

## Attendance:

### Notes:

The LWG was lightly attended but resulted in good discussion of current funding objective and future direction.

DC Galland went over current funding pools for EQIP (state and local) CStP and ACEP. The current contract work load and 2019 applications were highlighted. DC Galland gave an update on staffing: new employee Matthew Edwards started in December after completing the Pathways program. DC Galland pointed out that he will need training and continuous guidance. The conservation district employees in attendance offered help with getting Matthew some field time and OJT in their different areas of expertise.

The 2018 Farm Bill talking points were highlighted regarding conservation programs. DC Galland emphasized that applications for all programs are on a continuous basis and there is little anticipated change in program availability (no programs cut). West Multnomah voiced interest in a CIG to explore best management practices for the Sauvie Island drainage district to improve the current ditch cleaning/management practices that are causing erosion and impeding water flow, particularly along the Gilbert.

Jason Faucera gave a quick update on the Molalla River NWQI readiness phase agreement that was awarded to Clackamas SWCD. They are currently selecting a contractor to do the work and putting together a list of partners to invite to be part of the TAC.

DC Galland queried participants about resource concern priorities that they see. Water quantity and livestock pasture conditions are noted as being the top two. Erosion was number 3 and wildlife/oak habitat was number 4. There was consensus that the current local funding pools were enough in helping address erosion and wildlife. Forestry concerns are being addressed but more work is needed, especially regarding outreaching forest land owners on wild fire preparedness. Clackamas SWCD and DC Galland are participating in Fire Wise education events.

Landowners Steve and George noted that it would be nice to see a funding pool that would help producers improve their irrigation efficiency. West Multnomah is continuing to work with the Sauvie Island drainage district to build a partnership to help address water quality/quantity. DC Galland noted that she is having more conversations with landowners who want to build ponds to retain water for later in the season. Clackamas SWCD employees noted that they receive requests for pond information on a frequent basis.

Clackamas SWCD employees and DC Galland noted that they are receiving more inquiries from livestock producers about improving pasture conditions / reducing weed pressure and if there is any assistance with developing water sources for livestock.

Decisions:

DC Galland will work on outlining two CIS proposals. One will be for livestock pasture improvement and the other will target irrigation improvements. Outreach will be conducted over the summer & fall to target livestock and irrigation to determine participant interest, priority areas and practices. The irrigation CIS may be a precursor to additional NWQI work being done in the Molalla River watershed.