



OCEAN Board Meeting
Teleconference
Minutes
Thursday December 8, 2016 - 2:30PM

Attendance

Jason Faucera-President
Lisa Mahon
Herb Winters

Jeremy Baker
Walt Barton

Janet Greenup
Bryan Vogt

Jason called the meeting to order at 2:35 PM.

Recurring items

Minutes –Bryan moved to approve the October 2016 minutes and Janet seconded. With no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Financial report –Janet moved to accept the financial report and Walt seconded. With no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Organizational Calendar –Jason gave an overview of the upcoming deadlines for reporting.

Committee update

Finance, Communication, and Fundraising Committees-No update at this time.

Education Committee-Lisa reported that as a result of the call for abstracts she has started making contacts for potential webinars to host outside of CONNECT. These were sessions that the group felt were too localized or small of an interest group, but would be great to offer in another venue.

Regional Updates –Jeremy reported that Tualatin got their tax base.

Continuing Items

Partnership Reports

- *Partnership MOU*-Jason reported to the board about the potential changes coming up with partner organizations. OACD is considering a shift within their structure to include employees in their activities and potentially even board. Jason wants to know where the board feels OCEAN stands if this shift were to take place. Multiple board members agreed that where OCEAN stands, working on the educational component of the Partnership is a good fit for us. Bryan asked if Jason could elaborate more on why OACD is looking at increasing employee participations. Working with OACD to improve their function will benefit everyone since they are the SWCD's voice with legislatures and the representative SWCD organization. Some of this discussion of working closer together and seeing where OCEAN stands is spurred by partners pointing out it is confusing why there are 2 organizations representing SWCDS at the table. The board had a lot of discussion on if OCEAN wants to be just the educational arm of the Partnership and if that is only for staff, or includes board members and councils. Jeremy stated it's clear with what we have with our

mission, vision, and objectives and it's important that OCEAN doesn't just get absorbed into another organization. OCEAN has built a lot with CONNECT and the educational piece of the partnership and can continue without interfering with anyone else's goals and objectives. The board agreed to look at discussing this topic in more detail at the Strategic Planning Session that OCEAN Board normally hosts at CONNECT. That meeting has always provided good results for the OCEAN board and allowed better discussion than on the conference calls.

- *Partnership MOU*-Jason asked the board their thoughts on the MOU and the priorities list which is the focus of the MOU. Jeremy offered to be part of the monthly partnership meetings. The next meeting is at Clackamas SWCD's office on January 11th. The major topic of discussion currently is the OWEB spending money for the next biennium. The board asked for a few clarifications such as what is meant by "decision by consensus" and to clarify if the agreement should state it's representing 3 or 4 organizations. *Janet moved for Jason to sign the MOU so long as there are no substantial changes to the document and Walt seconded. With no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.*
- Jason will be attending a meeting with the Partnership to seek OWEB funds to complete the biennium, including \$10,000 for CONNECT 2017. They will also be discussing the upcoming biennium at this meeting.

CONNECT 2017

- There is progress on all the tracks covering Technical, Urban, Education and Outreach, Admin, Legislative, Regulatory, and Leadership
- There is not much update on the sponsorship. We have one sponsor that tripled their sponsorship this year as a result of having a bigger conference
- Aiming for registration to be open in January. The idea is by February a lot of the work will complete so that people will have most the information needed when they register.

[Bryan left the meeting 3:34PM]

- Jason gave an update on NRCS's partnership with CONNECT. Jason read a letter from the Oregon NRCS leadership team stating they would like to commit to a 2-year agreement supporting CONNECT/The Gathering with \$15,000 per year for 2018 and 2019. Jason is working on an agreement with Cory Owens for the NRCS funds to be contracted through OCEAN during the upcoming years.
- Lisa asked the board their opinion on speaker discount for attendees. The board consensus was 30% off the registration price which is equal to a \$75 discount.

2017 Budget- The board discussed the budget including the contingency fund for CONNECT which includes a potential \$10,000 increase in CONNECT funds. Jason asked for approval. The ending balance may change a small amount just to make it accurate, but otherwise the budget will be as is presented. *Jeremy moved to approve the budget as presented with the potential for the beginning balance to change and Lisa seconded. With no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.*

2017 Business/Marketing Plans-Jason edited and changed some dates. He added the poster contest and made just a few updated. *Lisa moved to approve the Business and Marketing Plans and Walt seconded. With no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.*

New Items.

NACD Poster Contest Awards-Lisa gave an overview of the poster contest process. There were ___ posters from Columbia, Malheur, Wallowa, Wasco, Wheeler and 94 people voted on the posters. Lisa suggested that we get in contact with the winning districts and have them get something more useful for the winners to receive. We would design a state certificate to acknowledge the partnership. The board agreed to pay for the awards 50/50. OCEAN could invoice OACD for their half of the awards. *The board discussed a few options and Janet motioned to approve the awards amounts to be: 1st place \$15, 2nd place \$10, and 3rd place \$5 and Herb seconded. With no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.*

Dues Collection-Janet suggested possibly sending individual invoices. The board didn't know how else to do it. Lisa asked if we could offer for people to be able to pay the different dues for NOWC, OCEAN, and OACD. The only down side to this is that there would be a cut if we use Eventbrite. Another suggestion was having dues paid biennially.

Grant Program for Regional Training-Jason suggested the idea of OCEAN having a grant pool that we could pay for others to put on trainings. The board thought it was a good idea but postpone further discussion until the strategic planning or after CONNECT.

Intern-NOWC advertised an intern position that will start in February. Jason will work with Shawn and Lisa to see if there is anywhere the intern can help.

Additions/Closing Comments

Next Board Meeting-Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 2:30pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by Lisa Mahon