



# Marion County Farm Bureau

"Bringing Value to our Members"

Board Meeting: January 9, 2019 – 6:30pm

Meeting is open to all MCFB members and guests

Oregon Farm Bureau Boardroom  
1320 Capitol St NE, Salem, OR 97301

## Minutes

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

**Present:**

Rachel Nobel  
Destiny Schuster  
Samuel Schuster

Jace Anderson  
Karen Withers

**Staff:**

Jill Ingalls

The meeting was called to order by President Dylan Wells at 6:32pm.

Dylan asked that everyone introduce themselves including their name and what they farm.

**Special Guest: Rachel Nobel: Project Coordinator, Summer Agriculture Institute**

Dylan introduced Rachel Nobel, Project Coordinator for the Summer Agriculture Institute from Oregon State University. The program is a one week, 3 credit masters level program for educators. The intent is to expose as many teachers to agriculture curriculum and provide content for the educators to create ag based curriculum that will be used repeatedly. Rachel explained that the participants are exposed to many options via tours and immersed in a farm stay as well. The program is always searching for host families. Each year they accept 20 – 25 teachers. The participants pay \$635.00 each, however the cost is approximately \$3800 per person all inclusive. The difference is made up from contributions made up from donations and grants from individuals, farm bureaus, corporate contributions, and private companies. The program cost covers: tuition, housing, food and transportation. The Marion County Farm Bureau has contributed for several years at the \$1300 level. There may be a second session in the future. Retaining a small group is desired but would like to add a second session in the future. Upon completion of the program, teachers are expected to design a lesson plan based on their experience to use when they go back to their school.

**MOTION:** Moved by John Zielinski and seconded by Bruce Chapin that the MCFB increase their SAI sponsorship by \$700 to a total of \$2000. **Motion passed.**

## **Consent Agenda**

The board reviewed the Minutes of November 6, 2018 Meeting and Minutes of the December 20, 2018 Meeting. Jill Ingalls presented an abbreviated financial report due to not having a reconciled bank statement. As stated in previous meetings, the bank statement does not get mailed until the 7<sup>th</sup> of the month. Jill listed what checks have been written since the last meeting. List of payments attached herein.

**MOTION:** Moved by John Zielinski and seconded by Bruce Chapin to approve consent agenda as presented. **Motion passed.**

## **Membership Approvals:**

It was noted that these applications were cumulative for last couple of months. See notes on each member. Questions that some of these may be due to the old forms and old fees. 22m 41s

Kathleen Carl – Voting

Peter Ianov – Supporting

Pat Mosher – Voting

Ashley Shubert – YF&R

Cooper Wurdinger – Supporting (Moved to Voting)

James Blackburn – Supporting

Casey Storer – Voting

Heather McKee – Voting (Moved to Supporting) working for a farm in Polk but lives in Salem.

Dagan Townsend – YF & R

Ward Rouse - Voting

**MOTION:** Moved by John Zielinski and seconded by Greg Bennett to accept members as presented with changes to membership levels as noted above. **Motion passed.**

## **Old Business:**

### **Solar Farming Work Group**

Dylan reported that there have been no decisions and he has requested to be updated and kept in the loop. He also requested to be notified should there be any work sessions or discussions with the commissioners. His contact said she doesn't expect there to be any activity until late January or mid February. The latest update implied the state (LCDC) will be more restrictive than Marion County.

## **President's Report**

Dylan attended swearing in for several local dignitaries. He learned the Marion County Sheriff will be retiring in June. Dylan said he received good feedback and felt positive about his attendance. Dylan also attended Senator Wyden's townhall in Woodburn. He said he felt Wyden answered well, but the attendees were primarily from High School. Wyden reported that funds were just being misused and that health care should be managed better, and everyone needs to come together, Bernie Sanders Health Care won't quite work, but believes there is a solution.

Dylan said the County President's meeting is 2/28 and the Women's advisory committee will be doing legislative days that afternoon. Dylan asked the board to let him know if there were any issues, they would like him to address during the county presidents meeting. Tiffany at OFB is tracking attendees for the legislative days and Dylan urged those who want to go to connect with her. Lobbyist will be reporting on focus areas and Dylan believes this is a good training to go to. It will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the capitol building in room 350. They are also holding farm bureau training including board governance that day – if anyone is interested. There will be committee days happening on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Dylan told the board that Lisa Stone and her husband were leaving early the next morning to attend the AFBF Convention in New Orleans as representatives of MCFB.

## **New Business**

### **Canola**

The issue is related to Canola impacting seed crops. John reported this is a hot button issue for Marion County as so many seeds are grown in the area. Because Canola is a brassica, as are many other crops in the area (ie, radishes, turnips, etc), seed buyers will not purchase seeds if they are from an area where Canola may contaminate the crops they are buying or cultivating. John reported this has previously been a very contentious issue for the MCFB as former board member, Scott Miller, was very much against allowing Canola to be grown in Marion County. Recently ODA has controlled where it is authorized to be grown. John contacted Johnathan Sandau who is the OFB staff contact on this topic. He said they are looking at criteria for allowance, exclusion

zones and protected areas that require more restricted rules. There are rules laid out by OFB for ODA suggestions. Some of recommendations include neighbor acceptance. Johnathon Sandau said currently there is no legislation introduced by ODA or OFB or bills. The OFB position remains solid that they do not want Oregon regulating crops by type – John pointed out that this is where the Marion County Farm Bureau disagreed with OFB policy in the past. He said it was previously recommended that the Willamette Valley be considered an exclusion zone. John said he thinks that makes sense considering the value of canola does not outweigh the value of other crops grown in the region.

OFB is urging that agreements be made within the industry before it becomes something that is legislated on. John asked the board if they wanted to differ from state policy. He said that if MCFB wanted to differ from state policy they would need to write a letter notifying the state of their differing opinion. The concern is that if ODA is seeking advice, the board would like to be clear about their stance. The board agreed to table the issue until there is more information. They discussed farms they might be able to approach to get their opinion on how to proceed. John said he would send the summary on Canola to be added to the minutes.

### **OFB Scholarship Fund Request**

Dylan questioned whether it was already in the budget. Letter included from Troy Michaels the Chair of the OFB memorial Scholarship project. They are streamlining the application. There was some confusion about which line item it was in the budget. Dylan presented that Clackamas County already gives out their own funds as does Marion County Farm Bureau. The board by consensus decided to follow suit and not fund because the MCFB already funds their own scholarship programs.

### **Friends of Marion County OMG letter**

Letter considered requesting the MCFB to take the lead on a statewide Mass Gathering legislation. It was discussed that the recent decision had not been tested in LUBA or Circuit Court. The applicant claimed that Marion County erred in process. It is suggested to shore up the language and provide statewide legislation that can be used via a conditional use process that also insures consideration of health and safety, economic impact and land use. Dylan will send a note to Mary Ann and ask to review and request guidance on appropriate response.

### **1000 Friends Donation Request**

Board reviewed letter of request.

**MOTION:** Moved by Matt Schuster and seconded by Dana Estensen to table the request until budget adoption and review of needed funding is completed. **Motion passed.**

### **Marion County Water Meeting (Matt Schuster)**

Matt reported that on December 11 a meeting was hosted by Marion County with the Army Corps of Engineers took place. Questions included the Willamette Water reallocation plan. He said it comes down to storage of water over the next 25 years. They talked about removal of dams and impact on farm and communities. They also spoke about allocation of water supply to communities and consideration of population growth. OFB continues to work on this. He said the county is not incredibly happy with the way the Army Corps of Engineers has handled the process and feel they were not given enough time to comment. Matt said he felt the county was appropriately concerned with the economic impact of water reallocation on the community. Matt expects that Mary Ann Cooper will have comments about this in the near future.

### **Long Term Planning**

Dylan requested to set up a long-term goal and reminded the board of the motto that says, “bringing value to our members”. Dylan asked the board to think about whether the organization is doing just that. With a nice funding balance is the organization doing the best for the members? He said he would like to see some planning and strategizing coming up. Also considering all the funding requests and how those fit within the goal. Dylan mentioned that Ingalls & Associates are able to provide the facilitation for a good starting point. In the past the organization was saving money for a building, and that is not longer in the plans. Ingalls can provide a planning process, reviewing process and planning for the near- and long-term future to create a review piece for reference. March is the suggested time frame. This would provide more focus to the work the organization does. The board, by consensus, agreed to move forward with a planning effort starting in March.

### **Annual Calendar**

The 2019 calendar is included in the packet, Dylan drew the boards attention to the updated calendar. Dylan asked the committees to recruit new members to participate in some of the committee activities. John suggested that the farm gram needed to be moved up to accommodate the promotion of the tour and training.

For the training it was suggested to create a post card mid-February and the FarmGram out March 1. Dylan alerted the board that the FarmGram is taking a lot of hours. Ingalls has requested articles and suggestions for committee reports – short and sweet for the FarmGram so members can be updated and connect the value.

A lot of the articles were previously taken from Cap Press, but the members were likely seeing those stories twice. IA is finding the time involved and the value of the farmgram needs to be addressed. It also could be reformatted – so we do a simple one page and expand the story via website/electronically.

Dylan asked the board to review the calendar and get back with any suggestions and changes and to be thinking about articles they can contribute to the FarmGram in the coming months.

Jill suggested to get the tour and training dates set so the Farm Gram and promotions can be scheduled accordingly. Ingalls will follow up on scheduling the tour with hope to get the promotion out earlier.

### **SAIF Ag Banquet**

SAIF Ag Banquet is coming up January 18<sup>th</sup>. Dylan said he received a call from Bob Dettwyler asking if MCFB would be there and Dylan arranged for the table as a result. He said he is looking for the 8 seats to fill. Dylan will follow up to fill the table. Staff will send payment and confirm with Salem Chamber. Dylan said he asked about sponsorship opportunities for the banquet and discovered MCFB would have to be a member of the Salem Chamber of Commerce in order to sponsor. He said Salem Chamber membership was a question for the budget.

### **Newport Fishermen's Wives**

Stuart Olsen presented a request to support the Newport Fishermen's Wives in their recent tragic loss of 3 fishermen in Newport. He reported that they are a similar natural resource organization that supports farming and farm bureau issues as well. Stuart said he felt it was an opportunity for the MCFB to show their support during this difficult time.

**MOTION:** Moved by Stuart Olson and seconded by Joe Ruef to give \$500 to the Newport Fishermen's Wives.  
**Motion passed.**

### **MCFB Committee Reports**

Dylan asked the board if it is acceptable to have supporting members on committees. By consensus, the board agreed that supporting members were fine to be on committees. Dylan has two folks willing to join in and work on committees. By consensus the board agreed they are great to have and were enthusiastic about increasing engagement.

### **Membership Committee** (Dylan Wells/Greg Bennet/Kathleen Carl)

The list of unpaid members was distributed – the board will review and reach out where possible. Get them on the paid list! Dylan encouraged board members to encourage new membership as well.

### **Budget Committee** (Dylan Wells/Kathleen Carl)

Budget committee met and welcomed Destiny and Matt Schuster in on the budget talks. The budget will be revised, updated and presented to the board next month.

**Scholarship** (Dana Estensen/Lisa Stone/Kathleen Carl) – Dana reported that they did not meet, but she did add Destiny Schuster as a new member to the committee. Dana said that she would send her summary from last year's awardees and comments made by the board to the committee to review and decide if they want to make any changes to the application requirements.

### **CPR/Propane Handling/Forklift Training Committee** (Matt Schuster/Keith Ditchen)

Matt said he will meet with Jill following the meeting to set this in motion. Matt asked about the fork training. Jill suggested she could arrange the fork training as well. To be followed up.

### **Ag Tour** (Dana Estensen, Joe Ruef, Stuart Olson)

Dylan requested to update staff – Dana has most things arranged based on last year. Jill will confirm bus. Goal is to try and get dignitaries involved if possible. Dylan has some additional stops including Detroit Dam, but not sure if that isn't too far.

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

No reports as Committee Days are just around the corner. Dylan reminded everyone to reach out to neighbors to get them involved in OFB committees. Dylan stated any member can serve on an OFB committee, it is not only for board members.

**OFB District 15 Director's** report – John Zielinski

John told the board that he briefly touched on some of the issues he was about to report on in the abbreviated December meeting.

- Dave Dillon was re-elected as executive Vice President
- OFB is considering establishing a PR committee to help Ann Marie with news due to the current 24hr news cycle.
- OFB is developing a new One Sheet for legislators in regard to understanding OFB
- Expecting Cap and Trade and Land Use will be big topics.
- Peter Courtney is proposing a 50 acre per Eastern Oregon County be set aside for Industrial use (to be used how ever each county would want to use it). This would impact 10 Eastern Oregon counties. Heads up – land use issue to be aware of.
- Deschutes County LUBA appeal on Cannabis farms about buffer zones between fields, and attacking water and right to farm. Deschutes is not favorable to cannabis production.
- Jackson County is looking for goal 13 exemption to energy.
- Solar on high value farm land – lots of talk about dual development possibilities similar to Marion County issues.

**YF&R Report** – Matt Dunbar

Dylan said Matt Dunbar was not present due to illness. He reported their meeting in LaPine will be coming up soon. He said that Matt and Jon Iverson from Clackamas County are working on a Clackamas Co/Marion Co get-together coming up soon.

**Women's Advisory Council** – Jessie DeJager

Dylan reported the WAC State legislative day will be on 1/28 with cake.

**Items for next month's agenda:**

Dylan told the board there will be a presentation from a driver safety person at the next meeting who has asked for guidance with regard to sharing the roadway with tractors. Dylan asked the board to be thinking about this in the coming month and to be prepared to share at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:39pm.