment Rental Program (ERP)

We currently have ten people on the waitlist for the large No-till Drill and anticipate it growing before we start renting it out. As soon as the weather forecasts a dry spell long enough to get the equipment on the ground, we'll be scheduling it out.

We anticipate the large drill to be in full use for most of the season. Heavy use times are spring and fall. It is likely that we will not be able to serve everyone who wishes to use it during heavy use periods. We may consider the addition of a second drill/cultipacker. The manure spreader has some people waiting for dryer weather as well.



Figure 2 – Tye no-till drill is out most frequently rented implement

Gus will be going through the equipment one last time to make sure it is ready for spring but anticipates no issues as everything was cleaned and repaired before storing for the winter.

For the upcoming season we'll continue to promote and expand the ERP and maximize the use of our current equipment. We will be tracking usage of each implement for end of year data to determine what implements are most relied upon, how many acres benefit from the program, what implements aren't being utilized, and what implements we do not have that would be beneficial to have for those we serve.

National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI)

We've received word that the most recent submittal of our National Water Quality Initiative Assessment and Area Protection Plan will be accepted by NRCS to close out our grant.

This version contains an Agricultural Area Implementation Strategy that outlines the priority resource concerns within the NWQI assessment area related to agriculture. The Implementation Strategy also lays out the practices, predicted participation, and expected outcomes should the NRCS invest their Environmental Quality Incentive Program dollars in the assessment area. Special thanks to Scott Eden for his significant technical work on the strategy.

As shared previously, there is a lack of monitoring data in the Molalla to identify where challenges to drinking water quality are coming from. Our Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has been developing a monitoring strategy that will help identify where issues are coming from so that outreach and implementation can be prioritized in those areas.

Conservation Investments Coordinator Heather Nielsen wrote a grant with help from our TAC to conduct sampling on the Lower Molalla River and its tributaries to better understand taste and odor (TO) issues that Canby experiences in the summer months. These TO compounds are often related to cyanobacteria that can also produce toxins that are harmful to livestock, pets, and humans. While that isn't currently happening, the presence of taste and odor issues can be an indicator for future problems should the conditions for optimal cyanobacterial growth occur.

While we didn't get the grant, we are well positioned to repurpose our application for an Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Source Protection Grant in March and a DEQ 319 grant just after. We'll continue to work with the TAC to progress through the newly approved Drinking Water Source Protection Plan:

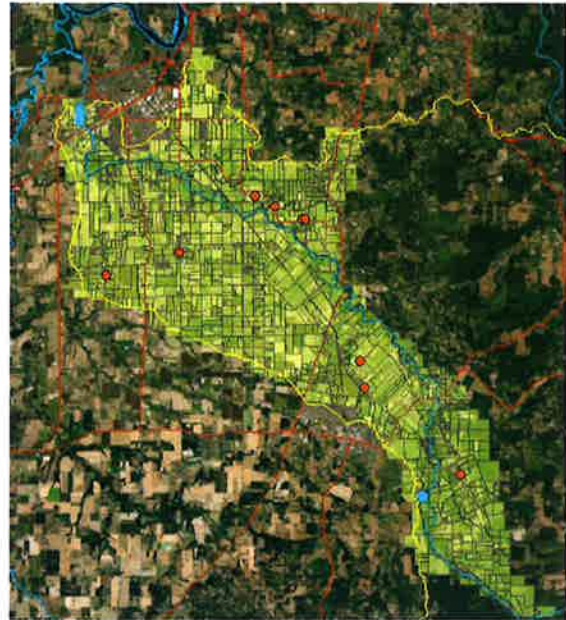


Figure 3 - Taxlot ownership data showing drinking Water intakes and Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs)

<https://molallariverdrinkingwater.com/assessment/draft-assessment/>

House Bill 2527 - ODFW Tax Incentive Program (WHCMP)

Legislative Concept (LC529), which the coalition of Oregon white oak focused SWCDs and regional partners helped to initialize, was converted to House Bill 2527 at the request of House Interim Committee on Environment and Natural Resources for Oregon Association of Conservation Districts. This bill "amends certain provisions of program for special assessment of wildlife habitat land relating to monitoring of implementation by landowner of approved wildlife habitat conservation and management plans."



Figure 4 - Recording of the January 24 hearing on HB 2527 – regarding the WHCMP program

The bill and LC versions were practically identical and focus on shifting to discretionary monitoring instead of required, prioritizing habitats that will be enrolled to focus on Oregon Conservation Strategy Habitats, and will require landowner attestation that they are in compliance with their approved habitat plan. If passed, rules

would be developed to reflect the changes in statute, and ODFW would open the program back up for new enrollments, likely in 2024.

Our group was invited again with ODFW and landowner Susan Watkins from Yamhill County to testify on January 24th for the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water to discuss the impacts of not having this tool available for landowners and important habitats.

This hearing received an outpouring of support from our SWCD and regional partners in the form of both written and oral testimony, and as a result, the Committee passed the bill out with a "Do Pass" recommendation at a January 31st work session to the House floor after it is reviewed by the House Revenue Committee. Our group will continue to follow the bill through the House. If passed in the House, we'll start outreach to Senators. It's still early, but our group is pleased with progress so far.

Link to SWCD/Regional Group developed flyer on HB 2527:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/PublicTestimonyDocument/41174>

Link to all public testimony:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Measures/Testimony/HB2527>

Link to the bill to track on the Oregon Legislature website:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Measures/Overview/HB2527>

Link to the HB 2527 hearing from January 24:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/mediaplayer/?clientID=4879615486&eventID=2023011160>

- WHCMP LC testimony starts at 1:14
- Legislator comments/questions start at 18:25
- Public testimony starts at 19:30
- Hearing ends at 28:20

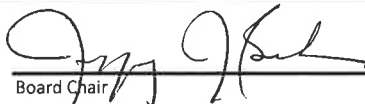
Voucher Approval List

2/7/2023

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
2/7/2023	101307	AFLAC	Acct: LGF14 02/2023	\$ 675.73
2/7/2023	101308	Clackamas ESD	CSWCD: AR 530 NIS [SIP] 12/2022	\$ 896.21
2/7/2023	101309	Coverall North America, Inc	Acct: 157-6800 Janitorial 02/2023	\$ 1,569.00
2/7/2023	101310	Clackamas Dept of Finance	CSWCD: EE/ER Benefits [BAL DUE] 01/2023	\$ 791.82
2/7/2023	101311	Garmin Services, Inc	Acct: DL627537 01/2023	\$ 70.30
2/7/2023	101312	Oregon City Garbage, Inc	Acct: 57768000 02/2023	\$ 105.80
2/7/2023	101313	PGE	Acct: 9606754531 01/2023	\$ 1,413.88
2/7/2023	101314	Spire Technologies, Inc	Acct: 02208 Mgt Svcs 03/2023	\$ 2,139.12
2/7/2023	101315	T-MOBILE	Acct: 961602090 01/2023	\$ 582.88
2/7/2023	101316	US Bank Voyager Fleet Systems	Acct: 869284679 01/24/23	\$ 102.97
Subtotal:				\$ 8,347.71

2/21/2023

2/21/2023	101317	ABILA	Acct: C004075 Annual Lic MIP 02/2023	\$ 1,743.13	
2/21/2023	101318	Amy Stork Consulting LLC	CSWCD: Consulting [Planning] 01/2023	\$ 14,498.00	
2/21/2023	101319	Jeff Becker	CSWCD: Stipend 01/2023	\$ 250.00	
2/21/2023	101320	Biohabitats, Inc	ww-2022-02 [LM-JF-2022-03] ODF 02/2023	\$ 10,465.00	CF
2/21/2023	101321	BIO-Med Testing Services, Inc	CSWCD: Emp Screen 01/2023	\$ 18.00	
2/21/2023	101322	Buel's Impressions Printing	CSWCD: B/C 02/2023	\$ 192.90	
2/21/2023	101323	Clackamas ESD	CSWCD: AR 530 NIS [ISP] 02/2023	\$ 1,200.00	
2/21/2023	101324	Coverall North America, Inc	Acct: 157-6800 Carpet Cleaning 02/2023	\$ 580.00	
2/21/2023	101325	Clackamas Dept of Finance	CSWCD: EE/ER Benefits 02/2023	\$ 23,524.34	
2/21/2023	101326	Scott Eden	Reimbursement: Mileage 01/2023	\$ 32.75	
2/21/2023	101327	Verena Fabian	SuperDOG-1822-4032 Plants 02/2023	\$ 919.79	CF
2/21/2023	101328	Roger Fantz	CSWCD: Stipend 01/2023	\$ 100.00	
2/21/2023	101329	Geosyntec Consulting Inc	PNW0494 [SIA Monitorign] 01/2023	\$ 285.75	CF
2/21/2023	101330	Green Banks, LLC	WW-2022-04 [JC-2022-OSWB] 10-2022	\$ 5,365.11	CF
2/21/2023	101331	Donald Guttridge	CSWCD: Stipend 01/2023	\$ 150.00	
2/21/2023	101332	HR Answers	CSWCD: PR Svcs 02/2023 VOID::l/C Amt	\$ -	
2/21/2023	101333	James Johnson	CSWCD: Stipend 01/2023	\$ 100.00	
2/21/2023	101334	Christopher Lapp	Reimbursement: Notary Svcs/Mileage 01/2023	\$ 157.07	
2/21/2023	101335	Jan Lee	CSWCD: Stipend 01/2023	\$ 120.31	
2/21/2023	101336	Matrix Video Production Inc	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Videography] Riparian 50% 02/2023	\$ 2,260.00	
2/21/2023	101337	Northwest Local Government Legal Advisors, LLC	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Legal] 01/2023	\$ 220.00	
2/21/2023	101338	Pacific Office Automation	Acct: 900-0266949-000 [100-0417] 12/2022	\$ 227.54	
2/21/2023	101339	Pamplin Media Group	Acct: 341 Estacada News 01/2023	\$ 39.00	
2/21/2023	101340	R&R Contracting, Inc	WW-2022-10 ECCF 02/2023	\$ 5,200.00	
2/21/2023	101341	Reliance Roof Pros	CSWCD: Rpr Svcs [Gutters] 02/2023	\$ 4,588.23	
2/21/2023	101342	Special Districts Insurance Services	ID: 18476 CHG-6385 Ins 01/2023-12/2023	\$ 31,238.00	
2/21/2023	101343	Joan Zuber	CSWCD: Stipend/Mileage 01/2023	\$ 228.60	
2/21/2023	101344	HR Answers	CSWCD: PR Svcs 02/2023	\$ 252.00	
Subtotal:				\$ 103,955.52	
Total:				\$ 112,303.23	
Total Conservation Fund				\$ 17,035.65	CF


Board Chair


Board Secretary