







**Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (MSWCD)  
Education and Outreach Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, July 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  
**Called to order at 11:09 am by Peggy Hart**

Item #	Topic	Presenter	Purpose	Time
1	Introductions	P. Hart	Procedure	3 min
2	Public Comment	P. Hart	Feedback	2 min
3	Review Minutes from April 16th	P. Hart	Discuss & Accept Minutes	2 min
4	Updates on Grant Programs	S. Ortiz	Informational	15 min
5	OSU Small Farm School Contribution/ Scholarship Opportunity	H. Keirstead	Discussion	15 min
6	Scholarship Fund	H. Keirstead	Discussion	20 min
	Meeting Adjournment	Chair		

Agenda Brief

Item #	Brief	Action
3	Review and accept meeting minutes from the April 16 <sup>th</sup> committee meeting.	<b>Review/Accept</b>
4	Hear updates on education grant programs offered at Marion SWCD such as CLEAR and Salmon Watch.	<b>Overview</b>



Marion Soil and Water Conservation District complies with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. If special physical, language, or other accommodations are needed for this meeting, please advise the District Manager at 503-391-9927 as soon as possible, and at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Marion SWCD has been invited to be a sponsor of the thirteenth annual Small Farm School to be held on Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City. Small Farm School is an annual event offering a full day of classroom and field learning for beginning farmers and small-acreage landowners. It provides sponsors access to 200 + farmers, farming nonprofits, and government entities. For more information visit the [Small Farm School website](#).

**How to become a sponsor:**

1. Choose your **sponsorship level**
  2. [Register as a sponsor and submit payment](#)
  3. Receive your registration discount code via email
  4. August 2nd-30th- **Register** for the workshops you want to attend using your sponsorship registration discount code. Additional registrations are available at normal cost.  
*(class sizes are limited, so registering early is strongly recommended)*
- Discussion**

**Sponsorship option comparison table**

	<b>Egg</b>	<b>Rooster</b>	<b>Hen</b>	<b>Flock</b>
<b>Cost</b>	\$150-\$349	\$350-\$599	\$600-\$999	\$1000 and above
<b>1 Exhibitor space</b>	yes	yes	yes	yes
<b># of registrations and lunches included</b>	1	2	3	4
<b>Logo and link on website</b>	yes	yes	yes	yes

- 6 Come to a complete and common understanding of all the working parts and timing factors involved in our providing this scholarship money. Note: \$6500 for scholarships was allocated in the FY 24-25 budget. This would have allowed for a \$2000 first year, \$2000 second year, and \$1500 third year scholarship. Only the first and second-year scholarships will be awarded (the student who would have been a third-year applicant did not apply). This means we expended only \$4400 of the \$6500 that was allocated from this year's budget, and we have \$2100 more available for next year than we anticipated.
- Discussion**

**Meeting Minutes  
Attendance**

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

Item #	Minutes	Action/ Vote Count
1 -	New business: Heath Keirstead announced that she will be moving to Asheville, NC. Will be working part-time remotely through October 31, 2024.	No action
2	No public comments.	No action
3	Minutes- no discussion. <b>Kassi Roosth moved to accept the minutes as submitted. Heath Keirstead seconded. All in favor of accepting minutes as received.</b>	<b>Accept minutes as submitted. All in favor (3:0)</b>
4	Susan Ortiz shared a presentation. See file. Total \$28,592.48 total, the most we have ever awarded since Susan has worked at the District. 10 CLEAR grants, \$20,752.18. 8 Salmon Watch grants, \$7,840.30. Pacific coast Salmon Recovery Fund – we count these students on that report. \$40,000 budgeted in CLEAR grants for 23-25. First deadline is Sept 4. Partner Grants – deadline Aug 15. \$255,000 available.	No action
5	Last year we provided \$2000 in sponsorship of Small Farm School that was held at Clackamas Community College and we helped reach out to other potential sponsors. This year we have been asked to sponsor. There are 4 levels of sponsorship. We get: an exhibit space, logo and link on event website, and either 1, 2, 3, or 4 registrations. Staff who attended last year liked going, learned a lot, a great way to connect with partners, but not great for meeting potential Marion County clients. Sponsorships allow the event to be put on and is a demonstration of	<b>Heath Keirstead will create a PRF for \$600 for Small Farm School to submit to Brenda. Keirstead moved, Roosth seconded. All in favor (3:0)</b>

support for our partners. It's part of our strategic plan to support farms, small farmers, and partners. Last year we sponsored at the Flock level (\$2000). This will come from the Education budget. **Heath Keirstead moved to give \$600 to Small Farm School to submit a PRF to Brenda. Kassi Roosth seconded. All in favor (3:0)**

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Brenda Sanchez: We work on a cash basis only. If you leave \$2000 unspent one year, that does not carry over to the next year's budget. The amount available for plant sale doesn't go up next year if you don't use all the funds from one year. Plant sale income from one year is what is budgeted for the next year in that category. Plant sale expenses, including scholarship: \$24,881. \$6500 had to be reserved for the scholarship that were just paid for in July. So you could say you have \$2100 remaining out of that total budget. So you could put it in as an extra investment so you make a bigger profit. So if we spend the \$2,100 on plant sale it would increase our proceeds even further. We have to tell OSAC by October at the latest what we want to offer for 25-26 scholarships, because they open that round of applications in November of 2024. According to Brenda Sanchez, we have had about a 4% profit growth over the last three years. Averaging about \$1500 per year in additional profits. Providing more of the things we sell out of early will help increase our proceeds. Kassi Roosth thinks it is a safe move and worth giving it a shot. Especially because the Little Habitat Project is directing participants to purchase plants through the Native Plant Sale, which will increase our customer base and total sales. Every summer/early fall we have to tell OSAC how much we will offer in scholarships in the school year after. Proceeds from 2023-2024: \$8947.23. Raising the offering to four \$2000 scholarships for school year 25-26, for a total scholarship expense of \$8,880 (including 11% OSAC admin fee) sets a precedent that this money is available, puts it into our consciousness, alerts students to this funding opportunity, and allows us to be prepared for

**Action: Recommend to the Board to approve an increase in scholarships offered for the '25-'26 school year to four \$2000 scholarships (one ea for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> yr recipient), an increase of \$2500 in scholarships from the '24-'25 offering). All in favor (3:0)**

next time. That structure will be in place moving forward and gives us a buffer year where we know we aren't actually going to spend it all. This will be our goal to have up to four years of grants available to students (especially because it is harder for juniors and seniors to find scholarships to continue their academic career). Based on plant sale trends and existing budget, it is very conservative to make this change for next year. We know we have the money in the budget and we know we won't actually give a fourth year scholarship next year because we didn't give a third year scholarship this year (would be same recipient). We are on a trend of increasing what we are offering because we are continuing to increase our plant sale proceeds and our scholarship is in demand. We received ten applications for this year's first year scholarship. We need to report to OSAC what we plan to offer for the 25-26 school year before November 1, 2024. With the substantial excess funds, Peggy Hart says she feels comfortable with it. **Peggy Hart moved to recommend to the Board to increase the scholarship fund to \$2000 a year for four years. This notification would be given to OSAC this summer and would apply to the 25-26 budget. Keirstead seconded. All in favor (3:0) Motion passes.**

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7 Meeting adjourned by Committee Chair Peggy Hart at 12:07 pm.

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