

**Marion County Farm Bureau**  
**Board of Directors Meeting – March 9, 2016**  
**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  
Bruce Chapin  
Roger DeJager  
Bob Dettwyler  
Brenda Frketich  
Stuart Olson  
Joe Sherman  
Matt Schuster  
Dylan Wells  
Connie Young

**Not Present:**

Greg Bennett  
Kathleen Carl  
Dana Estensen

**Guests:**

Gerald Hosler, McKay Ag Teacher  
James Hutchinson, Country Financial Services  
Sarah Hall, McKay FFA  
Kelly, McKay FFA  
Lon Young, Spouse  
Gail Dettwyler, Spouse

**Staff:**

Jessica Carpenter  
Genoa Ingram

**Guest Speaker**

Gerald Hosler, McKay High School Agriculture Instructor, provided an update on current efforts to bring back McKay's Ag program. He reported that the program is open to students of all area high schools and asked for MCFB's support in revitalizing the program. Fundraisers have been held to send students to competitions but the program is in need of equipment and tools, including irrigation pipe. MCFB offered to publicize the needs.

**Consent Agenda: Minutes and Financials**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the February 10, 2016, meeting.

**MOTION:** Moved by Troy Hadley and seconded by Bruce Chapin to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2016, meeting as presented. **Motion passed.**

Staff reviewed the current financial reports including the Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss, noting that expenses are at 35.4 percent and tracking with the budget.

**MOTION:** Moved by Roger DeJager and seconded by Troy Hadley to approve the financials as presented. **Motion passed.**

## **Membership Approvals**

Board Members reviewed applications submitted from:

Nikko Farm

Todd and Jennifer Koch

B. Davidson Farm

Gabriel Farms

Brook Douglass

**MOTION:** Moved by Brenda Frketich and seconded by Roger DeJager to approve all applicants as voting members. **Motion passed.**

**Special Guest** Barry Bushue thanked the Board for their support of his candidacy for President of the American Farm Bureau Association. He also recapped a recent meeting held with Congressman Earl Blumenhauer and suggested that the Congressman's aid, Liv Brumfield be invited to attend the Ag Tour. Her contact information is [Liv.Brumfield@mail.house.gov](mailto:Liv.Brumfield@mail.house.gov); 503-231-2300.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Ag Tour:** Stuart Olson reported that meetings had been held with owners/managers of potential stops and the agenda was nearly finalized. A draft flyer was distributed for review.

**Scholarship:** Brenda Frketich reported that edits had been made to the application. The group recommends that the Scott Miller Scholarship will be awarded to Marion County only and Mary Petzel be offered more broadly, including FFA members.

**OFB Convention:** No report.

**Membership:** Dylan Wells reported on strategies aimed at generating new members including involvement by existing members. He explained that one of the goals was to double attendance at the Annual Meeting. The Committee is working on a one-page membership benefit document. Staff will email a current membership list.

### **President's Report**

President Zielinski reported on the following items:

- He recently received a call from a scientist/engineer who had created a formula for a hydrogen and ammonia-fueled tractor. The call led to a meeting and the tractor is far more efficient and prospects look good for possible development. Kurt Schrader Town Hall meeting was held and he indicated that he stands with the Farm Bureau on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP).
- John attended the AFB Information Advisory Committee in Washington, DC, on February 21-24. The group met with several of Oregon's delegates and worked on revisions to the H-2A program, which is a guest worker program. Less than 20 farmers in Oregon use the program currently but that number may increase unless a comprehensive immigration program is implemented.
- Three separate federal bodies are currently inspecting housing including OSHA and all are using different criteria, some of which is outdated.
- Mary Eyre Grade School had made a request for a farmer to make a presentation on Career Day on May 3. Dana Estensen will make that presentation on behalf of MCFB and John expressed his appreciation to her.

### **Old Business**

CPR Classes Staff reported that instructors had been secured for all classes. OFB had offered space. The Spanish courses will be a full day so lunch will be provided. **By consensus**, the Board agreed to offer two free registrations for MCFB members and \$50 for additional attendees. It has not been determined if the courses would be offered to non-members. Dates are April 11 & 12 and 28 & 30.

### **New Business**

Associate Membership Dues A special House of Delegates conference call will be held on April 7, 12:00 p.m., to vote on changes in the dues structure with regard to Associate Members. The change could represent an additional \$280,000 per year for Oregon Farm Bureau which will be earmarked to assist counties. Participating delegates from MCFB are John Zielinski, Troy Hadley, Keith Ditchen and Roger DeJager. Alternates are Bob Dettwyler and Brenda Frketich.

Swine and Wine Dylan Wells reported that the event is held at Bob Zielinski's place and is sold out. Proceeds go to youth programs at Marion County Fair.

Leadership Conference Joe Sherman reported on the YF&R Leadership Conference in Kansas City, February 12 – 15. Emphasis had been on networking and political advocacy.

Spot Checking Pesticide Applicator Brenda Frketich reported that a representative from Oregon Department of Agriculture had discussed visitations to farms during the pesticide application process for "educational purposes". Upon further discussion, it was revealed that ODA has decided to start spot-checking when farmers are applying pesticides. Brenda maintained that protocols should be in place prior to inspections and that the 100-foot buffer prohibits inspectors from approaching areas during the application process. She also noted that inspectors are required to speak to an owner/manager. Board members discussed the fact that OFB had lobbied for funds to assist ODA with no mention that it would be used for spot checking or additional inspections.

Dam-water Usage John reported that he and Joe Hobson are meeting with Oregon Water Resources Department tomorrow regarding dam-water use. Because agriculture is not using all of its allocated water supply, allocating some of the water for other purposes is being examined.

### **Advisory Committees**

No report.

### **OFBF District 15 Director's Report**

Bruce Chapin reported that the Farm Bureau Board had met via conference call to make endorsements on legislative races.

### **YF&R**

Brenda Frketch reported that Marion County would have a booth at the YF&R State Convention and would be giving away a Kindle.

### **Women's Advisory Council**

Connie Young April 23-24 is Ag Fest. Women's' Advisory Council will purchase \$2,000 to Ronald McDonald House.

### **Agenda Items for April**

- STEAM Program

Dylan Wells reported that he had met with the Event Coordinators for Marion County Fair and they are looking for a sponsor to champion the STEAM program (Science, Technology, Engineering, Agriculture and Math). For a \$5,000 sponsorship, the Fair will promote MCFB year round. A draft package was reviewed. James Hutchinson suggested approaching Country Financial regarding a full or partial sponsorship.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 13, at the Court Street office in Salem.

### **Adjourn**

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.