

**Marion County Farm Bureau
Board of Directors Meeting – April 8, 2015
MINUTES**

President John Zielinski called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A quorum was present:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

John Zielinski, President
Troy Hadley, Vice President
Greg Bennett
Kathleen Carl
Roger DeJager
Bob Dettwyler
Brenda Frketich
Troy Hadley
Stuart Olson
Joe Sherman
Connie Young
Bruce Chapin

Guests:

Katie Fast
Lon Young

Not Present:

Keith Ditchen

Staff:

Jessica Carpenter
Genoa Ingram

Guest Speaker

OFB Lobbyist Katie Fast provided an overview of two pieces of legislation relating to water:

HB 3219 prohibits district use of expedited process to change place of use for stored surface water from pond, reservoir, lake, impoundment or diversion structure or other surface water storage facility to different pond, reservoir, lake, impoundment or diversion structure or other surface water storage facility.

HB 3220 eliminates authority of irrigation districts to condemn real or personal property outside boundaries of district.

Katie explained that the OFB is more vested in HB 3220. OFB has also worked with water districts to streamline projects. She indicated that there was still time to make a recommendation on Drift Creek. The Board also discussed efforts related to diesel regulations.

Minutes and Financials

The Board reviewed the minutes of the March 11, 2015, meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Troy Hadley and seconded by Bob Dettwyler to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2015, minutes as presented. **Motion passed.**

Staff reviewed the financial statements, noting no significant changes from the previous month.

MOTION: Moved by Troy Hadley and seconded by Brenda Frketich to approve the financial report as submitted. **Motion passed.**

Membership Approval

Board members considered the following membership applications:

- David and Terrie Potter – Supporting
- Marcus Hitz – Voting
- Richard Beck – Supporting
- Reginald and Lora Keddie – Supporting

MOTION: Moved by Bob Dettwyler and seconded by Troy Hadley to approve the above memberships *en bloc*. **Motion passed.**

Old Business

MCFB Ag Bus Tour Recap Board members discussed the recent Ag Tour and possible stops for the following year. They agreed that keeping the Tour to a smaller area was a better use of time.

Marion County Extension Service Voters Pamphlet Statement included in the meeting materials.

Progress Report Drivers' Education Scholarships/Educational Materials Staff noted that most schools are no longer offering Drivers' Education courses and that most courses are offered by private companies. Staff asked if there were any restrictions with regard to awarding of the scholarships such as age, location, etc. ***By consensus***, Board members suggested sending informational flyers to MCFB membership.

Radio Ad Update Staff have signed the agreement to continue providing a month of radio safety ads, August will be the month that MCFB is paying for.

Woodburn UGB Update The Board went off the record and Kathleen Carl reported on the Woodburn UGB.

By consensus, the Board agreed to allow Kathleen to convey MCFB's approval for the proposed compromise solution.

New Business

Kevin Cameron Fundraiser Greg Bennett reported on the fundraiser for Marion County Commissioner Kevin Cameron and appearance by Congressman Greg Walden.

OFB Film Night The Board discussed sponsoring a showing of the movie "Farmland" at the OFB office. ***By consensus***, Board members agreed to a Friday, April 24, showing and to send invitations to Ag-Fest volunteers. Staff was asked to check on the possibility of renting a popcorn machine and to check with OFB on the possibility of serving beer or wine.

MOTION: Moved by Greg Bennett and seconded by Kathleen Carl to purchase copies of the movie for distribution to Marion County legislators. **Motion passed.**

Volcanoes Ag Appreciation Week The event is scheduled for June 26 – 30 with June 28 honoring former MCFB Board member Scott Miller. Staff was asked to make inquiry into securing a block of tickets for the Board.

Keizer Mural Project The Board reviewed articles on the City of Keizer Mural Project featuring farmland. President Zielinski reported that Mike Kerr had discussed contributing to the project and suggested that MCFB consider supporting the project, as well. Following discussion the Board agreed, by consensus, not to contribute as they did not wish to set a precedent.

Additionally, there are a number of priority policy issues (such as GMO) that demand MCFB resources.

25 Fields President Zielinski reported that he had received a call from Christine Dieker, Executive Director, Keizer Chamber of Commerce regarding 25 Fields, as well as Salem Chamber of Commerce Board member Steve Johnson. Both were not familiar with concerns from the farming community until he conveyed those concerns.

Estate Tax It was noted that Kevin Mannix had requested support from MCFB for the Oregon Estate Tax initiative. **By consensus**, the Board agreed not to sign the requested document at this time.

Advisory Committees

No reports.

OFBF District 15 Director's Report Bruce Chapin reported that OFB had taken the following actions:

- Katie Fast has accepted a position of Executive Director for Oregonians for Food & Shelter but will work with OFB through the legislative session.
- HB 3382: Relating to canola. OFB will support but won't take the lead.
- HB 2277: Relating to drainage district authority. Oppose.
- Marijuana Oversight: OFB supports regulation under the Oregon Department of Agriculture as opposed to OLCC
- SB 873: Relating to utility citing and protecting high value farmland. Support.
- OCA Brand Fee: OFB is neutral and is allowing cattlemen to take the lead.
- HB 3220: Eliminates authority of irrigation districts to condemn real or personal property outside boundaries of district. Support.
- HB 2829: Relating to definition of "park" and limiting activities on EFU land. Support.
- HB 3368: Relating to home occupations and expanding activities on EFU land. Oppose.
- \$5,000 authorized from the Voter Education Fund for the Benton County GMO issue. OFB is looking for an additional \$15,000 from counties.
- \$1,000 authorized from Voter Education Fund to challenge Lane County's GMO proposal.
- \$2,000 to argue the right to submit an *amicus* brief in the matter of the Beaver Slough Drainage District.

MOTION: Moved by Brenda Frketich and seconded by Kathleen Carl to contribute \$2,500 to the Benton County anti-GMO campaign.

MOTION: Moved by Bruce Chapin and seconded by Troy Hadley to amend the motion to increase the contribution to \$5,000. **Motion passed.**

Vote: The original motion **passed as amended.**

YF&R

Brenda Frketich reported that she and John are going to meet with a public relations team to discuss placing billboards in the Newberg/Sherwood area and the Salem/Keizer area to promote traffic safety for farm vehicles. At the State level, a tour is planned for May 29 – 31 beginning in Sisters.

Women's Report

Connie Young reported that the scrapbooks were in the possession of the Willamette Heritage Center. She reported that once the donation was finalized, the books cannot be removed. She received final approval to complete the donation. Connie also reminded the Board that Ag Fest is scheduled for April 24 – 26.

Agenda Items for May

- Drift Creek
- Bob Russell update on diesel challenged by the Oregon Trucking Association.

Other Business

By consensus, the Board agreed to purchase four tickets to Wine & Swine for any MCFB Board member who wished to attend.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2015, in Salem.

Adjourn

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.