



Grant Soil and Water Conservation District
721 S. Canyon Blvd. - John Day, OR 97845 - Phone (541) 575-0135
MINUTES OF GRANT SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S
October 5th 2017 MEETING

Attendance

Directors:

Phil St. Clair - Director
Pat Voigt - Director
Roger Ediger – Director
Ted Clausen – Associate Director

Joanne Keerins – Director
Rick Henslee - Director
Nick Stiner – Associate Director

Staff:

Pat Holliday – Program Assistant
Levi Voigt – District Engineer
Kyle Sullivan – Engineering/GIS Technician

Jason Kehrberg - District Manager
Cole Winegar – Engineering Technician

Visitors:

Amy Charette – Confederated Tribes Warm Springs
Joe Lemanski - Confederated Tribes Warm Springs
Aaron Roth – Natural Resources Conservation Service

Amy Stiner – South Fork Watershed Council
Marti Martino – Blue Mt. Land Trust

1. Call Meeting to Order – Pat Voigt called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.
2. Approval of Minutes - **Phil moved to approve the September 7th, 2017 meeting minutes. Joanne gave the second with the motion passing unanimously.**
3. Introduction of Visitors – Amy Charette introduced Joe Lemanski, Monitoring Biologist with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.
4. Public Input – There was no public input.

REPORTS – No reports were presented due to the Director Project Tour.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

5. Blue Mt. Land Trust Presentation – Marti introduced herself as the Blue Mt. Land Trust John Day Conservation Manager. Marti is originally from Detroit and attended the University of Oregon Law School. Blue Mt. Land Trust opened an office in John Day in July of 2017. Blue Mt. Land Trust, organized as a 501c3 nonprofit, is guided by a Board of Directors and has four full time staff members with their main office located in Walla Walla, Washington. BMLT currently holds 12 conservation easements totaling 3,800 acres, including a 3,000 acre working cattle ranch. The conversion of large agricultural acreages to non-farm uses and a huge generational transfer of land ownerships are anticipated in the next 20 years in the John Day River Basin. A major goal of BMLT is to ensure that farms and ranches remain economically and environmentally viable. BMLT’s presence in the John Day River Basin will provide another resource to landowners to better preserve their working lands. Marti will be assisting with education and outreach to local landowners on conservation easements. She will be happy to give public presentation to area residents and groups on the resources BMLT can provide to landowners. BMLT will be working with the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program, established by the Oregon Legislature to address the fragmentation of farmland and conversion of farmland to non-farm uses. The Directors questioned and discussed the value of perpetuity to a conservation easement.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

6. Financial Report/Financial Summary – Financial reports for the month of September 2017 were reviewed.
7. Approve Bills – **Phil moved to approve the bills and financial reports for the month of September 2017. Roger gave the second with the motion passing unanimously.**

DISTRICT PROGRAMS

8. Project Tour – Directors and staff traveled to the Larson Irrigation Reorganization Project.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 to travel to the Larson Irrigation Reorganization Project.



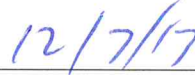
Board Chair



Date



District Manager



Date