

OCEAN Board Meeting
Teleconference
Minutes
Thursday August 10, 2017 - 2:30PM



Attendance

Jason Faucera-President	Herb Winters	Janet Greenup
Lisa Mahon	Walt Barton	Bryan Vogt
Shilah Olson	Cathy McQueeney	Jeremy Baker

Jason called the meeting to order at 2:31 PM.

Recurring items

Minutes –Bryan motioned to approve June meeting minutes as written. Shilah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

*Financial Report-*The board reviewed the financial statements sent out. Janet pointed out that one of the reports show that there is a \$0.21 balance in Banner Bank. That account was closed so Jason or Janet will work with Shannon to fix the error. Jason reviewed the financial reports looking in detail at the Budget vs Actual. *Cathy motioned to approve the financial report. Lisa seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

*Calendar-*Jason pointed out we normally update the business and marketing plan around now but is postponing till a later month. Janet did say that she can update the financial roles on the calendar since we have had changes this year.

Continuing Items

Partnership Reports

- Jason gave an update to the partnership about OCEAN's pilot Grant opportunity and CONNECT financials.
- COLT updated the group that Ag Heritage passed, which will get working lands protected. Another item that passed congress was they fixed the loop hole that individuals could be held liable if districts own land.
- OACD has re-flown the Executive Director position because there were only two applications.
- NOWC has been looking at funding streams for Watershed Councils and SWCDs for education and outreach, and is helping compile the Riparian survey that OSU conducted.
- Jason attended the OWEB meeting to present on partnership updates. Had about 90 seconds which is not a lot but it is facetime that is good for OCEAN.
- In the next few weeks OrCP will be focusing on kicking off CONNECT and working together on the grant deliverables to develop the grant on September 7th, which will take place as the partnership meeting.
- August 18th the Partnership meeting will talk a lot about CONNECT.
- Last, OWEB's 20th anniversary is coming up.

NOWC EO meeting-Jason recapped how the NOWC committee feels about CONNECT setup and the board discussed OCEAN's stance.

- NOWC likes the idea of an every other year large conference. That would allow them to give minimal support on the CONNECT years and then help a lot on the years of the larger conference.
- COLT would like everyone every year.
- Jason mentioned that some are interested in changing the name from CONNECT because they want it called something different to distinguish two different trainings. Bryan asked regardless of what it gets called, if we brand them separate are we going to still have all the partner meetings every year, this would be up to the partners. The original plan was having CONNECT one year and Gathering the other year. The board discussed a lot about the name including issues such as SWCD board members are confused by the title of whether they are invited now and a few WC employees still feel like it's a SWCD conference. Herb mentioned that we can do CONNECT Technical Conference and CONNECT Partnership or something along those lines. The board liked that idea.
- The next decision was who does the funds and who does the heavy lifting in the planning. OCEAN is the designated organization in the OWEB Partnership grant for this task.
- Jason asked the boards input on how to structure the conference. In general the board likes the alternating concept that we came up to every year, but one conference every year would logistically be easier. Looking at our partners a lot of the issues with every year conference is they do not have the capacity or desire to be deeply involved in planning every year. With all the partners equally involved the planning would be more spread out every other year. Shilah mentioned everyone every year would be good to have. One thing to note is that planning every year would keep people on top of the planning where every other year they would have to get used to it again. An outside organizer will also help reduce the pressure on all four organizations.
- To summarize the conversation: The OCEAN Board likes an alternating focus on the content but having it open every year to everyone and maintaining the title CONNECT every year.

Jason mentioned he will take the boards thoughts to the OrCP Monthly Meeting, and reminded the board that these meetings are open to everyone.

CONNECT 2017

- We ended CONNECT with over \$16,000 in the black.
- General comments from the conference were good.
- The board discussed that since OCEAN came out ahead so well on CONNECT to reimburse some of Lisa's time to Wallowa SWCD. *Janet moved to give Wallowa SWCD 10% of the registration for CONNECT. Shilah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.* Wallowa will invoice OCEAN for 10% of registration.
- Jason would like to pull out some funds from the leftover \$11,000 to put in the Grant program. Jeremy and Herb are going to work together to be the rules committee for the grant program and determine how much of the funds to use from CONNECT.

CONNECT 2018

- Save-the-date will be going out soon. The issue was that Jason didn't know if we were calling it CONNECT or not.

- Conference structure-Jason reviewed how they are planning on laying out the structure. He asked for someone to step in if Lisa cannot do that. Cathy said she would like to shadow Lisa so that if she needed to step up she can. Jason asked for another person to step up if they're available because Jason would like to reduce his role on this committee.
- Contractor Solicitation-Jason does not have the time to do this and would like someone else be able to help with the solicitation. Jason can help send this out and advertise. Shilah and Janet offered to work together on this and have a description in the next two weeks. Jason would like to get that out for bid by the end of the month.
- Event insurance-Lisa will talk to NOWC and get another quote to see what options we have.

Board Officer Elections

- Jason said we need to elect officers. We do not have a Vice President right now. Currently Janet is treasurer, Jason is President, and Lisa is secretary. Jason would like a VP that would be willing to be president when his term is up, there were no volunteers for VP at this time. *Jeremy motioned to keep the current slate of officers. Walt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*
- We still have 3 board positions open to fill. We should be filling one of those positions at the next meeting. Please let Jason know if you have any suggestions.

New Items.

Bank Account Change

We need to change the bank account from the money market account because of the restriction on the number of checks we can write. *Bryan motioned to change the bank account at Bank of Eastern Oregon from a money market account to a general interest bearing account with signers as Janet Greenup and Shilah Olson. Jeremy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

Coordinated Riparian Training

OWEB would like to have CONNECT be the host of a coordinated riparian training. Could be the day before or sometime during. They would need a grant holder for the training. Meta said it would be a simple grant. The board supported OCEAN's part in assisting as the grant holder or where ever needed whether or not the training was held at CONNECT.

Additions/Closing Comments

Jason asked for permission to turn in receipts not to exceed \$250 for traveling. *Janet motioned to approve Jason being allowed to turn in travel receipts not to exceed \$250. Bryan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.*

Jeremy and Herb are serving on an advisory committee for the new conservation planner trainings. Jeremy would like to get other planners on the call. He wanted to know if we could use OCEAN's phone number for these calls. They are working with NRCS to see what we can do to make the transition to the conservation planner certification process smoother. The board was fine with Jeremy and Herb using the conference call number.

Next Board Meeting- Thursday, September 14th at 2:30.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by Lisa Mahon