

**Marion County Farm Bureau
Board of Directors Meeting – June 8, 2016
MINUTES**

President John Zielinski called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m. A quorum was present:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

John Zielinski, President
Troy Hadley, Vice President
Greg Bennett
Kathleen Carl
Dana Estensen
Roger DeJager
Brenda Frketich
Matt Schuster
Dylan Wells
Connie Young
Bruce Chapin

Not Present:

Bob Dettwyler
Keith Ditchen
Stuart Olson
Joe Sherman

Guests:

Lon Young
Mary Ann Nash (*via teleconference*)

Staff:

Jessica Carpenter
Genoa Ingram

Lake Labish Water Control Districts – New Regulations Mary Ann Nash provided background on proposed regulations affecting water districts. She reported on rules stipulating the total amount of pollution that can enter into a water quality limited waterway and identification of various management agencies which are responsible for implementing plans on how a particular industry sector can meet water quality standards. For agricultural lands, the management agency is the Oregon Department of Agriculture. The DEQ has indicated that water districts should be included in the list of agencies, even though other agencies are charged with meeting those quality standards. Mary Ann stated that it was reasonable for the Farm Bureau to argue that irrigation districts and drainage districts should not be designated as management agencies; rather, agencies that are responsible for controlling land use should be designated. The best strategy at this point is to minimize the scope of water districts and to delay any additional requirements. She suggested that MCFB draft a policy addressing these issues. Greg Bennett and possibly Brenda Frketich will work with Mary Ann toward drafting a resolution for the OFB Water Committee. Staff was asked to send an email to all three putting them in contact with each other. Mary Ann noted that it can be expected that other water districts will be impacted.

Consent Agenda: Minutes and Financials

Minutes: The Board reviewed the minutes of the May 11, 2016, meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Carl and seconded by Greg Bennett to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2016, meeting as presented. **Motion passed.**

Financials: Staff reviewed the current financial reports including the Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss, noting that expenses are tracking with the budget which reflects 59.3 percent of expenditures met with a positive income \$2,800. The contribution to Marion County Fair have been increased and the taxes have been prepared and filed.

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

Membership Approvals

The Board reviewed membership applications for the following:

- Lavrenty & Natalya Cam
- Amanda Stevens
- John Coleman

MOTION: Moved by Troy Hadley and seconded by Connie Young to approve all three applicants as voting members. **Motion passed.**

Troy noted that if it was determined that if YF&R members had overpaid, they should be reimbursed.

President's Report

No report.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship: Brenda Frketich reported that 18 applications had been received. She noted that there were many worthy applicants and suggested that, because there had not been a great deal of interest in the drivers' education program, the \$500 set aside for that program be converted to a second Scott Miller scholarship.

MOTION: Moved by Troy Hadley and seconded by Kathleen Carl to approve the conversion of driver education funds to a second Scott Miller scholarship. **Motion passed.**

The following scholarships were recommended by the Committee and approved by the Board:

- \$1,000 Mary Petzel Scholarship to Andrew Miles
- \$1,000 Mary Petzel Scholarship Edith Santos Lucerne
- \$1,000 Scott Miller Scholarship to Richard Schurter
- \$500 Scott Miller Scholarship to Claire Zielinski

OFB Convention Committee: No report.

Old Business

MCFB Dues Structure Staff reviewed information received from OFB and noted that feedback from MCFB would impact next year's dues since the decision has already been made for 2016. Board members discussed whether the reference to additional voluntary tiered dues should remain.

By consensus, the Board agreed that the reference to the voluntary contribution should remain. Board members also discussed how much of the voluntary contribution should remain with MCFB. Currently, tiered dues are divided between Ag Fest, Government Relations, Education Foundation and Legal Foundation, all administered by OFB.

By consensus, the Board agreed to delegate the matter of tiered dues allocation to the Membership Committee for discussion and recommendation.

Brenda Frketich suggested that, at the very least, MCFB should update the Mission Statement, activities, and other information on the membership application. The Membership Committee will work on revised language.

Candidate Interviews John Zielinski reported that he had received input from OFB staff and leadership into the candidate questionnaire. Those suggestions had been incorporated into the current questionnaire, which was reviewed and discussed by the Board members, who offered additional revisions. (EXHIBIT A)

Farm Access to Fields Board members reviewed a letter from Marion County Sheriff Jason Myers requesting more information on the Keith Ditchen's citation.

STEAM Update Dylan Wells reported that the advisory group had met and the Boys and Girls club that is heavily participating and bringing robotics into the Fair, similar to what California is doing. The group is exploring ideas on how to link robotics to farming. They are also building a model of the proposed new bridge at Minto Brown and looking for other projects that are agricultural in nature.

New Business

YF&R Membership Dues Discount The Board discussed the dues structure for YF&R members and the fact that it has not increased for approximately 20 years. The dues are currently being subsidized by MCFB.

MOTION: Moved by Roger Dejager and seconded by Kathleen Carl to increase YF&R dues from \$50 to \$75. **Motion passed.**

July Board Meeting By consensus, the Board agreed to forego the July Board meeting due to heavy farming activity.

Marion County Tax Assessor Advisory Board John Zielinski suggested Annie Kraemer and Dan Brentano. **By consensus**, the Board agreed to submit those potential candidates.

Advisory Committees

No report.

OFBF District 15 Director's Report

Bruce Chapin reported that the Board met May 18 to receive a report from the auditor which reflected a clean audit. The Board also took under consideration the Associate Member dues and agreed to defer any decision until December. MCFB will discuss recommendations later in the year for submission to OFB prior to December. The OFB Board directed staff to explore the possibility of the OFB establishing a land trust, similar to what the Cattleman's Association has implemented. Mary Ann is involved with Governor's office on the Working Land Program and would like input from MCFB on a proposed questionnaire. (EXHIBIT B) Bruce also reported that

the Division of State Lands has initiated rulemaking to create a new removal-fill General Authorization (OAR 141-089) and/or a new General Permit (OAR 141-093) for stream restoration activities involving the placement of materials or structures in waterways for the purpose of mimicking beaver dams to promote beaver recovery. RS Energy also made a presentation to the Board. OFB is considering working with the company to identify possible benefits to OFB members. Candidate interviews will be held August 3 and OFB's Legal Advocacy Foundation is considering funding GMO legislation.

YF&R

Brenda Frketich reported that a meeting would be held at Hathaways prior to the OSU Convention. An Ag tour planned for that Friday and Saturday has been sold out.

Women's Advisory Council

No additional report.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 10, at the Court Street office in Salem.

Adjourn

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.