



# Marion County Farm Bureau

"Bringing Value to our Members"

Board Meeting: September 12, 2018 – 6:30pm  
Meeting is open to all MCFB members and guests

1320 Capitol St NE, Salem, OR 97301

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

**Staff:**

Jill Ingalls  
Caitlin Koenig

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

Dylan directed board members to take 103 and 104 marketing materials currently in the OFB office - especially if members have frontage in high traffic areas. Dylan said there are no restrictions on posting, but urged board members to be aware of right of way when installing signs.

**Consent Agenda**

The board reviewed the minutes of August 8, 2018 Meeting

**MOTION:** Moved by Greg Bennett and seconded by Matt Schuster to approve minutes from the August 8, 2018 meeting as presented. **Motion passed.**

Caitlin Koenig presented the financial report.

**MOTION:** Moved by Bruce Chapin and seconded by Kathleen Carl to approve financial report as presented. **Motion passed.**

Bruce Chapin added to previous board member comments that he is impressed with membership levels. He acknowledged work by YF&R and the Marion County Fair t-shirts as having a positive impact on recruitment.

**Membership Approvals:**

Shonda Warner – Voting  
Greg Buyseire – Voting

Mark Sinn – Voting  
Craig Nussbaum – Supporting  
Virgle McVey – Voting

**MOTION:** Moved by Kathleen Carl and seconded by Lisa Stone to accept members as presented. **Motion passed.**

### **Old Business:**

#### **Solar Farming Work Group**

Bruce Chapin reported that the Solar Farming Work Group has met three times to collect info; however they have yet to discuss strategy for reviewing proposals. As a result, he feels they don't have a good handle on the direction of the group just yet. John's impression is that there will be some disparity between industry and ag as represented within the group. Dylan's impression is that the planner and planning commission are favorable to farming. Bruce would like to have a motion that he, John and Dylan attend the meetings as official representatives of the Marion County Farm Bureau while contributing to the solar farming work group.

**MOTION:** Moved by Kathleen Carl and seconded by Greg Bennett that Bruce Chapin, John Zielinski, and Dylan Wells be the official Marion County Farm Bureau representatives within the Marion County Solar Farming Work Group. **Motion passed.**

Bruce asked the board to identify their hardlines when it comes to advising on the solar farming work group. Bruce read the policy set forth by the Oregon Farm Bureau to the board and stated he would like to stay within that definition but would like a more specific definition for what constitutes as "high value farm land".

The recommendations and issues discussed were:

- Clarify and define what constitutes as high value farm land
  - Limitations to be more in line with current ag industry standards that state you cannot mine it if it is more than 30% class 1 and 2 soils.
    - Bruce believes this to be a good starting point with the option to increase to 50% if need be. Kathleen Carl said she felt 50% is too much.
- Recommend solar farming in areas where the government has put restrictions on ag farming, for example:
  - No spray zones,
  - Wetland setbacks
  - Hiking trails and bike paths
  - High traffic areas - areas bordering the highways
    - Overall, if you can't farm it, put solar panels on it.
- Policy that would protect the farmland and soil for future use
  - herbicides prohibited
  - water rights protected
  - ground undisturbed by rocks
- Process with tax assessor office so that taxes can be allocated to the renter.
  - Currently the county does not allow allocated taxes on a long term lease and these operations would be not be eligible for farm deferral.
- Established language that the county has the authority to mitigate complaints

The next solar farming work group is set to meet September 26, 2018.

#### **Agro Awards**

Dylan would like board members to take portions of the application and compile based off what they know or have previously participated in. Dylan would like someone to take the lead. Dana expressed interest during the previous meeting, but indicated she would like help.

#### **President's Report**

No Report - all issues in the agenda.

#### **New Business**

#### **OFB Resolutions**

John Zielinski suggested there might be an opportunity to submit a resolution as it pertains to solar farming and the wording/definition of high value farm land. Dylan and Bruce would like to have a committee decision for a resolution as it pertains to solar farming and OFB policy wording. They agreed they would submit the resolution after their Solar Farming Work Group meeting at the end of the month.

### **Ag Show FFA Scholarship**

Dylan reported that he was approached by Matt Bunch of the Clackamas County Farm Bureau about offering transportation grants to local FFA chapters to support their attendance at the ag show in Salem. He said that they would like to raise \$2500 for grants. The board agreed that they would like more information about what exactly is being requested and how the monies will be allocated.

### **Women's Advisory Council**

John Zielinski asked the board for their overall opinion of the Women's Advisory Council's relevance in current times. The board agreed that there is still a need for many of the services the council provides, but that it might do well with some restructuring to create a stronger appeal to the younger generations. The board recognized there has been a shift in roles as it pertains to women in farming, but the council still holds a valuable place within the farm bureau. John Zielinski recommended Jenny Freeborn make a proposal for updating the structure of the Women's Advisory Council and have the board support her stance.

### **Bank Stabilization Project**

John reported that Mary Anne approached him in regard to ditch maintenance and regulations regarding that maintenance. He stated that she wanted to know if mechanical dredging of ditches is sufficient or if other practices are needed? The board agreed that they need the ability to use more practices than just mechanical cleaning to properly maintain ditches.

Dylan reported that Mary Anne has been approached by the Corps and they are interested in hosting a round table with NMFS, and DSL to discuss ways to resolve bank stabilization issues. Dylan asked that board members identify and reach out to farmers that have been impacted and send statements to Mary Anne as it pertains to loss of farm land to Willamette River Systems.

### **Advertisements in FarmGram**

Jill asked if Willamette Valley Ag Expo could advertise in FarmGram. Bruce suggested it be on a case by case basis and see if it is deemed to be a value to the membership.

**MOTION:** Bruce Chapin moved and John Zielinski seconded that the MCFB allow advertisements be sold as long as it is a benefit to members as a whole. **Motion passed.**

### **MCFB Committee Reports**

#### **MCFB Annual Meeting** (Dylan Wells /Annie Krahmer)

Dylan reported the committee has decided on a 50s Sock Hop Theme. He said there will be awards for best costume. He has also booked Joe Stoddard to perform music and comedy during the event. Dylan acknowledged there will be board positions open and he would like board members to think about potential candidates. Dylan would like to have any potential candidates at the October meeting. It was also discovered there are terms limits to board service and Dylan would like the roster to be updated to not only show when terms expire, but also where board members are within that term expiration policy.

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

Dylan asked that board members reach out to unpaid members to request their renewal. Caitlin will send out updated spreadsheet to the board with member number included. Dylan reported that MCFB has the most new members for the state.

#### **OFB Annual Meeting** (John Zielinski)

John reported that the social has been arranged and plans on working on scheduling talks during the reception. He is also working on having some professionals present on new tax laws and issues during downtime periods of the convention. Dylan reported that the hospitality suite has been booked as well.

#### **CPR Class** (Keith Ditchen/Matt Schuster)

Dylan asked Matt if anything was in the works for the CPR class. Dylan said he would like to see some work to get the class organized with a date set by the time of the annual meeting so that it can be announced there. John suggested forklift training and propane handling be looked into as well.

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

Bruce reported that the Agri Committee met a couple of weeks ago to discuss the possibility of the Ag Industry developing another bill. He reported that Mary Anne was going to set up a meeting with Rich to work something out before the legislative session opens back up.

Matt Schuster reported that the next water meeting is October 24<sup>th</sup> – ground water advisory committee is looking for new members. It's an important position to have ag represented in.

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

John Zielinski reported that he had just been involved in two days worth of Oregon Farm Bureau meetings that covered quite a bit of information. Topics discussed were as follows:

- Flegels are concerned about Endangered Species Act reforms.
- Harney County would like more insurance agents involved.
- Dean Freeborn from Polk County discussed solar issues.
- Hood River reported they are experiencing a major labor shortage. This year there are only about 500 H2a migrant workers. They are reporting there are still a lot of roadblocks to using the H2a program.
- Klamath discussed WOTUS in district court.
- Kelvin Coons from OSU is now on state board as Ex Officio.
- Alan Sams is the new Dean of Ag at OSU. He was previously at Texas A&M.
- There are open positions on Department of Ag board and a number of Farm Bureau Members have applied for positions.
- Peggy Brown has been promoted within FSA and is now organizing on a national level.
- Johnathon Sandau gave a report and will readdress the board regarding strategy going forward as it pertains to the 2019 session after election results are in.
- Peter Courtney let it be known his 2 main concerns going into the session are Carbon and Education.
- Marion County Assessor has determined his interpretation of the law would allow anything wired or bolted down to be considered personal property. John said the County Assessor is not opposed to redefining the law, but that is how it sits as it is written currently. OFB is working on a fix.
- In Clackamas County a farmer was cited for going too slow on a tractor even though he had proper lighting. John stated it was discovered the deputy was not out of line after reviewing the law. OFB is looking to some administrative fixes or corrections to the law to protect tractors being on roadways.
- There was a berry picker accident at night over this summer fueled suggestions that ag equipment should be prohibited on roadways at night. OFB is looking at a recommendation
- Legislature requested the ODA do a study on Canola. The report found there is no adverse result from canola on other brassicas, however the study did not take into account the market impact on other brassicas if canola is being grown in close proximity. John thinks it looks like canola could be coming back as an issue.
- A win reported was that all animal meds do not need to go through a veterinarian.
- ODA and OR Water Resources Dept has been pulling from pesticide fees to cover administrative costs to manage cannabis. In order to recoup those costs they are talking about developing a new fee structure to manage cannabis.
- Sen. Courtney is working with Oregon Farm Bureau on a farm worker housing bill to provide a tax credit.
- TMDL was discussed again. Mary Anne said they are working with Oregon Forestry Industry Council to hire a consultant to help develop a plan on the origin of the Mercury and how to manage it. The ultimate goal is to be able to work with DEQ and EPA on a solution.
- Willamette Water Allocation – 327,000 acre ft with 1.5million acre ft available, the balance going to fish, recreation, and municipalities. Municipalities are currently requesting more. Current usage is at about 80,000 acre ft. The question now remains: Do they shoot for more water access for Ag? Congressman Schrader said he was upset with that number and believes a lot more should be allocated to Ag. The Farm Bureau Board of Directors recognizes it is a gamble to request more and is awaiting information before offering a directive.
- Mary Anne questioned the board about their stance on artificial beaver dams in Eastern Oregon. The directors supported artificial beaver dams.
- Ag Land Trust was talked about. The board agreed they would work on potentially joining another group that is already in the process of developing an Ag Land Trust. They want to make sure the group is comprised of

complimentary organizations before determining whether they would join forces. Should the other organization be deemed not in alignment with the farm bureau's mission they would then consider developing their own Ag Land Trust.

- Jenny talked about payroll tax, paid family leave, and pay equity. Currently researching the cost of paid sick leave to get a better picture of the total cost. John cautioned board members to be meticulous in their documentation as to why their employees are getting raises.
- John discovered he has been term limited out of his position on the Issue Advisory Council in DC. He said 3 of the 4 positions from Oregon have been eliminated as a result. Barry nominated Barb Iverson to represent labor for Oregon
- Carbon Cap and Trade is priority for the Governor in the legislative session. OFB reported that they got some good info as result of the energy survey they sent out and will be taking a tiered approach to kill the issue. If they can't kill it, they will try to reduce the cost to agriculture.
- State Board is supporting Knute Bueler and would like to see support for him because ag issues have not benefitted under current leadership of Governor Brown. They feel ag might have a fighting chance with new leadership.
- Measure 103 is a value added tax.
- Measure 104 requiring a 2/3 vote to get a tax issue through the legislature.
- Emphasis on encouraging voting in the upcoming election. I Farm, I Vote will be ramping up.
- Scott Dahlman from OFS is doing worker protection standards presentations that will give 2 core credits towards pesticide application license. OFB encouraged getting members to those classes.
- Deschutes County weighed in on cannabis issues. OFB maintains that it is an Agricultural crop and therefore the right to farm should be applied.
- Peter Courtney is proposing new land use for eastern Oregon. He would like to give 50 acre exemption for land use law for industrial use.
- Amacus Brief being filed on the Hammond briefing case. Hammonds stopped by to thank the OFB for their support. Hammonds returned \$28,000 given to them by the farm bureau to support their defense and asked that it be set up to help people facing major federal injustice similar to theirs.
- Waiting on wolf delisting decision in Klamath.
- Katie Fast from OFS talked about a potential ban on chlorpyrifos and pesticide use reporting system requiring notification prior to spraying. OFS is fighting the potential ban because there is not currently a strong alternative nor do they find the science to support the ban. OFS would like to renew the pesticide stewardship program as it sunsets.
- Increased YF&R budget to support increase in activities and college campus chapters
- Future Convention Locations have been announced:
  - 2019 – Salishan
  - 2020 – Tigard
  - 2021 – Eagle Crest
  - 2022 – Hood River
- OFB approved an increase in the membership retention incentive - the member incentive for chapters is being increased from \$.50/member to \$2.50/member.

#### **YF&R Report** (Anne Krahrmer)

Anne Krahrmer attended the state meeting last month where they discussed people that will be terming out and how to turn over positions with as little disruption as possible. They are also planning on doing another big state leadership conference November 9-11 in Eagle Crest. They are expecting 100 attendees.

#### **Women's Advisory Council** (Jessie DeJager) – not present

Dylan Wells reported that he was selected to participate in REAL (Resource, Education, Agricultural Leadership Program) Oregon.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20