

**Marion County Farm Bureau
Board of Directors Meeting – March 8, 2017
MINUTES**

Board Members	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Brenda Frketich	X	X									
Bruce Chapin	X	X									
Connie Young	-	X									
Dana Estenan	X	X									
Dylan Wells	X	X									
Greg Bennett	X	X									
Joe Ruef	X	X									
John Zielinski	X	X									
Kathleen Carl	X	-									
Keith Ditchen	X	X									
Matt Schuster	X	X									
Roger DeJager	X	X									
Stuart Olson	X	X									

X= present at the meeting. No January 2017 meeting held due to weather.

President John Zielinski called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. A quorum was present:

Staff:

Lisa Van
Genoa Ingram
Laureal Williams

Guests:

Bob Dettwyler, MCFB Member
Brooke Jackson-Glidden, Statesman Journal
Anita Kennedy, Country Companies
Nellie McAdams, Attorney at Law
Annie Krahermer, Clackamas Farm Bureau
Lon Young, MCFB Member
Ben Miller, MCFB Member
Lisa Stone, MCFB Member

Consent Agenda: Minutes and Financials

The Board reviewed the minutes of the February 8, 2017, meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Roger DeJager and seconded by Brenda Frketich to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2017, as corrected. **Motion passed.**

Staff reviewed the current financial reports including the balance sheet and profit & loss, noting the increased Associate Member dues and a current net income of \$14,000 for the year thus far.

MOTION: Moved by Dylan Wells and seconded by Keith Ditchen to approve the financial reports as presented. **Motion passed.**

Guest Speaker

Nellie McAdams, Attorney at Law, provided an overview of farmland succession. Key points included the following:

- 2/3 of Oregon ranch and farm land will change hands in the next two decades, but the vast majority of Oregon farmers and ranchers do not have a plan to pass it on to the next generation.
- When there is no succession plan in place, the family often has higher costs and more family strife than a family with a well-planned estate. Unplanned estates often sell all or part of their ag land to pay these costs or compensate non-ranching family members.
- While the average age of farmers and ranchers in Oregon has never been higher (60 years old); the percentage of beginning farmers and ranchers has been declining - from 32% to 24% between 2002 and 2012.
- Beginning farmers and ranchers in Oregon face extreme challenges starting and growing a business, including affording land and infrastructure.
- The appraised value of land per acre in Marion County increased 22% from \$6,518 in 2002 to \$7,942 per acre in 2012. Actual sales prices are likely much higher.
- Tools to help include:
 - Ranch/farm succession counselors who can help people with family meetings and business valuations.
 - Working lands easements, where people sell their development rights but can still farm. This helps them generate cash from real estate without having to actually sell the land and reduces the fair market value for beginning farmers and rancher.
 - Providing a channel for private investors to invest in beginning farmers and ranchers.

Nellie also referenced [HB 3249](#) which establishes the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Fund and continuously appropriates moneys to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. The bill also authorizes use of funds for the purposes associated with supporting use of land for agricultural production, maintenance or enhancement of fish or wildlife habitat, improvement of water quality or support of other natural resource values.

Membership Approvals

- Duane Olson Farms
- Brooks Tree Farm
- Keeley Family Farm

MOTION: Moved by Brenda Frketich and seconded by Greg Bennett to approve all three applicants as voting members *en bloc*. **Motion passed.**

New Business

Coalition to defeat 21-177, Lincoln County John Zielinski provided an overview of a measure 21-77, also known as the “Freedom From Aerially Sprayed Pesticides of Lincoln County”, which will be placed on Lincoln County’s May 2017 Special Election ballot.

MOTION: Moved by Brenda Frketich Brenda and seconded by Greg Bennet to allocate \$3,000 to oppose the measure. Bruce Chapin suggested a friendly amendment to increase the amount to \$5,000.

MOTION: Moved by Brenda Frketich and seconded by Greg Bennet to amend the original motion to \$5,000. **Motions passed.**

Old Business

CPR Update Two CPR/First Aid classes held at OFB yesterday, 13 in the AM class and 11 in the PM class. Board members Bruce Chapin, Matt Schuster and Keith Ditchen all attended. The Spanish CPR class is scheduled for March 20 and is currently full; staff has started a waiting list.

MCFB Logo Update Brenda Frketich circulated drafts of possible new logos for MCFB. **By consensus**, the Board agreed to move forward with Concept #1.

Recap of Testimony on HB 2859 – Brenda Frketich/Bruce Chapin

- SB 1008 – Diesel and Emissions bill – Ag got an exemption but will still need to provide a list of equipment.
- SB 779 – Sick leave fix to not include family members in the employee count. Senate took unit to task and the went very well for ag.
- SB 2589 – Over 100 farmers were present; the bill would have removed tax breaks on personal property and eliminated farm deferral. All onerous provisions for ag have been removed.

Elsinore Theater, NORPAC Award John noted that the Board had agreed by consensus at the February meeting to present an award to NORPAC. He discussed language for the award to include food **and fiber**.

STEAM Program Anita Kennedy discussed partnering for sponsorship of the STEAM program. Dylan added that another meeting was scheduled for the following day. The Boys and Girls Club has been very involved and coordinators are looking for additional ideas to bring agriculture into the program. Dylan is working on a repeat of last year's scavenger hunt related to farming issues. Bob Dettwyler suggested emphasizing the quantity of pesticides used. Anita offered to match \$2,000 if MCFB would commit to that amount.

MOTION: Moved by Brenda Frketich and seconded by Connie Young to allocate \$2,000 to the STEAM program. **Motion passed.**

President's Report

House District 18 Selection Process President Zielinski reported on the process for filling the legislative seat recently vacated by Rep. Vic Gilliam. He reported that the Clackamas County and Marion County Commissioners held a joint session on Wednesday, February 22, and Rick Lewis was selected. He would like to attend a future meeting of the MCFB Board.

Willamette Basin John reported that he had attended a meeting at Water Resources regarding the allocation of waters in the Willamette Basin. Agriculture is in competition with recreational, domestic, municipal, and wildlife usage.

MCFB Committee Reports

County Presidents: President Zielinski noted that the County Presidents recently met with Arnie Roblan, Brian Clem, Mike McClain, Jodi Hack, and Fred Girod to discuss current ag-related legislative issues such as: the Department of Agriculture budget, the Cap and Trade water measurement, and paid sick leave. John also reported that OFB staff member Roberta Gruber is travelling to county farm bureaus to speak about labor compliance issues. He asked if the Board was interested in meeting with her prior to the beginning of harvest season. The Board responded

affirmatively and staff was act to contact Roberta. The Board also expressed interested in inviting Ann Marie to discuss social media and public interaction next Fall.

Ag Tour Staff report that all tour stops have been confirmed; a final draft of the schedule is in being reviewed by our contacts to approve prior to publication. **By consensus**, the Board approved the \$25.00 ticket price.

Scholarships Application revisions have been confirmed, staff is working to get both in a fillable format and expect to have them on the website by end of this week; will also be promoted in MCFB newsletter, with OFB and on social media. Due date is June 1.

Advisory Committees

Labor Committee John reported that there was an excellent turn-out for the Labor Committee.)

Goose Depredation A study has been commissioned to investigate the cost of crop damaged caused by geese. Jefferson County was noted as experiencing significant crop damage.

OFBF District 15 Director's Report

Bruce Chapin reported that a legislative proposal is being considered to ban the use of anti-biotics in livestock until the animal is actually sick. Additionally, GMO legislation will resurface this session.

Bruce again encouraged Board members to watch for action alerts and be ready to testify on real-life circumstances.

YF&R

Brenda Frketich reported that the group will be meeting next month with Rep. Rick Lewis.

Women's Advisory Council

Connie Young provided a summary of the Council's recent activity and noted that Jessie DeJager has been appointed as a member-at-large.

April Agenda Items

Pesticide credit class (Polk Co) – next October?

Adjourn

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.