



Marion County Farm Bureau

"Bringing Value to our Members"

Board Meeting: June 12, 2019 - 6:30pm

Meeting is open to all MCFB members and guests

Oregon Farm Bureau
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	-	X	X	-	X						
Bruce Chapin	X	X	-	X	X	-						
Dana Estensen	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Dylan Wells	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Greg Bennett	X	X	-	X	-	X						
Jessie DeJager	-	X	-	X	X	X						
Joe Ruef	X	X	X	X	X	X						
John Zielinski	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Kathleen Carl	X	X	X	X	-	X						
Keith Ditchen	-	-	-	X	-	-						
Lisa Stone	-	X	X	X	X	X						
Matt Dunbar	-	X	-	X	-	-						
Matt Schuster	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Stuart Olson	X	X	-	X	X	X						

Present

Guests:

Jon Iverson, Clackamas Co Farm Bureau
Richard Hostetter, MCFB Member
Betsy Verhoeven, Marion County Extension Field Crops

Staff:

Jill Ingalls

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by President Dylan Wells.

Introductions: The board introduced themselves and their farms.

Hemp & Farming - Good Neighbor Practices – Jon Iverson, Clackamas County Farm Bureau

Jon Iverson has 4 seasons growing hemp. There are now close to 50k acres in Oregon, which is causing a little bit of a gold rush. Many folks are not typical farmers, they lack experience and are having trouble, or are bound to have trouble. Investors are seeing the crop as having good potential and therefore causing a boom and possible over supply. There are a lot of investors looking to get involved, Jon fears that the prices are good now, but just like marijuana, it will become a glut.

Hemp acts as a phytoremediator which means the crop draws from the environment and cleans the air/soil. If hemp is grown for food or medical (CBD) use, it may test positive for chemicals used in day-to-day farm practices. Studies have shown that some hemp crops will "absorb" the smallest airborne particles from sources at a surprising distance with no noted overspray or issues. Jon suggests neighboring farmers be diligent in spray/drift practices and record keeping, including notification of any nearby hemp farmers, and detailed records of spray practices, time, weather, drift and precautions.

Jon reported a concern that inexperienced hemp growers may seek damages from nearby farms if their hemp fails for any reason. Additional concerns include drifting pollen from hemp -- which can travel up to 3 miles. If a neighbor plants cheap seeds and doesn't know the best practices, it can damage the quality production of knowledgeable practices due to cross pollination. Jon shared his concern that if inexperienced hemp growers fail they may be looking to place blame.

He also reported that many acres are going in with no plan for extraction or harvest processing. Jon used green houses for drying originally. They dry approximately 4 acres per week and has noticed many of the new farmers are planting with no plan for processing.

As far as good neighbor farming practices go – if you see a hemp going in, he suggests making contact with the farmer and reiterated communication is key. Jon also recommended looking into liability insurance, keeping excellent records about spray practices and drift management to protect yourself from potential claims.

Dylan shared that his concrete guy just poured a 35,000 sf warehouse for growing and processing – the building has small doors, not properly graded, a good example of folks not knowing what they are doing. Concerns that there are lawsuits on the horizon.

Betsy (Marion County Extension Field crops) suggested ODA does have resources and materials for those going into hemp.

Consent Agenda

Minutes of May 8, 2019 Meeting

MOTION: John Zielinski moved and Dana Estensen seconded to accept the minutes as presented. Board vote by raise of left hand: 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. **Motion passed.**

Financial Report

MOTION: John Zielinski moved and Kathleen Carl seconded to accept the financial report as presented. Board vote by raise of left hand: 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. **Motion passed.**

Membership Approvals:

Matthew Devine – Voting
Eric Ditchen – Voting
Kristin Lamont – Voting
Karen Rose – Voting

MOTION: John Zielinski moved and Lisa Stone seconded to accept new members as presented. Board vote by raise of left hand: 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Canola – See John Zielinski report.

Marion County Road Safety

June 20 at noon Molly McGregor will be representative from MCFB. OFB, ODA, ODOT and Marion Sheriff and media. Footage shot to promote knowledge of equipment on the road. Carl Detwiler was working to get signage out as well. John Zielinski reported Shelly Boshart Davis is sponsoring a bill to create safety zones in farm areas/creating corridors where violations are higher to encourage safe travel.

President's Report

Congrats on the new son!

John Zielinski and Dylan Wells attended the Willamette River Basin review – nothing to do with the Detroit Dam issue or reallocation issues. John passed out paperwork and invited responses on the survey. They are encouraging good saturation on reporting. Drop a pin on the map and add comments. The April flood event brought issues to attention.

Revetment – more South of the system not in Marion – many years ago Corps built levees and handed care over to property owners which were not maintained. Now the Corps recognizes they need attention on revetment process and funding issues. The Corps needs comments to help focus importance. Revetments are shown on the map on the website for comments. Corps is reviewing policy and process on everything – need input, reasons and results needed. Erosion control and all tributaries.

Staff to send out email / FB

Our voice needs to be heard!

New Business

July Meeting

MOTION: Greg Bennett moved and Lisa Stone seconded to not have a July board meeting. Board vote by raise of left hand: 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. **Motion passed.**

Willamette River Revetment Meeting Recap – John Zielinski

Reallocation is open for public comment – please take time to get your comments submitted, especially if you are using water from Willamette.

Marion County 4H Extension District

Dylan is appointed to the budget committee for the Marion County 4H Extension District. The budget committee is made up of 3 commissioners plus 3 citizens at large. The first meeting was May 29th and Dylan was otherwise occupied. At that meeting the budget committee learned the Oregon State University Extension cut the soccer program in Marion County as the result of an audit that found the soccer program does not fit with the mission. In response the Commission put money into the budget to keep the Marion County soccer program going. \$70,000 was pulled from capital and contingency. There will be a public hearing Monday at 3 p.m. at the Marion County community services building in the Silverton Room.

One Marion County 4H member voiced concern that the \$70,000 should have gone to Ag or 4H not to soccer. Coming from committee to board the budget can only be changed by 10%.

MOTION: John Zielinski moved and Stuart Olson seconded that a letter be drafted from MCFB stating that funds should be used for 4H and extension in ag for future growth in agriculture and not for soccer. Board vote by raise of left hand: 10 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain. **Motion passed.**

Public comments open 3:00 on Monday, June 17th. Staff will draft letter and send to budget officer.

Board Maintenance

Currently one board member is not meeting the attendance requirements for meetings.

Bylaws state if a member misses 3 consecutive meetings – it is grounds for removal by the board. The board discussed that the position is critical and needs to have active input.

By consensus, the board asked Dylan to follow up with Keith Ditchen and ask for his commitment to continue serving the board.

Board Appointment

Dylan brought a prospective nominee to the board for consideration of filling the South Director position. Richard Hostetler is new to farming, and very interested in getting involved with the Board. He grows cider apples and trees.

MOTION: Stuart Olson moved and John Zielinski seconded to appoint Richard Hostetler to fill the South Director term through 2020. Board vote by raise of left hand: 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. **Motion passed.**

Richard Hostettler joyfully accepted.

MCFB Committee Reports

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

Clackamas county getting close to beating us on new members. John passed out new member packet, who's who books and talking points cards. Member portal has all downloads and materials. All members can join and renew online. Dana will email welcome letter out to all board.

Annual Meeting Committee (Dylan Wells/Anne Krahmer)

Searching for locations for the annual meeting. Centrally located in the county is helpful. Oregon Garden is okay but looking to change it up.

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

OFB Convention Committee

There is work being done to try to rebrand/refresh the state annual meeting as a convention to make it more fun. The Hospitality suite has been fun and the committee trying to find elements to add. Suggestion include having a casino night, possibly a separate suite for hospitality rather than in the presidents' room. The committee recognizes the need for social opportunities. There was also talk about having activities for spouse/alternates. It's at Salishan in December. A bus tour to Newport / Aquarium, bayfront, etc was suggested. They would like to encourage families to attend and support their delegate.

YF&R is also doing a suite and looking into combining the efforts – share and partnership.

Convention committee members are made up of the immediate past county host president, the current county host president, and the immediate future county host president.

OFBF District 15 Director's report – John Zielinski

John passed out a Budget and audit report for Oregon Farm Bureau to all interested.

Bob Baker from Farm Bureau Bank – National organization has a 2.5% return rate on CD's 2.5 for 37, etc.

Worthy of looking into for MCFB. John suggested looking into the MCFB investment accounts as Farm Bureau Bank is offering some good rates. Staff will follow up with finance committee.

Canola – At the time of the state meeting May 14 – things were in not finalized.

Staff report – John will get report for inclusion in these minutes.

Highlights:

- Family Medical Leave
- Commercial Activity Tax
- Carbon tax still undergoing many changes
- New member benefit Pacific Building Systems out of Woodburn
- Baseball game on July 28th – RSVP in advance. Every person attending gets \$15 in crater cash to use in food vendors and drinks.

MOTION: John Zielinski moved and Kathleen Carl seconded that the board sponsor the Volcanoes Tribute to Ag Event at the Silver level of \$500. Board vote by raise of left hand: 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

Motion passed.

YF&R Report – Matt Dunbar – no report at this time.

Anne Krahmer reported that the FDA is doing a food safety inspection on her farm. She will report what takes place at the next meeting.

Women's Advisory Council – Jessie DeJager

Nothing to report

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.