

Marion County Farm Bureau
Board of Directors Meeting – March 11, 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
Bob Dettwyler
Troy Hadley
Brenda Frketich
Bruce Chapin
Roger DeJager
Stuart Olson
Joe Sherman
Keith Ditchen

Not Present:

Connie Young

Guests:

Dylan Wells, Marion County Fair
Anita Kennedy, Country Companies
Insurance

Staff:

Laureal Williams
Genoa Ingram

Minutes and Financials

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

MOTION: Moved by Roger DeJager and seconded by Kathleen Carl to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2015, meeting 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 Bob Dettwyler to approve the financial report as submitted. **Motion passed.**

Membership Approval

By consensus, the Board approved the following members (voting/supporting status noted):

- a. Amanda and Anthony Stevens – Voting Member
- b. Zack Taylor and Jill Martini – Voting Member
- c. John and Tania Lee – Supporting Member
- d. Kenneth and Kimberly Hendricks – Voting Member
- e. Kyle and Mollie Fessler – Voting Member
- f. Dana Estensen and Antonio Fernandez, Jr. – Voting Member

Brenda Frketich asked staff to confirm that Amanda and Anthony Stevens only paid YF&R Dues. Staff was also asked to follow up on the Lees' application to determine if they should be made voting members.

Guest Speaker

Anita Kennedy provided a brief summary of the Country Companies Insurance (CCI) program with regard to its relationship to Farm Bureau. Anita noted that CCI currently has 18 advisors.

Anita asked the Board to consider a partnership between CCI and MCFB for the Aquaphonics Urban Ag Fest.

As a way to promote clarity and consistency in gathering new member information from CCI advisors, President John Zielinski suggested that the Board would like to invite the advisors (one per month) to attend future Board meetings. Anita agreed and also suggested that she would be willing to host a meeting at her office with her entire team. In addition, Anita indicated that MCFB staff can contact her directly about any incomplete membership applications we receive.

Guest Speaker

Dylan Wells introduced himself and provided a brief history of Swine & Dine, including use of the event's proceeds to benefit the Marion County Fair's Youth Programs. This year's event is scheduled for April 30 and will feature a pork loin dinner at Scenic Valley Farms in Gervais. Dylan also noted that the Marion County Fair is scheduled for July 9-12, 2015.

Old Business

Ag Tour: The Board reviewed the finalized Ag Tour schedule. Staff was directed to invite local officials, especially county commissioners and city officials, to participate in the tour.

Dan Goffin Recognition: It was the consensus of the Board to present Dan Goffin with a plaque in recognition and appreciation for his years of service on the Board. Staff was directed to invite Dan to the April Board meeting.

New Business

Drift Creek Reservoir: President John Zielinski that concerns and hopes related to a proposed Drift Creek Reservoir was a topic at both the Mt. Angel and Keizer community outreach meetings. He noted that there seemed to be some desire to see MCFB take a stand on the issue. The Board discussed the ramifications of any support, opposition, or neutrality by the Board on this issue and determined that presentations by both proponents and opponents may be appropriate agenda items for future Board meetings.

Stuart Olson noted a number of bills related to water currently at the legislature and urged caution in the Board's approach to the reservoir issue. Brenda Frketich noted that it would be good to have more information on the reservoir issue as well as the water storage bills being considered by the legislature.

Agricultural Week at Volcanoes Stadium: Brenda Frketich reported that there will be an Agricultural Week celebration at the Volcanoes Stadium, June 26 – June 29, with a different aspect or theme being recognized and celebrated each night. She indicated that June 28 will honor traditional family farmers; specifically, the organizers will be honoring a fallen farmer – Scott Miller. The Volcanoes are hoping to host a similar event every year.

President Zielinski reported that he attended Kurt Schrader's Town Hall meeting; also went to DC last month and made several visits with Oregon's Congressional members and their staff. He complimented the work being done by OFB's national representative, Gail Greenman.

MCFB Membership Drive

The Board discussed participation and results of the community meetings; Bob Dettwyler offered to see if there is a possibility to host a community meeting soon in the Pratum area, dependent on weather. President Zielinski noted that the meetings have created the opportunity for good dialogue with members and non-members even if they didn't generate a lot of new members. He indicated that he would like to see MCFB conduct similar meetings next winter.

Advisory Committees

No reports at this time.

YF&R

Brenda Frketich reported planning a social event for later this month for the group. She is hoping to invite a couple of legislators and is planning to do a state degree reception as co-hosted with Country Companies. The event should provide a good opportunity to meet with potential members. Brenda noted a regional social media conference in Spokane that will teach people how to tell their story over social media. She will be forwarding any information she receives and will be speaking on the topic of blogging at the conference.

Troy Hadley reported that the National YF&R Leadership Conference was combined with two other Leadership conferences in Nashville, providing for a significant number of attendees. He provided an overview of the event's speakers and programs.

OFBF District 15 Director's Report

No report at this time.

Women's Report

No report at this time.

On behalf of Connie Young, staff provided a brief update on the status of the association's scrapbooks. They are currently on loan to the Marion County Historical Society Museum. The Museum staff may request to hold onto the books permanently.

Agenda Items for April

OFB Lobbyist presentation on Columbia River Water Issue and other water storage bills

President Zielinski reported that Dave Dillon called him about a documentary entitled "Farmland" and asked if the Board would be interested in hosting a showing of it at the OFB offices. The Board discussed other possible activities for the event, but no course of action was decided.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 8, 2015, in Salem.

Adjourn

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.