

Marion County Farm Bureau

"Bringing Value to our Members"

Board Meeting: April 11, 2018 – 6:30 pm

Meeting is open to all MCFB members and guests

1320 Capitol St NE, Salem, OR 97301

Agenda

Present:

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

Staff:

Jill Ingalls
Caitlin Koenig

Guests:

Barry Shapiro
Destinee Schuster
James Hutches
Matt Dunbar

The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm by President Dylan Wells

Introductions

Special Guests:

Barry Shapiro District 18 Democratic Primary Candidate

Barry introduced himself to the board and discussed his aspirations for running for the in the Oregon House of Representatives District 18 seat.

Destinee Schuster – Broadband Update

Destinee Schuster met with the Marion County Economic Development Commission and Magellan advisors on April 4th in Gates to specifically talk about access to broadband in rural communities. In the past she had done research on bringing broadband out to her parents' house and discovered the infrastructure required was cost prohibitive. During the meeting Destinee Schuster discovered the reason Marion County is requesting the public to assist in the study, is because the FCC has maps showing served areas that are incorrect or misleading. Marion County needs factual data with precise accuracy to show where there are broadband internet shortfalls. The culmination of this data is critical to Marion county's ability to work with private industry to get infrastructure laid in rural areas and facilitating grants that support that mission.

Tom Hogue, Marion County Economic Development Coordinator

Tom stated that the main goal of the survey is it coordinate with other counties to leverage and negotiate with service providers to bring service to rural areas. The county is not interested in getting into the retail service provider role. Public safety and emergency services in rural areas are reporting issues with being able to effectively communicate. The consultant is helping to generate usable information. He encouraged people to participate and noted the deadline to participate has been extended.

Commissioners are working on an enterprise zone-like tax exemption program, similar to a tax exemption district as established in SB 1565 that allowed for a site by site enterprise zone exemption basis in rural areas. In that same session HB 4084 created a tax-exempt program for cleanup of brown fields. Marion County commissioners are very interested in making local ordinances to support both endeavors. The Commissioners see this type of enterprise zone as a way to develop/promote automation.

East Willamette Valley Railway – his department did a study to see how to bring the rail back into service. They discovered the plan to bring it back into service was not as expensive as anticipated. They will need more customers in Stayton and a long-term management plan to bring it back into service.

Tom then went on to explain that they are really needing help with ways to reach more people for input on the Strategic Plan and how to implement it. Dylan Wells mentioned this is not a good time of year to get farmer input as it is their busy season. Tom was receptive and noted the county is looking for as much guidance as possible and is open to having phone or video conferencing meetings if needed. For more information Tom Hogue can be reached at:

Thomas Hogue
Marion County Economic Development Coordinator
Ph: 503-589-3277
Fax: 503-373-4460
PO Box 14500
Salem, OR 97309
Email: thogue@co.marion.or.us

Consent Agenda

The Board reviewed the Minutes of March 14, 2018 Meeting

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Carl and seconded by Lisa Stone to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2018 meeting as presented. **Motion Passed.**

Jill Ingalls presented the financial report packet as attached herein. Dylan Wells pointed out that Keudell/Morrison sent a letter notifying the board they will be changing banks and the signers will have to sign off on some paperwork. Dylan pointed out that nothing is changing with regard to the account other than the bank that is holding the account.

MOTION: Moved by John Zeilinski and seconded by Roger DeJager to approve the financial report as presented. **Motion Passed**

Membership Approvals:

Marcie Ceja – Voting

Robert Jordaine – Voting

Roger DeJager moved to approve members as submitted. After the board discussed their concern with regard to the level of both applicants' involvement in farming, Roger rescinded his motion. The board reviewed the guidelines for farm bureau membership and asked that Country Financial be made aware when assigning membership levels.

MOTION: Moved by Bruce Chapin and seconded by Roger DeJager to approve both as supporting members and review their membership level once additional info is received. **Motion Passed.**

While on the topic of membership, Dylan would like to encourage membership and recruitment and suggested an incentive to members to bring in new members.

MOTION: John Zielinski moved and Kathleen Carl seconded that the board dedicate \$100 from the budget to incentivize a membership drive for any Marion County Farm Bureau member that brings in the most new voting and supporting members to the Marion County Farm Bureau by the membership cut-off date in October. **Motion Passed**

Old Business:

Willamette Country Music Festival

The county now has a webpage to field public concerns about the permitting of the event. The conditional use permit is closed, but the record is open for additional testimony until April 20th. Dylan Wells said he will see if the letter stating MCFB's testimony needs to be resubmitted and will if need be.

AG Tour

Ag Tour was cancelled last minute due to cancellations - everyone understood. Great Ag tour set up for next year. Dana recommended the purpose of the tour be revisited in order to gain better focus for next year's planning and execution.

Chip Seal Update

Public works engineering projects have been updated and are on the County's website for this year's projects. Dylan Wells will send out an email. John Zielinski suggested public works put notices in a central area where the work is being performed to inform farmers of upcoming road projects to keep everyone informed.

Streaked Horned Lark – no report

President's Report

Dylan Wells reported that he received an email from Dave Dillon asking for input and requested leaders fill out a survey to get a long-term plan put together.

Signature sheets for IP31 were presented to the board. IP31 expands beyond taxes application of requirement that 3/5th legislative majority approve bills raising revenue. The Salem Business community has formed a grass roots movement trying to get signatures to get this measure on the ballot. There are sheets available to take home and collect more signatures along with a sheet outlining the "dos and donts" of signature gathering. The farm bureau is encouraging participation in order to avoid paying for signature gatherers.

Dylan presented the historical files for members to go through and make decisions on what needs to be kept and what needs to be donated.

New Business

OFB Weekly Update to board – Staff to connect with OFB to make sure all board members are receiving weekly update.

ODA open commodity commission positions – John Zielinski received a notice of open commission positions and recommended involvement, he added it is also way to get people familiar with board membership. John suggests all board members familiarize themselves with open positions and think about if they know anyone who can fill those positions.

Country Financial Partnership

James Hutches from Country Financial introduced himself to the board and voiced his intent on strengthening the relationship between MCFB and Country Financial. He emphasized he was open to suggestions on how to go about that goal. John Zielinski suggested Country Financial sponsor the OFB baseball game. There was talk of hosting seminars and events to bring in farmers and educate people on the new tax structure, utilizing financial planning resources, and reviewing policies. Dylan Wells asked that any ideas be sent to him and he can send them to James.

County Road Restrictions

ODOT has required Marion County put restrictions on some of their concrete reinforced bridges. The affected vehicles are a new category called Special Hauling Vehicles. Marion County wants the help of MCFB in disseminating info to impacted areas. The info does show that tractor trailers are ok and not considered Specialized Hauling Vehicles, therefore the group agreed they do not anticipate this to be a major setback.

Summer Agriculture Institute

Contribution letter was received by the board.

Keudell/Morrison letter

Letter was reviewed in the financial report; they are switching banks.

Oregonians for Food & Shelter letter

Membership letter was received by the board.

MCFB Committee Reports

Annual Meeting – Dylan Wells would like to get a committee going to start talking about getting things organized for the annual meeting. He stated he would like to do the majority of the planning via email and then some in person meetings later. There were no new offers to be on the committee.

Budget Committee - No report

Scholarship - Dana Estensen mentioned they have only received one application thus far. The committee encouraged people reach out to those they know to spread the word.

Ag Tour – Reported on in old business

OFB Advisory Committees - No report

OFBF District 15 Director's report

John Zielinski reported their next board meeting is coming up in May. Dave Dillon sent out an email asking for input on what concerns exist within the state and where the OFB focus needs to be. It's an online survey and John Zielinski wants MCFB to be sure to participate.

YF&R Report

Anne Krahmer reported YF & R helped with the FFA convention in March and that the event went well; Anne was not able to attend. Anne introduced Matt Dunbar who has expressed interest in taking over the YF&R position when she ages out of the position in December.

Matt Dunbar was raised in Scotts Mills and stated he does not come from a farming background. He started out doing farm hand work when he was 14. When he was 16 he worked for Jon Iverson who recruited him to be involved with YF&R. Now he is working for Brenda Frketich in St. Paul and helps run their farm. He is an at large committee member on the board for YF&R and is hoping to become the YF&R county representative when Anne steps down in December. Dylan Wells mentioned Matt is currently the leader in the member recruitment competition.

Dylan Wells reported on his trip with YF&R to Abbotsford, BC. He said it was a great time and they saw some beautiful farms. They toured a container farm with a lot of glass green houses, a tilapia fish farm, a greenhouse/retail operation, a free-range chicken farm, 2 generation cut flower operation, a blueberry farm with land on either side of the US/Canada border and an organic no till farmers market. All the farms have been hit hard with carbon tax but have seen it reinvested in innovation. Dylan said the farmers reported astronomical land prices due to encroachment of city sprawl. Most farms did wholesale but also retail – and noted retail is how they are staying in business.

Women's Advisory Council – no report

Thank you note from dairy council was received by the board.

The board presented a condolence card to John Zielinski due to his mother's recent passing. Stuart Olson asked John to share some words on his mother's legacy. John gave a brief statement about his mother and her passion for agriculture and ultimately for making sure people were fed. For the past 22 years she served on the Marion/Polk Food Share board of directors. At the age of 82 she started and ecumenical monthly community dinner. She lived and breathed agriculture and will be missed by many.

MOTION: Stuart Olson moved and Kathleen Carl seconded to make a \$200 donation in Eileen Zeilinski's honor to Marion/Polk Food Share. **Motion Passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:51pm.