







**Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (MSWCD)  
Education and Outreach Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, April 16, 2024, 11:00 am to 12:00 pm**

HB2560 requires that all Oregon public meetings held by a governing body of a public body, excluding executive sessions, must provide to members of the public an opportunity to access and attend the meeting by telephone, video or other electronic or virtual means. This meeting will be held by video conference and by telephone.

-  Link to Video Conference: [\(Zoom\) Meeting Link](#)
-  Meeting Call in Number: 1 (253) 215 - 8782
-  Meeting ID: 834 9712 8477 | Passcode: 316646
-  Staff Contact: Kassi Roosth, [kassi.roosth@marionswcd.net](mailto:kassi.roosth@marionswcd.net)

Agenda

Chair: Call Meeting to Order, Agenda Changes & Approval

Item #	Topic	Presenter	Purpose	Time
1	Introductions	K. Roosth	Procedure	3 min
2	Public Comment	K. Roosth	Feedback	2 min
3	Review Minutes from March 19th	K. Roosth	Discuss & Accept Minutes	2 min
4	CLEAR Grant Request: Bethany Charter School	S. Ortiz	Determine recommendations to present to the Board	10 min
5	CLEAR Grant Request: Community Roots School	S. Ortiz	Determine recommendations to present to the Board	10 min
6	CLEAR Grant Request: West Salem Highschool	S. Ortiz	Determine recommendations to present to the Board	10 min
7	Stan Vistica Scholarship	H. Keirstead	Discussion	10 min
	Meeting Adjournment	Chair		



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Agenda Brief

Item #	Brief	Action
3	Review and accept meeting minutes from the March 19 <sup>th</sup> committee meeting.	<b>Review/Accept</b>
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CLEAR Grant Request: Bethany Charter School		
Request: \$2,000		
4	The CLEAR grant would support a variety of rubber boot sizes for students, materials to construct shelving and other costs associated with completing their Boots for Every Student Project. The boots will be used for Salmon Watch field trips at Pack Saddle Park and other outdoor field trips to observe nature and learn from experts about topics such as salmon biology, water quality, macroinvertebrates, and riparian ecology.	<b>Develop recommendations to present to the Board in May.</b>
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CLEAR Grant Request: Community Roots School		
Request: \$2,000		
5	The CLEAR grant would support transportation costs and materials for 100 students to visit Silver Falls State Park to learn about moss and lichen, native plants, and Oregon geology; Hopkins Demonstration Forest to see up-close forest management outcomes; to local creeks and rivers to study water quality and riparian ecology; to Bird Haven in Stayton for native bird habitat restoration; to Basket Slough for wetland mapping and ecology.	<b>Develop recommendations to present to the Board in May.</b>
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CLEAR Grant Request: West Salem High School		
Request: \$802.18		
6	The CLEAR Grant would support rubber boots for West Salem High School's AP Environmental class on Salmon Watch field trips, which is usually around 40 students each year. Students will get to learn from experts outdoors on salmon biology, water quality, macroinvertebrates, and riparian ecology. The boots will be offered for use to other clubs and classes in the school's science department outside of Salmon Watch field trips.	<b>Develop recommendations to present to the Board in May.</b>
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7	Staff will share plant sale proceeds for the committee to discuss what number of scholarships and amounts to offer for the next round.	<b>Discussion</b>

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members	Present/ Absent	Attendance	
		Staff	Guests
Darin Olson	absent	Susan Ortiz	
Peggy Hart	present		
Mark Fields	present		
Heath Keirstead	present		
Kassi Roosth	present		

Item #	Minutes	Action/ Vote Count
1		
2		
3	March minutes – no changes – Kassi Roosth moved that we approve the minutes, Mark Fields seconded. All in favor (4:0)	<b>March E&amp;O Committee minutes approved (4:0)</b>
4	Bethany Charter School - boots that will remain at the school and they will build storage for them and use them for Salmon Watch and other field trips. 3 of 5 evaluators reviewed and recommended funding. (\$2000)	<b>See 6.</b>
5	Community Roots School – outdoor classroom – similar to last fall. Field trips, learning about forests, moss, lichens, forest management, wetland mapping, etc. All for outdoor field trips. 3 of 5 evaluators reviewed and recommended funding. (\$2000)	<b>See 6.</b>
6	West Salem HS – boots for students for Salmon Watch and other field experiences. Keirstead made a motion to recommend the Board fund all three CLEAR grants in full. Keirstead made the motion, Roosth seconded. No further discussion. (\$802.18)	<b>Recommendation: The Board fund the three CLEAR grant requests in full. (4:0)</b>
7	NPS proceeds: ~\$8,947.23 in profit from the Native Plant Sale for the 23-24 fiscal year. The committee had a lengthy discussion about the way the funding works for the plant sale and scholarship. Part of the conversation is that in	<b>Recommend that the budget committee allocate \$8,880 for scholarships plus admin fee in the FY 24-25 budget. (4:0)</b>

order to solidify the next catalog year for OSAC, the Education Committee needs to make a recommendation on how much to offer for the next OSAC catalog. The budget year and the scholarship don't line up nicely. The recipients of the 23-24 school year scholarship were chosen during FY 22-23; the funds for the 23-24 school year scholarship came out of the FY23-24 budget. So when we make changes to the scholarships we offer, that decision is made the Fiscal Year BEFORE the funds will come out, that is why only ~ \$3500 came out of this Fiscal Year's budget (because that is what we had committed to OSAC for scholarships when the scholarship was advertised and recipients selected) even though we have \$6,500 allocated this Fiscal Year.

Recommendation: For school year 25-26, fund up to 4 \$2,000 scholarships (1 for a 1<sup>st</sup> yr recipient, 1 for a 2<sup>nd</sup> yr recipient, 1 for a 3<sup>rd</sup> yr recipient, and 1 for a 4<sup>th</sup> yr recipient). Max scholarships outgoing would = \$8,000, plus cover the admin fee (11% admin fee = \$880). We will reach out to Brenda (budget officer) to see if we can work that into the budget. The Education Committee will discuss allocation strategy at a future meeting.

Question: Can the general fund support the scholarship if the plant sale does not generate enough income to cover the amount we allocate?

Motion: Keirstead moves, Roosth seconds asking budget committee for \$8,880 plus admin fee in FY 24-25 budget for Stan Vistica Scholarship.  
Unan. All in favor.

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PUT TO FILE

Dear E&O Committee members,

I regret that I will not be able to bring the request for an increase in the scholarship fund to the Budget Committee meeting this Wednesday, April 24, 2024, as recommended by the committee at the Sunriver Education and Outreach Committee meeting on April 16, 2024.

I have decided not to follow through with the committee's recommendation for several reasons:

Our request should have correctly been addressed to the "Budget Officer" rather than to the "Budget Committee".

The Budget Committee meeting is not designed to consider discreet changes in the budget, but rather to consider the finished document presented to it by the District's Budget Officer.

Brenda, today, April 23, 2024, said that as budget officer she would be able to increase the amount in this year's scholarship budget to \$8880, but this would mean that \$2,380 less would be available within this year's budget for the plant sale next year. (\$8880 minus the presently budgeted \$6500). Within the current and past budgets, the plant sale money and the scholarship money have been precisely linked.

This eventuality had not been considered within our conversations in Sunriver.

As a consequence, I suggested that Brenda not bring the increase \$8880 to the Budget Committee on Wednesday.

My reason for this is that a shortfall in monies available next year for the plant sale was not considered within our conversations in Sunriver.

An increase in money available to put on next year's plant sale would require that general fund monies be moved into the plant sale line item. This would require a motion of the board, and there is no guarantee of that motion's passage.

The discussions in Sunriver, if I remember correctly, imagined that the increase in the scholarship monies would not decrease the money available for next year's sale, but rather that the increase would be reflected in the current year's budget through a decrease somewhere else in the budgeted general fund, and that the dollars set aside for the plant sale would not have been effected.

\*\*\*That is the simplest and most relevant reason for my not bringing up the committee's recommendation at the Budget Committee meeting: We had not considered that the scholarship increase would diminish the money available for next year's plant sale.\*\*\*

Going forward, I believe we can continue to work on getting this increase done, or at least we can work at coming to a full and common understanding of what might be involved in making this happen.

First of all, at the next meeting of the E&O Committee I would like to set aside some time for us all, including Brenda, Linda, and Susan, to come to a full and complete, and common understanding of all the working parts and timing factors involved in our providing this scholarship money.

At that time we can begin a substantive discussion about what would be the best course to follow in trying to possibly make these changes.

Secondly, we must be clear about the potential legal challenges which might arise in moving general funds into the scholarship fund.

These would need to be clarified before the necessary motion be brought to Brenda as budget officer and to the board.

I hope this is a reasonable resolution of the misunderstandings surrounding the committee's request that I bring the motion to the Budget Committee, and my decision to not follow through with the Committee's request.

It was explained to me, by our manager and budget officer, Brenda Sanchez, that this "Put to File" email is the appropriate way provide reasons and justification for my not following the instructions and recommendations of the committee.

Sincerely,  
Peggy Hart  
Committee Chair  
Board Member, At large 1