



Marion County Farm Bureau

"Bringing Value to our Members"

Board Meeting: March 14, 2018 – 6:30 pm
Meeting is open to all MCFB members and guests

1320 Capitol St NE, Salem, OR 97301

MINUTES of March 14, 2018

Present:

Board Members	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Anne Krahmer	X	X	X									
Bruce Chapin	X	-	X									
Dana Estensen	X	X	X									
Dylan Wells	X	X	X									
Greg Bennett	X	X	X									
Joe Ruef	X	X	X									
John Zielinski	X	X	X									
Kathleen Carl	X	X	X									
Keith Ditchen	X	X	X									
Matt Schuster	X	X	-									
Roger DeJager	X	X	X									
Stuart Olson	X	X	-									
Lisa Stone	X	X	X									

Staff:

Jill Ingalls
Caitlin Koenig

Called to Order at 6:30 p.m. by President Dylan Wells

Moved guests to before Consent agenda

Introductions

Special Guests:

a. Joel Blount from Keudell/Morrison Wealth Management

Joel presented a detailed overview of the current investments and strategies his firm is working on for the MCFB. The recent statement of accounts and two handouts are incorporated in these minutes as attachments.

b. Sara Spinks from Marion County Economic Development

Marion County Economic Development is a fairly new department and has recently launched a new program in 2014 – through their strategic plan. In doing research and planning through a consultant, they have come up with 5 priorities for the county. Of those 5 goal areas – the ones she feels would be of interest to the MCFB are focusing on land and land use planning strategies and business opportunities and opportunities for the category of Agriculture Innovation. Part of the strategy is to identify what the County wants to be known for as far as business and to identify opportunities to become more innovative. Part of the efforts are evaluating infrastructure that supports the innovations, including broadband / internet.

They are conducting a survey to create an understanding of the current digital technology environment and how it's working or being used. Sarah asked for everyone to take the survey looking at broadband availability and reliability in rural communities. They feel access to reliable highspeed internet is a

competing factor for innovation in farming especially. She asked that the survey be taken from office / home office computers and not their phones or handheld devices as they may use data and not broadband. This will help them determine the actual use and performance. This info will help them paint a picture of the level of service available, upload/download speeds and reliability in rural areas so they can leverage funds to bring providers in to increase buildout in rural communities. They are also seeking about 15 people to participate in focus groups; one specifically has to do with Ag and Farming and another on value added manufacturing. Link: <http://bit.ly/MarionBroadband>

The other category the consultants identified as a strategy and an area they want to give focus to they are calling category 4 of Ag Innovation. They want to start building out activities, but also want to know where the County should be focusing funds in regards to priority. County could be a player as a funder – Ag Innovation Grants. In May they are looking to develop sprint teams made up of people within the industry to identify how the County can support Ag Innovation (not just as job creation) preferring growth in GDP. Wants to know how they can be supportive with funding and/or advocacy or as a convener. Bringing people together to pool funding. Seeking people to be on the sprint teams starting in May. More information Sarah Spinks, Marion County Economic Development 503-589-3234 or sspinks@co.marion.or.us

Dylan will coordinate efforts to provide participants to serve on the focus groups.

c. Scott Ingalls, Marion County Fair

Scott presented the request for support from the Marion County Farm Bureau in sponsorship of the Marion County Fair. There are two proposals – one for ongoing support of the STEAM program (\$1,500) and one for the Marion County Farm Bureau branded youth shirts for all fair participants (4H and FFA) (\$3,500).

MOTION: Moved by Dana Estensen and seconded by Kathleen Carl to sponsor both STEAM and T Shirts at the \$5,000 total level. **Motion passed.**

Consent Agenda: Minutes and Financials:

The Board reviewed minutes from the February 13, 2018 Meeting

MOTION: Moved by Roger and seconded by Lisa to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2018 meeting as presented. **Motion passed.**

Jill Ingalls presented the financial report packet as attached herein and noted some accounts haven't been reconciled because statements are quarterly and haven't been received yet. Also noted the need to order new checks to reflect new address. John Zielinski mentioned there were some very old receipts (suggested origin date was around 1985) for CDs found during the move. Dylan checked with the bank and they have no record of the accounts. Dylan suggested that they were likely rolled into other accounts, board agreed.

MOTION: Moved by John Zielinski and seconded by Joe Ruef to approve the financial report as presented. **Motion passed.**

Membership Approvals:

- a. Samuel Coleman – Voting
- b. Ted Klopfenstein – Voting
- c. Luke Lafayette – Voting
- d. Burkhart Ledebauer – Voting
- e. Michael McKay – Voting
- f. Austin Smith – Voting
- g. Ben Stockfleth – Voting
- h. Joe Stockfleth – Voting

Presented as slate

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Carl and seconded by John Zielinski to approve all as presented at the levels presented. **Motion passed.**

Old Business:

- a. Aurora Airport Expansion – Died in legislature – there was plenty of testimony against from Friends of French Prairie with lots of organization.
- b. Willamette Country Music Festival – No updates at this time as they are still in a research phase and trying to understand the traffic impact. Board would like to keep this issue on the radar.
- c. Dana Estensen presented on the Ag Tour happening next Wednesday March 21. The committee is still searching for one more stop – Stuart Olson will be asked. Board would like legislators to attend. Dylan mentioned that he would speak with Ann Marie from OFB to send out invites. John Zielenski suggested County Commissioners state wide and City Council of each town in Marion be invited. Dylan Wells asked that every board member reach out to people they think would be interested and invite them.

President's Report

Dylan reported that he attended the presidents meeting via Zoom video. Zoom allows the meeting to be via video and seemed like a good system to accommodate more members not able to travel. Attendees are able to use program via phone, with or without video and/or a computer.

Rusty with Harney county reported wolves are an increasing issue and was concerned that Harney County was not included in area listed to address this issue. Lincoln Co has lawsuits on spray measures they are working on and trying to resolve. Jenny Dressler gave report Cap and trade which did not pan out.

Welcomed Johnathon Sandau to OFB staff and he gave an update on tax issues they are watching. He also spoke about the Detroit impact study to be wrapped by end of 2019. The Corps of Engineers has not presented a plan, yet as they are just gathering information via an impact study. Anticipating that it will be a major issue, but not known what level.

There will be a signature campaign about presenting ballot measure to strengthen 3/5 super majority at legislature to pass tax increases. Looking for help and will fund signature gatherers, if need be. Waiting for follow up.

Mary Ann spoke. She anticipates they may need more involvement on water committees. She urged members to watch for opportunities in districts and areas. John Zielinski reported that there are vacancies on several water districts.

Suggested that they contact the county and ask where there are vacancies, report back to the board and recruit from membership to fill those positions. Ask Mary Ann where to find that information .

Gail spoke about broadband. Microsoft is developing new technology to push out new wireless that would be more accessible to rural communities. The problem is the frequency is controlled by broadcasters' association.

OFB has new member site. Dylan demonstrated on the screen. He pointed out there are 3 areas to sign in: County leaders, OFB Board sign in and general. Wait for approval and then access will be available. They are using this as a way to disseminate information to the membership without having to make all information open to general public. Promotion will be in the next newsletter too.

New Business

a. Social Media

Dylan encouraged us to use the Facebook page – get on there and like it, but also need to share and comment.

b. Chip Seal

See handout for the chip seal and fog seal schedule for 2018. Boones Ferry quarter and River Rd Quarter will be the focus – next year will focus on the canyon from south salem up 22. Don Knewell (Marion County Road Department) is in charge of the chip sealing, he was also suggesting to see major road repair schedule. Dylan discussed the concerns that last year was difficult. Don was very receptive to those concerns. He said he will share a website that will show the actual schedule. They will be installing larger rock and heavier load on Cason Arbor Grove Rd and asked for everyone to be easy on the tar. Mentioned that it takes two months for the road to cure.

Starts 3rd week in June – ends last week of August. Mention in farm gram that a link for the schedule can be found on MCFB website.

c. Streaked Horned Lark

Mary Ann sent information with explanation – included herein. Primary concern is that environmental groups want the Streaked Horned Lark designated as endangered with the ag exemption removed, however the bird prefers plowed ground as its habitat which complicates their argument. Dylan expects this to be a continuing concern.

d. **Western Resources Legal Center Letter**

Invoice \$500 Several years ago these folks were training new legal students to be in tuned natural resources and ag issues. Several OFB members serve on that board.

e. **Mercury update:**

Mercury was found leaching into water sources. There is concern about it. OFB is working with DEQ and planning to develop a total maximum daily load to allocate pollution limits to each sector including agriculture. DEQ feels AG is a major source of mercury pollution in the Willamette system. See attached email from Mary Ann Cooper for further details – incorporated herein. See attached email from Mary Ann Cooper for further details – incorporated herein.

f. **Willamette reallocation lawsuit**

OFB working with the Army Corps of Engineers to reallocate the water in the 13 Willamette Valley reservoirs and fisheries. See attached email from Mary Ann Cooper for further details – incorporated herein.

g. **Solar Farming**

Bruce Chapin reported on the progress on the Solar permit system. The county is attempting to modify permit system asking to prove the site was not appropriate to Ag. Bruce provided testimony that the wording and efforts were too subjective. Asked to clarify denial on class 1 or 2 soils and recognize this is a 30 year use and it may be returned to farming therefore there needs to be provisions to protect farm land. Also asked for a work group to work through this. Room was full during the hearing. Looks like progressing the way the MCFB had hoped. Bruce Chapin recommended the board send letter to the commission requesting MCFB representative on the work group.

MOTION: Moved by John Zielinski and seconded by Kathleen Carl that Marion County Farm Bureau requests representation on the Marion County Solar Siding and Ag Lands Advisory Work Groups. **Motion passed.**

Bruce urged the board to keep thinking about what kind of regulations should be written into the process and what types of issues should be addressed and the need for clear goals. John reported that there was heavy industry representation and wants to encourage multiple representative from the Ag industry and be sure there is balanced representation. Suggestion to include Mary Ann OFB legal counsel. Kathleen asked if there was a way to ID those that testified and tap them to serve and support. Creative options to partner and still accommodate the solar impact. Yamhill has some work on this too.

h. **Ditchen DSL Issue**

Discovered NRCS gave approval to pipe a small section of ditch on their property about 5 years ago, but ODA had concerns. ODA called DSL and charged Ditchen with violation. DSL then contacted ODFW who determined the culvert did not meet fish requirements. Ultimately the concern was why the agencies were looking at new violations on an old process. Mary Ann was concerned but thinks they have reach a resolution. See attached email from Mary Ann Cooper for further details – incorporated herein.

i. **Siri and Sons**

Bought property with 2 pending DSL concerns. Resolved. See attached email from Mary Ann Cooper for further details – incorporated herein.

j. **Western Resources Legal Center**

WRLC submitted their newsletter and contribution invoice to MCFB. Doing a lot to train law students to be in tune with natural resources industry. Board agreed that it was in the budget and therefore did not require a motion. Dylan agreed that the contribution should be paid.

MCFB Committee Reports

- a. Annual Meeting (Dylan Wells/Brenda Frketich/Annie Krahmer) No report
- b. Budget Committee (Dylan/Brenda/Kathleen) No report

- c. Scholarship (Dana Estensen/Lisa Stone/Kathleen Carl) \$3500 for Scott Miller and \$5,000 for Mary Petzel. Changed language for Petzel that applicants don't have to be from Marion County for Petzel only - also changed wording of amounts to allow more flexibility. Deadline is May 4st so applicants may be selected at that May meeting. Scholarships have been sent to schools and some programs.
- d. Ag Tour – set for 3/21 still need one location stop and only a few registrations so far. Dylan asked that more people be invited.

OFB Advisory Committees (reports from members who have attended an OFBF advisory committee)

Roger and Jesse DeJager attended meetings pertaining to dairy at the capitol.

Gail Greenman sent two things about electronic logging US Dept. Effective implementation ELD rule for Ag Related to transportation – Beginning April 1 will be full enforcement of ELD Rule
National affairs committee – AFBF and UTAH FB starting into legal discussion against the monument reduction. Email Incorporated herein, see attachment.

John Zielenski reported he flew into Washington DC AFBF Labor committee meeting – Representative Goodlatte bill coming out of VA to develop new program H2C and eliminating H2A. H2C has some good elements including health insurance. Still to be negotiated in the senate – general feeling is it may not happen. If H2C doesn't happen Plan B – federal dept of labor who administer H2A program – currently in effect. Department wants to be able to raise fees – which most felt was not unreasonable – as have not raised fees for 30 years. Federal Department of Labor wants to be able to use funds generated via fee increase dedicated for that program only. In order to make sure the fees are dedicated to that program and not sent into a general pot, it must be done legislatively. If that H2C legislation fails, plan b is for AFBF to get behind Federal Department of Labor with regulatory fixes to H2A. AFBF will support the Federal Department of Labor's increased fees if they are willing to make some administrative rule fixes to H2A. Some of those fixes are: addressing wage rate scale as it currently is on an ever increasing scale which is difficult, encourage a staggered start time, rather than start them simultaneously. There were 2 other issues that were considered reasonable fixes to current program. John will report back. There were 18 farmers who represented with the majority being small not using H2A to the largest who uses does use H2A with 3,100 employees.

OFBF District 15 Director's report – John Zielinski

John reported that OFB will be losing Jenny Dressler who will be taking an ownership position in a logging firm and will be leaving OFB. She will be under contract to OFB for one year, but for now will be moving soon. She was a well-respected and knowledgeable and will be missed. Next board meeting in May and doesn't anticipate he will have anything to report at next meeting.

YF&R Report – Anne Krahmer

Canada trip will be this weekend. FFA convention next week. State meeting Sunday night. Dylan is going to Canada also.

Women's Advisory Council – Jessie DeJager

Ag fest coming up.

Dana Estensen noted OSHA is still asking for input regarding spray certification. To offer input go to states website to advocacy and send comments to OSHA. Deadline for comments is tomorrow, March 15.

April Agenda Items

County is doing more restrictions regarding bridges and weight limits and etc. Impacts and what are the proper channels and how can we stay in the loop to provide input. Is there a way to get an exemption for Ag, if intent is to keep freeway traffic off? Dylan will follow up with Don Knewell regarding this.

Kathleen Carl was approached about primary candidates being able to present to the MCFB. She stated the MCFB would not endorse anyone for the primaries. Board agreed they could present at MCFB meeting and that all candidates were invited.

Adjourned 9:08 p.m.