

## OCEAN Board Minutes

September 19, 2019 @ 10:30 a.m.

### Conference Call

#### Attendance:

Jeremy Baker  
Jason Faucera

Scott Susi  
Janet Greenup

Kelly Dawes  
Clint Nichols

#### Not Present:

Herb Winters  
Kyle Waggoner

Cathy McQueeney

Shilah Olson

#### #1 Welcome, Call to order

Meeting called to order at 10:34 a.m.

**Opening Remarks:** Karlene from the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils, who was planning on attending let us know that she was not able to attend.

#### #2 Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes from August 2019 were not ready for approval.

#### #3 Treasurer's Report

Kelly reported that only four checks were written in the past month in the amount of \$38,335.21. OCEAN paid the CONNECT planner Daphne Plump a \$4,000 deposit, a \$20,000 deposit to Sunriver for CONNECT 2020, and two checks from Arkadin for conference calling. Janet will request a W-9 from Daphne. Clint and Janet will coordinate on adding Clint as a check signer.

Question by Jeremy: Can we retake control of our QuickBooks. Jason explained what having Shannon helps us with. Janet also said she couldn't do CONNECT financials, so we had Shannon do it.

**MOTION:** Jason motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted/Kelly seconded, motion passed unanimously

#### #4 Review of Action Items

Jeremy referred to the Action Items list on the Agenda and reviewed the progress of each item.

##### March Items:

- Website Updates – March, web updates not completed, but CONNECT 2020 info was posted

##### July Items:

- Doodle poll for Executive Coordinator RFP and hiring committee formation – Jeremy sent Doodle poll for EC hiring committee and left on vacation. He will review the poll and get back with folks with a date.

#### #5 CONNECT 2020

**Call for Session Proposals** – Call for proposals went out to Daphne’s list of attendees and partners. Clint had two CONNECT session recommendations: Provide a standing regulatory refresher topic, and a session with update on Waters of the US (WOTUS) and its impacts on producers. Jeremy and Daphne will circle back with Clint.

**Conference Planning Team Update** – Cathy sent an update to board members with the meeting packet. CONNECT 2020’s conference theme is “Changing Climate.” They are still seeking track leads for a few tracks. Kelly Beamer, Andrew Brown, and Jeremy will lead development of the climate track.

**CONNECT Budget** – Jeremy asked exec committee to meet and finalize the CCONNECT 2020 budget with Daphne. For budget development, 360 attendees were used to help determine revenue and expenses. Jeremy feels that we’ll get more. Jason suggested that a 3 week early bird period for registration is too short as it doesn’t allow for SWCD boards, who meet once per month much time to discuss it at a board meeting. Kelly suggested we send out advanced notice to allow boards to consider attendance before the early bird period opens.

**MOTION:** *Jason motioned to delegate selection of early period dates to the OCEAN Executive Committee/Scott seconded, motion passed unanimously*

## #6 **OCEAN Workloads/Timelines**

**NRCS Grant Update** – The proposed NRCS grant that would provide contracting assistance and planner certification/job approval facilitation to SWCDs across Oregon appears to be moving forward, but with not a lot of activity recently. We are hearing that we may have our own contract for the work. More news may be forthcoming as NRCS works through things on their end.

**Executive Coordinator Position** – Jeremy clarified that the EC position will be 75% CONNECT and 25% OCEAN. Jeremy doesn’t see this person working initially with the OrCP meaning OCEAN’s board will continue to interface with OrCP. A position description was drafted by Jason, but needs a committee to flesh out the job duties and rationale for the position. More details will emerge as the committee starts and progresses in their work.

**Regional Training Grants** – No money has been spent and no one has applied. Jeremy is working with his folks on a potential train the trainer for his OCEAN region. Clint will mention this program to folks in his region. Jason suggested that there is a need to reevaluate the budget to see if the board still wants to support the program in the same dollar amounts. One issue with the program is that with all of the activity on other fronts within OCEAN, there hasn’t been board capacity to dedicate to outreach and oversight of this program.

## #7 **Partnership Reports and Updates**

**OrCP MOU** – Karlene absent and wants to be there next month

The OWEB grant for the Oregon Conservation Partnership (OrCP) is due on September 22nd.

Jeremy brings up that the other OrCP partners (OACD, NOWC, COLT) want to have CONNECT every other year so that they might use off years to host their own functions. Jeremy is working with NOWC about the utility of having separate conferences in the off year and wants to try and get the NOWC and OCEAN boards together to discuss how we work together.

There is discussion on how to distinguish between the Partnership event and CONNECT. As a board it was determined that OCEAN wouldn’t change CONNECT branding if asked to do so. Jeremy was not successful in convincing the partnership to honor the Partnership nature of CONNECT that was agreed upon when the OrCP was formalized.

The partnership has repeatedly denied OCEAN's request to increase the funds it receives from the OrCP OWEB grant. The proposal increased by \$384 at OWEB's behest, but there is significant resistance from the Partnership to allow anything more, regardless of the expectations that we attend partnership meetings and that CONNECT is one of the main deliverables of the grant.

CONNECT 2021 money needs to be explicitly designated for OCEAN to have CONNECT, even though it is not a year in which the other OrCP members want to be full partners. There are still questions about why the OrCP grant proposal, which is designed to help further the reach of all four partners, contains COLT's Land Trust focused state of the lands report as a deliverable. COLT suggested it would be expanded to include other partners.

Jeremy has asked for clarification on the OWEB rates for salary reimbursements. OCEAN doesn't get dollars for deliverables outside of CONNECT. The other partners indicate that this is because OCEAN doesn't employ staff. However, OACD and NOWC has contracted executive directors, not paid staff. Jeremy feels there is a double standard for OCEAN when it comes to OrCP OWEB grant resources.

OWEB will pay for a facilitated session in 2020 for OrCP partners to re-evaluate their partnership and to continue partnership building activities.

Jeremy will send an email out to the board to clarify expectations for this grant. He'll ask for feedback immediately so that he can send the clarifying questions to the Partnership. We'll also indicate that we can't sign until we see a clean copy and our questions are addressed.

***MOTION:*** Jason motioned to delegate signature authority for the OrCP OWEB grant to the OCEAN Executive Committee/Kelly seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Next board meeting will be held on October 17, 2019 at 10:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Faucera

OCEAN Secretary