



UPPER WILLAMETTE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## 61<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

**FEBRUARY 9, 2016      1:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

### **Food for Lane County Board Room**

770 Bailey Hill Rd. Eugene, OR 97402

#### **MEETING MINUTES**

**Attendees:** Nancy Toth (EWEB), Jim Bruvhold, Alan & Joanne Petersen, Andy & Gretchen Petersen, Matt & Hailey Buch, Tom Burnham, Wallace Jennings

**Board Attending:** Gary Jensen, Ralph Perkins, Paul Reed, Tim Hovet, Todd Anderson,

**Staff Attending:** Dave Downing, Lynn Gilliland.

Beginning at 12:45 All 18 attendees enjoyed a lunch while chatting and soaking up the warmer and sunny afternoon. Manette Simpson (USDA) joined the meeting later.

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**Welcome:** Chair, Gary Jensen welcomed everyone at 1:10 pm. And gave a brief overview of what the UWSWCD does, as well as what organizations we work with.

Gary then told of the 501C non-profit (Willamette Valley Clean Water Alliance) formed to assist in funding sources for the District.

All attendees introduced themselves. Gary added the District is looking for a Director in Zone 1.

District handouts included the Agenda, the 2014-15 Annual Report and the 2014-15 Budget. The 2014-15 Audit Review was present.

**Report of the Annual Review:** Todd Anderson – gave an overview of the financial status of the District. We are always looking for additional funding options. The District is in good shape and operates within our budget.

Tim was asked to give a brief description of the Alliance. Tim introduced the board of the Alliance, and explained the mission of the 501C – and their goal of educating elementary age children for the future of clean water.

**Report of ODA:** Dave Downing – Gave an overview of the LMA (Ag Water Programs), Gettings Creek Projects, Riparian project is close to reaching its measurable goal of 20%. Landowner participation is totally voluntary, but critical to the project. If landowners are resistant the ODA could step in. He also mentioned several other major projects and enhancements the District is working on in the coming year.

Lily Leitermann, Watershed Tech was absent today. Dave filled in on the McKenzie Collaborative VIP update: He explained the program structure and pilot process. Nancy Toth (EWEB) will give a presentation on the project in a few minutes.

**NRCS Report:** Tom Burnham – spoke to the handouts he presented; USDA Farm Bill Programs through the Eugene office, Conservation Implementation Strategies, Easements for several areas of conservation in Oregon and the Healthy Forest Reserve Program.

**Keynote Speaker:** Nancy Toth (EWEB Environmental Specialist & Drinking Water Protection) gave an informative PowerPoint presentation on the McKenzie Collaborative VIP program, along with a video on alternative to pesticide use on hazelnut crops in the McKenzie River area.

**Cooperator of the Year Award:** Dave Downing gave an introduction to the O Petersen Ranch. A plaque was awarded to O. Petersen & Sons Ranch and Farm. The ranch was started in 1889 and is a 7<sup>th</sup> generation ranch – committed land stewards and symbolize conservation is all about. Andy responded how fortunate they are to have such great collaborative partners in this area. Gary reiterated the Petersen's are a great example of change, and they are very much appreciated.

Gary Jensen adjourned the meeting at 2:35.

Respectively submitted

Lynn Gilliland  
UWSWCD Administrative Assistant