Ocean Minutes March 21, 2019

Present: Jeremy Baker, Cathy McQueeney, Clint Nichols, Scott Susi, Janet Greenup, Jason Faucera

Absent: Herb Winters, Shilah Olson, Kari Hollander (medical leave), Kyle Waggoner

Guest: Lisa Mahon

1. Call to Order and Announcements

Jeremy called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.

Announcements:

- Clint and Cathy represented OCEAN at the OWEB birthday celebration on 2/22/19 in Salem. Good turnout, networking, and facetime with legislators.
- Strategic planning rescheduled to May 7th 9th. Jeremy will look for a new hotel, possibly in Cousins, as the special rate in The Dalles is no longer available.

2. Review of February Meeting Minutes

Corrections: 5 corrections

- Cathy needs to sign as submitter of minutes
- Herb WAS present
- Clarify #5 honorarium contract: specify it was for "Simplify" session and Honorarium Contract.
- Clarify #5 scholarships: Misty who declined to apply before scholarship deadline as scholarship was insufficient for their budget. . . ODA funds, not NRCS fund

Janet moved to accept the minutes with changes, seconded by Jason. Unanimously approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

Balance of \$73,677.91 with one outstanding check for \$250 to Clackamas SWCD. Conservation Poster Awards were sent out for total of \$200 to Keating, Wasco (2), and Wallowa.

<u>Cathy moved to accept the treasurer's report as submitted, seconded by Clint. Unanimously approved.</u>

Jason volunteers to be the second signer on all expenditures on an interim basis in Kari's absence.

4. OCEAN Annual Meeting

Meeting will be held from 4:00 - 5:00 on Tuesday, April 9^{th} . Janet will present financial report. Jeremy will present some of the highlights from the past year and discuss the upcoming strategic planning session.

Approved 5/16/2019

Elections: Kyle, Janet, Scott, Jason and Kari are all up for re-election. Do they still want to participate? Why are current board members involved? Jeremy is collecting comments – What have you gotten out of OCEAN and what are you working towards in the future? Please get comments to Jeremy by Wednesday, March 27th so he can get them out by April 2nd. Jeremy will reach out to Kyle and solicit others to throw their hat in the ring.

5. CONNECT Conference Updates w/Lisa Mahon

General Conference Updates:

As of today, 249 participants signed up and 46 registered for field trips! Registration closes next Thursday, March 28th.

- The CONNECT planning team has decided to forgo having a keynote speaker this year. We're tight on the budget. Shifted sessions up for the day.
- Evaluation award, a \$25 gift card, has been purchased by OCEAN for the past few years. Janet will purchase this year.
- OCEAN swag Per Lisa, we have enough money in the budget to purchase 500 more pens. Overall, event this year has fewer funds due to lack of sponsors. Jason asks if it is better to purchase pens or save money for future ED position. Jeremy thinks we should forgo it this year. We'll use up all of the leftover items from the past several years to distribute to participants on a first come, first served basis.
- Tween times OWEB asked to do a 15-20 minute presentation about their 20th anniversary. Announcements, awards, and door prizes need announcers so board members are encouraged to sign up for a slot Jeremy will send out session layout so folks can choose a time. Hood River Watershed Group is working on a pollutant database that outlines problems associated with each type of pollutant (focus on water quality) and would like this to be a tool used by others within the state. Jeremy asked them to prepare a 15-20 minute presentation.
- Vendor Packages should we offer profit vs. non-profit rates? Examples: Oregon Ag in the Classroom, Wy'East. Current rate is \$1000 for sponsors. \$200 + registration for non-profits?
- Applicants can private landowners register? If so, at what cost? Per Lisa, the current
 policy is that registration is open to anyone and if they are not a partner, they pay full
 price.

Connect 2020:

- We need to talk with Partnership and NRCS about renewing funding.
- We need to identify venue and dates for next year that will accommodate the whole Partnership. Lisa Mahon is working on this.
- Establish some new committees, specifically vendors/sponsors, scholarships a topic for the strategic planning session.

Approved 5/16/2019

6. OCEAN Website

Jason provided an overview of the current website which includes the directory that people can update remotely – used for email lists and length of service awards. Website utilizes WordPress but the directory makes it difficult to update aesthetics. ODA and OACD are now both using/promoting the website. What are we not able to do now with our site that we want to do? Is the branding important enough to disrupt the function of the current website? Jeremy, can the directory be separated out and be a standalone item? Yes, but this would require a totally new platform and approximately 30 hours of Jason's time. Jason feels like starting from scratch would not be ideal.

Why change website? Offer of help from partners to upgrade and take maintenance off of Jason's plate and make the website more user-friendly.

Can we make it easier to upload content? Make it more social media friendly? What about a middle ground where we can freshen up the site instead of creating a new site. Jason wants to be involved in conversation. Scott suggested that we discuss further at strategic planning meeting.

Janet and Clint left the phone call at 12:30 p.m.

7. Partnership Reports/Updates

Changes in the Partnership executive leadership. More information to come.

OACD has updated their bylaws. Jeremy recommends everyone read through the document. District managers can now be board members on the OACD board. Current language states that no notification is required to set or cancel a meeting and provides for punitive action towards Districts who do not pay their dues. Jeremy feels that there are some glaring issues.

8. Adjourn

Jeremy adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy McQueeney
Clackamas SWCD, OCEAN representative