

**Marion County Farm Bureau  
Board of Directors Meeting – April 13, 2016  
MINUTES**

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

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

John Zielinski, President  
Troy Hadley, Vice President  
Greg Bennett  
Kathleen Carl  
Dana Estensen  
Bruce Chapin  
Roger DeJager  
Bob Dettwyler  
Brenda Frketich  
Stuart Olson  
Joe Sherman  
Matt Schuster  
Dylan Wells  
Connie Young  
Keith Ditchen

**Guests:**

Joe Fennimore, Marion County Planner  
Jenny Dressler, OFB  
Jamie Cowertz RS Energy  
James Hutchins, Country Financial

**Staff:**

Jessica Carpenter  
Genoa Ingram

**Guest Speakers**

*Joe Fennimore*, Marion County Planner, reported that while the Marion County Board of Commissioners did prohibit marijuana businesses in the unincorporated parts of the county (with the exception of two current medical dispensaries that were grandfathered in), voters will decide in November whether or not to uphold the prohibition. Should the ban be lifted, it would go into effect on January 1, 2017, and the 3 percent tax on recreational marijuana sales passed in another ordinance will go into effect. Additionally, the County must have an ordinance in place to implement the law. Joe noted that it is considered farm use. However, unlike other crops, the County may regulate time, manner and place of grow operations. He explained that the process begins next week with a meeting of the County Planning Commission, followed by public hearing and then referral to the Marion County Commissioners. .

*Jamie Cowertz*, RS Energy, discussed tax credits and other incentive programs available to promote solar energy projects and responded to questions regarding solar energy collection systems.

**Consent Agenda: Minutes and Financials**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the March 9, 2016, meeting.

**MOTION:** Moved by Troy Hadley and seconded by Roger Dejager to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2016, meeting as presented. **Motion passed.**

Staff reviewed the current financial reports including the Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss, noting that expenses are tracking with the budget.

**MOTION:** Moved by Bob Dettwyler and seconded by Troy Hadley to approve the financials as presented. **Motion passed.**

### **Membership Approvals**

No applications submitted.

### **President's Report**

President Zielinski reported on the following items:

- Special House of Delegates meeting: Roger Dejager, Keith Ditchen and Troy Hadley participated in the consideration of a dues increase for Associate Members. The proposal passed and OFB will begin billing Associate Members \$20 instead of the current \$15. OFB will be looking for feedback on how the additional funds should be distributed. One proposal is to leave more in control of the State to give to counties without many resources, perhaps in the form of a grant, similar to the Helping Hands program.
- Kurt Schrader Event: The possibility of sponsorship of a fundraiser is being discussed. John will mention it to Gail Greenman.
- Campaign Season: MCFB has been contacted by candidates, including a Democratic candidate in District 18. It was determined that the Board would postpone any meetings until after the Primary and then invite them to the Candidate Forum.

### **Committee Reports:**

*Ag Tour:* Stuart Olson noted that he hoped more people would turn out for the evening event. He appreciated this year's bus driver and hoped to have him back for future events. The possibility of moving the event up two weeks was discussed but it was decided to leave it the first part of April due to weather concerns. It was also suggested that attendees be given name tags so MCFB knows who its attendees are.

*Scholarship:* Brenda Frketich reviewed revised scholarship applications for the Mary Petzel and Scott Miller Scholarships. The Committee recommends that the Petzel Scholarship be made available to members of the FFA, 4H, and Farm Bureau members and their families. It further recommends that the Scott Miller Scholarship be made available to Farm Bureau families only, including grandchildren and immediate family members. Finally, biographies of both Scott Miller and Mary Petzel should be included on the applications.

**MOTION:** Moved by Troy Hadley and seconded by Kathleen Carl to approve the recommendations with the clarified to include immediate family members. **Motion passed.**

*OFB Convention:* No report. John asked Jenny Dressler and Bruce Chapin to remind OFB that two MCFB Board members have volunteered to help with the Annual Convention.

*Membership:* Dylan Wells reported that no meetings had been scheduled.

## **Old Business**

**Spot Checking Pesticide Applicator** Brenda Frketich reported that she and Jenny Dressler met with ODA and the agency agreed to step back. Brenda indicated that it was a productive meeting with the ODA agreeing to develop protocols prior to conducting spot checks. There was discussion regarding whether violations should contain addresses to avoid confusion over which farms were not in compliance.

**CPR Classes** Staff reported that the two CPR courses for Spanish speaking students had been held, with three attendees the first day and seven the second. Classes ran smoothly and appeared to be a success.

**Marion County Fair Sponsorship**: Board members discussed the \$5,000 request from Marion County Fair to be a major sponsor. There have been discussions with Country Financial to split the cost of the sponsorship. Dylan Wells reported that the program has developed since last meeting and Alameda County in California has very successfully implemented a program. The purpose of the program is to draw kids to the fair and bring agriculture in to the schools via the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Agriculture and Math) program. There is a large outreach planned to reach students and Marion County School Districts will have the program in its schools. The \$5,000 contribution would put MCFB on the ground floor of the planning process.

**MOTION**: Moved by Connie Young and seconded by Bruce Chapin to approve \$1,200 to sponsor the STEAM program. **Motion failed**.

**MOTION**: Moved by Brenda Frketich and seconded by Bruce Chapin to contribute \$1,500, to be matched by Country Financial for sponsorship of the STEAM program and input into the agriculture informational efforts. **Motion passed**.

## **New Business**

**Ag Fest** Connie Young reported that Ag Fest is scheduled for April 23-24. A 4-H club is being sought to assist both Saturday and Sunday. It was suggested that Cascade High be contacted for assistance. Dylan Wells will also be available on site to assist, as will Dana Estensen.

**UGB Workshop** Staff referenced the letter from Brandon Reich, Senior Planner, Marion County, asking if there was any interest in holding a "Population and Urban Growth Boundary Workshop." If it is determined there is interest, the effort will move forward. Staff reported that an email reply had been sent, indicating that MCFB would like to be included if the Workshop is held.

**Water Quality** Troy Hadley reported that he had been asked to sit on a Water Quality Advisory Committee where there was discussion that in November a Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District Director had issued 26 complaints with ODA in a single day. He suggested that farmers be mindful of their practices, particularly not to spray or fertilize ditches. OFB was invited to attend the meeting but had a conflict.

## **Advisory Committees**

No report. Labor Committee will meet on Thursday at 1:30 at the OFB.

## **OFBF District 15 Director's Report**

Bruce Chapin reported that the Board will meet May 18-19 to discuss the Associate Member dues. MCFB will meet on May 11 and will provide input to OFB on the subject.

### **YF&R**

Brenda Frketich reported that the group had met at Hathaways followed by the OSU Convention. The Ag Tour on Friday and Saturday has been sold out.

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

No additional report.

### **Agenda Items for May**

SB 1573, passed during the 2016 Regular Session, which removes the requirement to vote on annexation upon receipt of a petition for annexation submitted by all land owners within the territory (under certain conditions).

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 11, at the Court Street office in Salem.

### **Adjourn**

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.