



Marion County Farm Bureau

“Bringing Value to our Members”

Board Meeting; February 12, 2020 – 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	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Anne Krahmer	X	X									
Bruce Chapin	X	X									
Dana Estensen	X	X									
Dylan Wells	X	X									
Greg Bennett	X	-									
Jessie DeJager	X	-									
Joe Ruef	X	X									
John Zielinski	X	X									
Kathleen Carl	X	-									
Keith Ditchen	-	X									
Lisa Stone	X	X									
Matt Dunbar	X	X									
Richard Hostetter	X	X									
Stuart Olson	X	X									

Guests:

Joel Blount
 Jordan Sinn
 Caleb Wuichet
 Sam Coleman

Staff:

Jill Ingalls
 Caitlin Koenig

President Dylan Wells called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Introductions – Dylan asked that everyone in attendance introduce themselves, where they farm and what commodity.

Guest Speaker - Joel Blount of Kuedell Morrison Wealth Management – Joel reviewed the MCFB portfolio, explained investment strategy and historical trends. He distributed reports to support his presentation and told the board they were welcome to contact him with any questions.

Consent Agenda

Minutes: The board reviewed the Minutes of January 8, 2020 Meeting.

MOTION: John Zielinski moved and Joe Ruef seconded to accept the minutes as presented. **Motion passed.**

Financial Report - Dylan briefly reviewed the financial report attached in the agenda packet and explained the discussion at the recent finance committee meeting. He stated that the committee requested a proposal from Joel

Blount to maximize funds. Dylan stated the finance committee would like to see some of the cash moved to accounts that are more fiscally active than where they are currently (ie: only having what is needed in cash accounts.) He stated that he had reached out to Country Financial and US Bank to receive investment proposals from them, as well. John Zielinski reiterated that the finance committee will review proposals and they will be presented to the board and voted on before any money is moved.

MOTION: John Zielinski moved and Richard Hostetter seconded to accept the financial report as presented. **Motion Passed.**

Membership Approvals:

Anthony Stevens – Voting
Jon Heuberger – Voting
Kimberly Williams – Voting
Matt Roth – Voting
Vladimir Prokopenko – Voting

MOTION: John Zielinski moved and Anne Krahmer-Steinkamp seconded that all be approved as slated with the exception of Kimberly Williams being moved to supporting status until her farming operation is known and can be voted on. **Motion passed.**

Old Business:

Labor – Dylan said that Anne’s dad will be giving his perspective to the Labor IAC (Information Advisory Committee for AFBF) at AFBF. Dylan said last he heard the Senate has moved the labor issue (Farm Workforce Modernization Act) to committee but hasn’t heard anything further.

Membership Mailer – Dylan said things are moving and they need a picture for the postcard. Dana suggested there be a picture of a family on a farm. John pointed out that Dylan has a professional picture of his family on the farm. Dylan said it does look like the proposal was accurate with the count and approximately 5,000 will go out. There is still some address culling that needs to be done, but Dylan does not expect it to be a significant amount.

President’s Report : Dylan reported that he recently attended the AFBF annual convention in Austin, TX. Dylan said Barry Bushue was given an award for his contributions to the Ag Industry with a great presentation. He said the content of the convention was good overall. Dylan said a lot of the YF &R competitions went well. In all, there were 65 OFB members in attendance!
Dylan said upon his return from the AFBF convention, he heard from Karl Dettwyler, who runs an AG Watch page on Facebook. Karl suggested that they meet with the new sheriff and other public officials to discuss crime in the area and brainstorm ways to address it. Dylan reached out to public officials and said the county DA, Rep. Lewis, and the sheriff’s office are all interested in getting together to tackle the issue. Dylan invited board members to attend the meeting when it is scheduled.
Dylan reported that he attended the ceremony/reception for REAL OR Class 3, where 29 graduated. He said there are now 89 Alumni. He said the event was very well attended and the program is gaining momentum.
Dylan also attended WAC Legislative Days and saw Jessie & Roger DeJager, Connie Long, and Kathleen Carl. He said the event was attended largely by Republican Legislators. The short session allowed for very brief visits from the legislators in attendance. Dylan said he enjoyed a brief discussion with Betsy Johnson and she expressed disappointment with lack of bipartisan activity during the short session.
Dylan reviewed a recent action alert regarding new Cap and Trade fuel tax language and highlighted that the change in language is misleading. The change would break the state into 3 regions in a proposed effort to relieve the financial burden on rural communities. Dylan pointed out that this proposal is flawed as all fuel comes in through Portland; Therefore breaking it in 3 regions not going to actually create the effect many would expect. Stuart asked if there was any news on the Pesticide Issue. Dylan stated that he submitted testimony on the pesticide issue to Rep. Lewis, to which Rep. Lewis had some questions. Dylan included Lisa & Ben Stone and Mary Ann in the conversation.

New Business:

I-5 Aurora-Donald Interchange Support Request – Dylan presented the request and the letter template offered to the board. Dylan disclosed that he does own property nearby the interchange. Dana said she thinks they should support the request as that area is very dangerous. Keith added that he went through there today and was very concerned about safety. Dylan asked if any other board members had an opinion on the interchange and/or how this change would impact them; no one added.

MOTION: Kieth Ditchen moved and Dana Estensen seconded to submit a letter of support. **Motion passed.**

MCFB Committee Reports

Ag Tour (*Dana Estensen/Stuart Olson/Lisa Stone*) – Dana discussed the bus quotes with the board. She said she is still working on tour route and would like to plan it for the end of March and asked if there was a preferred day of the week. John suggested that county candidates be invited. Dana said some of the stops being considered were: Oregon Flowers, Abiqua Dairy, Coleman Hops, Adlemans Peony, Trellis brewing. Dana asked that if anyone has any contacts with the farms being considered for the tour that they send it to her.

Finance (*Dylan Wells/Stuart Olson/Richard Hostetter/John Zielinski/Kathleen Carl/Matt Schuster*) – Richard reported that the group would like to move the CDs because they are earning very little and are not keeping up with inflation. Dylan stated that he has made some headway with the US Bank manager in Woodburn.

Safety Training (*Keith Ditchen/Dana Estensen*) – Dana reported that she gave Caitlin the contact info for a CPR certifier. Caitlin stated that she spoke with the certifier, Tim from Silverton CPR. She liked that he has his own facility and can accommodate large class sizes. The only downfall was that he does not offer a Spanish language class. Dana said as a certifier he was very engaging. Caitlin asked if anyone knew of a Spanish CPR trainer and if they do to please connect with her.

Scholarship (*Dana Estensen/Lisa Stone/Kathleen Carl/Destinee Schuster*) – Caitlin stated that the applications have been posted on the website and distributed to all contacts from the past with the request that the applications be shared with any eligible candidates.

PBS Scholarship Raffle- At Dylan's request, Caleb Wuichet told the board about the scholarship raffle being offered by PBS to OFB members. He said the application is not finalized but will be up on their website soon. The scholarship raffle will draw a winner on National Ag Day (March 24). The requirement is that you must be an OFB member or immediate family member of an OFB member. Caitlin will add the raffle in the newsletter.

OFB Advisory Committees

Land Use - John said he was only able to attend for half an hour. While he was there, he said the issues discussed were:

- dog training facility and how it is taxed
- surveying and land boundary issues
- questioning farm-direct marketing

John informed the board that there is also an ODA board meeting to pass resolution 310 tomorrow. He said this resolution does not constitute law, but gives the director a direction to work and try to implement a plan through the proper channels. John said he will be attending the meeting tomorrow to give commentary on behalf of the Oregon Agritourism Partnership and emphasized he will not be speaking on behalf of OFB. He said Travel Oregon will also be weighing in. He said OAP would like to have more information and are requesting another cycle before a decision is made.

Government Affairs – John said he also attended the Government Affairs committee meeting and said a trip in April to go to DC was discussed. Dylan said the committee is also working on some organizational things, but not much more content than what has already been discussed.

Tax – Bruce said he attended the Tax Committee meeting. He said they really need Cap and Trade letters to legislators. The other issue they are watching is corporation activity tax. They also discussed tax assessor issues relating to personal property tax and defining what is farm machinery and what is a stationary part of the building.

OFBF District 15 Director's report (*John Zielinski*)

John started his report by briefly reporting state-wide concerns by county.

- Grant/Harney – water and drone issues
- Sherman – weed control (Azure Farms)
- Baker – DEQ issues
- Coos/Curry – Drones, logging, tide-gates
- Klamath – water
- Linn – Ditch issues as result of a dam removal
- Benton/Lincoln – hwy 20 construction, gravel pit expansion, potential insurance issue
- Tillamook – Membership struggles due to creamery, ditches, and water
- Gilliam/Morrow/Umatilla – DEQ mega dairy regulations
- Hood River/Sherman/Wasco – Labor
- Jefferson/Deschutes – habitat conservation
- Multnomah – pesticide

He said there was a presentation about the Governor's 100 year water plan and then they went to the capitol to testify about Cap and Trade. John said he was supposed to take the floor at 4pm but wasn't called up until 6:45pm. He said he also attended the Timber Unity rally. The next day he said they attended the OFB PAC meeting.

He said there were not as many political updates because public policy staff was all working at the capitol. He reiterated that it is really important to pay attention to action alerts because it really comes down to numbers in the end when legislators are casting votes.

YF&R Report (*Matt Dunbar*) – Matt Dunbar reported that Jon Iverson is now on the national YF & R and will be sworn in in Louisville, KY in March. In an effort to ramp up support within youth organizations YF & R will be attending the state FFA convention March 19-22 and will be passing out fliers and engaging with students there. He said he will be tapping into his budget to purchase a Kindle tablet to give out as a prize at their booth. Matt said the national YF&R leadership conference will be in Louisville March 13-16. He said he would like to be able to attend and asked the board if they would be willing to help with airfare costs for Sam Coleman and himself.

He stated that Marion County YF&R had a meeting at a taco shop in Woodburn and discussed ways to engage the county/state more and increase participation. He said they set up another meeting for April 4th at Trellis Brewing to continue the discussion. Matt said he will make an event on Facebook to spread the word.

Dana asked Matt about his current YF&R budget and asked if the funds for the airfare could come from that. Matt explained that he has earmarked those funds to help others attend local YF&R events and hopes to be able to increase participation. Dylan noted that they did not come close to using all the budgeted funds for state and AFBF conventions and suggested money could come from those funds as well.

MOTION: Dana Estensen moved and Bruce Chapin seconded to pay for Matt and Sam's flights up to \$1200 to attend the National YF&R Convention in Louisville. **Motion Passed**

Women's Advisory Council (*Jessie DeJager*) – no report

Discussion - Dylan told the board that the next President's meeting is Monday February 17 at the OFB office in the Hall of Fame. He asked that board members let him know if there are any issues they would like him to bring up at the meeting.

Dana asked that board members let her know when they testify so she can keep track when it comes to submitting for Agro Awards.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.