



UPPER WILLAMETTE

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Project Committee Meeting Minutes – Draft

Thursday March 23, 2022; 3:00 PM

Meeting held via Zoom

Members Present: Al Hrynshyn, Dave Downing, Mary Durfee and Malcolm Wilson. Staff Present: Leslie Owens and Clarissa Berndt

- 1. Call meeting to order:** Meeting was called to order at 3:03 pm by Director Hrynshyn.
Agenda: Director Wilson added an item to the agenda. He wants to discuss the budget and possible project with EWEB.
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** Director Hrynshyn moved to approve the March 3, 2022, as presented. Director Wilson gave the second with the motion passing unanimously, with a vote of 4-0.
- 3. Discussions:** Dave Downing gave an overview of the UWSWCD Farmers Market Grant Program, and the consensus from the committee was to propose this Grant Program to the board of directors. The Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District's (UWSWCD) Farmers Market Grant Program awards grants up to \$5,000 per market location for projects and events that promote conservation and support local food systems through community farmers markets in central and eastern Lane County. Successful project applications will encourage community and vendor participation in market events, educate the public on conservation or agricultural topics, and/or make local agricultural products accessible to diverse demographics. Director Hrynshyn asked the committee their thoughts. The consensus was that they would like to bring the Grant to the Board of Directors for a vote.

Director Wilson explained a conversation that he had in the Budget Committee Meeting held on 3/22/2022. He mentioned the idea of reallocating funds from the Reserve fund to a project with EWEB for rate relief purposes. Dave Downing mentioned that he spoke with EWEB representatives and discussed the logistics of utilizing unallocated dollars as a rebate to EWEB'S customers and it was determined that it would not be feasible for that to occur due to the logistics. Dave then mentioned a new Wildfire Recovery Grant as an alternative to assist the unmet needs of affected landowners currently in the McKenzie Watershed District. He also mentioned that this Grant is still very much in its planning phase and will not be put into place until the planning process is complete. The Committee consensus was that this grant is another great idea.

- 4. Meeting Adjourned:** Meeting was adjourned at 4:19 pm.

All supporting documents mentioned in the minutes are a part of the official record and are available upon request. Please contact the office at admin@uwsxcd.org to request copies.

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