

Marion County Farm Bureau
Board of Directors Meeting – February 19, 2014
MINUTES

President John Zielinski called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m. A quorum was present:

Board Members

Present

John Zielinski, President
Greg Bennett
Bob Dettwyler
Troy Hadley
Connie Young
Kathleen Carl
Brenda Frketich
Roger DeJager
Dan Goffin
Bruce Chapin

Guests:

Chief Kevin Henson, MCFD #1
Lon Young, Guest
Vincent & Susan Woods, Vince Woods Farm
Dan & Diane Wavra, Wavra Farms & Nursery
Graham Fordyce, Fordyce Farm
Raymond Fordyce, Fordyce Farm
Jerry Stevens, Willamette Valley Fruit Co.
Dylan Wells, Autumn Harvest
Matt Schuster, Chapin Orchards
Carrie Cool, 25 Fields
Ken Sandblast, 25 Fields

Not Present:

Joe Sherman
Jeff Butsch

Staff:

Jessica Carpenter
Genoa Ingram

Consent Agenda

Minutes: Board members reviewed the minutes of the January 15, 2014 meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Troy Hadley and seconded Dan Goffin to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2014 with corrections to the motions made for the three contributions to include amount of donation and addition of Roger DeJager in attendance. **Motion passed.**

Financials: Staff reviewed the financial report, discussed the changes in the dues billing process with Country Financial, current membership dues and Country Financial Program income.

MOTION: Moved by Connie Young and seconded by Greg Bennett to approve the financials of the February 19, 2014, meeting as presented. **Motion passed.**

Membership Approvals:

James and Sharon Adams – discussed and approved as supporting member
Wayne Kreger – discussed and approved as voting member

Guest Speakers

President Zielinski started board and guest introductions.

Marion County Fire District #1 Public Gathering Ordinance: Chief Henson, MCFD1
Chief Henson shared a handout and discussed the difference between a Marion County Fire District Ordinance, Marion County Planning Division, and Oregon State Fire Marshal Fire Code laws. Chief Henson shared the fire districts desire to work through any issues that Ordinance 2013-04 may be causing the agricultural industry. Discussed Appendix K which is from the Oregon Fire Code and is a state law

which MCFD1 must uphold but has no ability to change or modify within their jurisdiction. Chief Henson shared the best option is to have the Fire Chiefs and the Agricultural Community together works towards a revision of the code, Appendix K. The avenue to have this reviewed will be the Marion County Fire Defense Board which is lead by Chief Jack Carriager with Stayton Fire Department. The group discussed if there is an interest to create a work group to discuss Appendix K and there is was overwhelming desire to get together and discuss options. MCFB staff will research meeting date options and schedule a meeting soon.

25 Fields: Carrie Cool & Ken Sandblast, 25 Fields

Guests shared their mission for 25 Fields for Oregon which is to serve and grow youth sports throughout Oregon by providing financial support to individual youth and to non-profit youth sport organizations in the form of scholarships and facility infrastructure dollars. The guests fielded questions from MCFB Board and guests related to proximity of proposed fields to farm use land, concerns about dust, chemicals, and traffic and asked if 25 Fields have considered other land that would not have a negative impact on the agricultural community or on the youth sports team.

President Zielinski presented Connie with certificate for Agro Awards and a gift card for the scrapbook and presented Dan Goffin with a commemorative pen for years of participation at the OFB Convention.

Old Business:

Planning Session: Tabled due to time.

SB 1541 Update: Discussed the sun setting tax credit for food donations to the food banks. Currently the extension/renewal passed through the Senate at 15%, President Zielinski voiced that farmers would like to see a higher percentage of 25% or more. OFB has pushed for 50% but this is unlikely.

Hot Goods: Reviewed the Fast Facts on Hot Goods sheet, discussed the donation. John shared that 2 other counties have contributed more than Marion County and this has been brought up since the area is in Marion County. The request for additional donation has been made.

MOTION: Moved by Troy Hadley and seconded by Brenda Frketich to donate an additional \$5000.00 to the Hot Goods Legal Fund. Bruce Chapin amended motion to increase to \$7500.00, seconded by Greg Bennett, bringing the total donation to \$10,000.00. **Motion passed.**

OFB Advisory Committees:

President Zielinski attended recent meeting, main topic was Hot Goods. President Zielinski's trip to DC for American Farm Bureau Labor meeting was cancelled due to weather and cancelled flights; he participated by conference call for some of portions of meeting. Labor reform again may not be happening this year.

Bob Dettwyler – Wildlife Committee – discussed issue of wolves in the NW. Wolves have been delisted in Oregon & Washington. Talked about the deer problem and the damage being caused to crops – discussed providing fencing, fertilizer for crops to feed the wildlife. Wild horse population is getting out of hand and causing damage to grazing lands, funding is lacking to help in any of these areas which is the real issue. Sage Grouse was discussed as a potential endangered species. White front goose population is exploding in the US.

Roger Dejager – Tax Committee – Inheritance carry over exemption and flat tax were discussed, no decision.

Greg Bennett- Water Committee – Senate Bill 839 Passed, SB 1512 was water resources support.

Bruce Chapin, OFBF District 15 Report:

OFBF State Board meeting opened meeting with conference call with Senator Merkley. Highlights of OFBF State Board Meeting included:

- Fuel containment corrections were removed from the bill.
- Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian spoke about vocational education in schools and Portland Paid Sick Leave Act, went to DC and discussed Hot Goods and believes they have come to an agreement that they will not use Hot Goods in Oregon again.

OFB is reviewing income levels from Country Companies.

All space is rented currently in OFB. OFB is still looking for new building that is closer to Capitol and more economical.

OFB is suggesting a conflict of resolution for all counties.

Jackson County has the ballot measure for GMO.

OFB endorsed Brad Avakian for Labor Commissioner, they don't expect any opposition.

Jeff Thomas from Grant County spoke about an issue with State Parks and Recreation purchasing land to replace lost parks.

Monica Webbey running against Merkley – spoke primarily on medical insurance reform – much opposed to ObamaCare.

New issue in Jackson County – assessor is attempting to put a farmer off their 20 acre land due to lack of farm use in their opinion.

Membership – Bruce shared that membership has decreased over the years – discussed potential new member opportunities.

YFR – Brenda Frketch

Brenda reported that she, along with eleven other young farmers, had attended the tour of the John Deere facility in Moline, IL. She also reported on the trip to Virginia Beach which provided an opportunity to learn about agriculture in the South, including a tour of a peanut harvesting facility. Brenda reported that she had also provided testimony on the GMO bill.

Women's Advisory Council – Connie Young

Attended Legislative reception and met Jackie Winters. Next Monday will be Ronald McDonald shopping and Connie will be attending with Anne Rigor.

March Agenda Items:

Guests expected at March MCFB Board Meeting:

Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian

OSU Dean of the School of Agriculture – Jack Arp

Membership discussion; update on the lists provided to board members for review.

Farm Tour

Staff confirmed that we have secured a coach bus, farms, and Portland Tours on April 4, 2014 for MCFB Farm Tour. Discussed pricing for event; what would MCFB like to pay for and what should guests cover.

MOTION: Moved by Troy Hadley and seconded by Bruce Chapin for MCFB to cover the expense of the bus and staff will suggest a registration fee for attendees to cover the cost of food. **Motion Passed.**

SPCC Seminar

Staff shared that a seminar date has been set, March 25 and will be included in the newsletter.

Adjourn

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

