**Ash Creek Water Control District**

Meeting of Board November 7, 2024, 7 PM, Independence City Hall, “Riverview C” room with Zoom option (https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82158510794)

**MINUTES**

1. Tom called the meeting to order at 7:02 AM.
2. Those present: Tom Wilson, Andrea Melendy, Ed Matteo, Molly Barbano, Madeline Fisher. Excused: Mancil Russell, Emmanuel Goicochea, Suzanne Teller. Staff: Marilyn Morton.
3. Molly was officially sworn into office, and will assume Director #4 position.
4. Approval of Minutes: Ed moved to approve the October minutes, Andrea 2nd, motion passed unanimously
5. Audience Comments: None
6. Director Comments:

Molly: 2 potential additional board members are interested in joining (her friend and her husband, who co-owns ACWCD property with Molly).

Andrea: There appears to be a beaver dam in Ash Creek (she spotted it looking west down Ash Creek from bridge over Gun Club Road)

Madeline: She has spotted foxes on her property. She also commented on nice article about outgoing ACWCD secretary, Karin Johnson.

1. Reports
2. Finance: The October Finance Report was distributed. Tom noted that the ACWCD debit card has an available balance of $247. Current net holdings of ACWCD equal $478,914.40, a net increase over last month of $1,142.97. Taxes are coming in. Payment of the bill for Ascension Accounting was discussed. Andrea moved to allow the treasurer (Tom) to use ACH to pay this bill. Ed 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Precipitation: October 2024 3.12”; October 2023 2.95”; October 22 1.23”; October 21 3.51”. Madeline reported that a group of about 25 WOU students and their professor, Dr. Gareth Hopkins, are conducting an etymology study on the Emerald Ash Borers. They will be requesting funding for traps from ACWCD and may provide a program presentation. She is also still working with Professor Henry Hughes and the “Write Place” program.
4. Phone: Nothing to report
5. Nutria: Ed provided the nutria report including the number of traps now deployed. There was discussion about researching historic nutria report numbers.
6. Engineer’s Report – none at this time. All outstanding invoices are paid.
7. Unfinished Business
8. Molly was appointed to BOD position #4. Positions #5 and #8 remain vacant. Tom will set up Molly’s email, and discussed procedures for archiving (not deleting) documents, which are public records. A current listing of BOD positions and expiration dates was requested, which Marilyn will provide. The next ACWCD BOD election will be in May 2025. Elected positions are for 4 years, appointed positions for 2 years.
9. Follow-up on acknowledgement of Karin Johnsons’ service to ACWCD Board: Tom purchased a gift card from Brew which Marilyn will deliver. Andrea is working with a Quality Trophy in Salem on a crystalline award for Karin.
10. Follow-up on creek clearance, esp. obstructions on bridge railings/old trestle: all creek clean up is done, city staff assisted. Appropriate acknowledgement of assistance was provided on-site. The trestle project is on hiatus until March 2025.
11. Further discussion: Bilingual Birdwalks with wildlife biologist David Craig of Willamette University are pre-approved but delayed until further notice.
12. New Business
13. SDIS Cyber Coverage doesn’t necessarily apply to ACWCD at this time. Tom has asked someone to casually look into this issue and will get back to the BOD at a future date.
14. Workers Comp premium rate discussed
15. Public Meetings Law trainings are available online and can be helpful. There is also an SDAO conference coming up in February (approx). Anyone wanting to go to this training please advise the BOD.
16. Information coming to the ACWCD district secretary’s email from state and federal agencies will in the future be forwarded to all BOD members.

10. Miscellaneous Business/Information Items

1. Correspondence - none
2. Task Log - discontinued

11. Adjournment:

The Independence City Hall meeting room is available through January 2025. Meeting time/location needs to be revisited. Please include this issue on the December agenda. Madeline moved to adjourn, Andrea 2nd, motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM.