

LANE COUNTY SMALL WOODLANDS ASSOCIATION MINUTES

December 5, 2024



Meeting Time: 2:00-4:00 PM

Location: ODF Western Lane Office

Board Members Present: Kate McMichael; Rick Olson; Gordon Culbertson; Wylde Cafferata; Tom Bauman; Becca Fain; Tim Gurton; Theresa Hausser; Gary Jensen; Dan Kintigh; Jo Von Dollen

Seedling Sale Chair: Lindsay Reaves

Guests: Steve Cafferata Roy Von Dollen

Agenda

1. Welcome and Check-in
2. Review, amend, approve agenda.
3. Review, amend, approve October meeting minutes.
4. Treasurer's Report: Review and Approve
5. Old/In-Progress Business
6. Working Groups: Reports and updates
7. New Business/Discussion
8. Updates
9. Announcements/Partner news & notes/Other
10. Recap/Action Items

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- President Kate McMichael welcomed all present and introduced Roy Von Dollen, our treasurer Jo Von Dollen's husband. He was advised that board member partners are often pressed into LCSWA's service. Kate distributed the LCSWA meeting calendar for 2025 as well as a current list of board members and their contact information, and a 2025 meeting calendar for several partner organizations.
- Kate reviewed the agenda. Becca Fain moved to approve the agenda and Dan Kintigh seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- Tom Bauman moved to approve the minutes from the October 3rd meeting, Gordon Culbertson seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.
- Jo Von Dollen presented the Treasurer's Report. She has devised a new form which shows Income and Expense categories and dollar amounts in each by the month. Our net balance as of 11/22/2024 is \$22,976.42. Becca Fain moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Dan Kintigh seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

5. Old/In-Progress Business

- President Kate McMichael explained that we need to restate Jo Von Dollen's appointment as treasurer.
 - Lane County Small Woodlands Association hereby resolves that Jo Von Dollen is authorized as a signer on all LCSWA transactions for Umpqua Bank Account #...8563.
 - Jo Von Dollen is designated as the LCSWA Treasurer and Gordon Culbertson is removed as a signer to LCSWA accounts.
 - Rick Olson, LCSWA Vice-President is the designated statement receiver.
 - President Kate McMichael is retained as a signer to the LCSWA account.
 - Becca Fain moved that the resolution be approved, Tom Bauman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Budget Discussion
 - Jo Von Dollen presented a draft of the newly created 2025 budget with columns showing the proposed amounts for 2025 by category, the actual amount from 2024, and explanatory notes.
 - Board members suggested and discussed minor changes. The Finance Working Group will work with these suggestions and present another draft of the budget at the February 1, 2025, meeting.
 - **Board members were requested to think about how we want to allocate our educational budget and bring their ideas to the 2/1/2025 meeting.** Kate McMichael will research how other chapters allocate funds for education.
 - It is the Board's intent to have a final budget by the Spring annual meeting.
- Policy & Procedure Manual
 - Kate McMichael presented a working draft of our Policy & Procedures Manual.
 - Board members proposed minor changes and the Manual Sub-Committee will fine-tune the manual for presentation at the February 1, 2025 meeting. **Board Members are encouraged to send proposed changes to Kate McMichael, Becca Fain, or Wylde Cafferata.**

6. Working Groups: Reports and Updates

A. Communications

- President Kate McMichael reported that when she inquired of Lincoln, Benton, and Linn counties regarding including Yamhill County as a participant in the Quarterly Bark, Linn County felt the Bark was big enough already, and there was no response from the other counties. After discussion, board members agreed that we should extend the invitation to Yamhill since they will be discontinuing their newsletter. Kate will contact Yamhill SWA President Darcy Davis.
- Board members agreed it would be a good idea to send out an email Holiday Letter to our membership. **Wylde Cafferata and Kate McMichael will work on the letter and get it out early in the new year.**

B. Membership:

- Rick Olson reported that our membership stands at 193, including two new members. Wylde has sent welcome packets to our three new members.
- Board members were reminded to renew their own memberships. Gordon Culbertson, OSWA President, reported that the renewal forms are a work in progress

and getting more user-friendly. Several board members agreed that they are easier to use than in previous years. Kate reminded board members that the renewal form is available on our website under the title: Join Us.

C. Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year Nominating Working Group

- Tim Gurton reported that Swanson Brothers and Dale & Linda Jensen's tree farm potentially would both be good candidates for our 2025 Lane County Tree Farmers of the Year. Swanson Brothers has work to do in updating their management plan, so it was suggested that potentially The Jensens could be our 2025 candidates, and Swanson Brothers could be the 2026 candidates. **Tim Gurton and Dan Kintigh will visit the Jensen's tree farm prior to the February board meeting and report findings to the board.**

D. Program Working Group

- Kate McMichael reported that we had a successful Succession Workshop with Clint Bentz on October 17, with good participation and some recruitment for the OSU Extension Ties to the Land program. Members can sign up for individual segments of that program as described in the most recent edition of *The Leaflet*, the Forestry Extension newsletter.
- Kate is in communication with USFS Darren Cross regarding our tree-planting event and will have further reporting at the LCSWA February board meeting.
- Potential up-coming events include a Small Tract Forestland Tax Option Workshop in collaboration with the SAF Emerald Chapter, and a Board of Forestry visit to Kate & Theresa's tree farm.
- LCSWA's annual meeting will be held in the Spring. Kate reminded the group that we need to distribute our remaining Lane County Tree Farmer of the Year signs at the meeting. At our February meeting, we will determine the location and date for the meeting. **Board members are encouraged to give thought to the location.** It is our intent to vary the locations of meetings among different parts of the county from year to year, without making travel too much of a burden.

E. Seedling Sale Working Group:

- Lindsay reported that we can use our usual venue at Alton Baker Park, but their new policy is to require each group to carry insurance. We believe the OSWA insurance will cover us; Kate and Lindsay will find this out for certain.
- Lindsay distributed a comprehensive list of seedlings/plants ordered, the vendor, the 2025 cost to us + what we charge and anticipated revenue. She has ordered a total of 9890 plants for an anticipated revenue of \$12,293.60.
- Dan Kintigh raised the issue of selling bald cypress. It is a non-native, and we have agreed to sell only native plants, but it is a potential replacement for Oregon ash, which is threatened by the emerald ash borer, and also potentially important as a species better adapted to our area due to climate change. Discussion leaned towards selling the bald cypress seedlings, but the decision was left to the Seedling Sale Working Group. **They will inform Dan of the decision.**

7. New Business

- Kate reported that Caiti Wind of Northwest Hardwoods has requested that we write a letter of support for their USDA Wood Innovation Grant. Gordon Culbertson reported that their intent is to use the grant to modify their sawmill to process white oak logs, which would be useful to many small woodland owners. Becca Fain moved to send a letter of support, Tom Bauman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. **President Kate McMichael will write the letter.** _

8. Updates

A. OSWA

- 2025 is a year for a long legislative session: January-June.
- The new OSWA Forest Policy Committee meets the last Friday of each month by Zoom at 7 AM; Dan Newton heads the committee and new members are welcome.
- The Government Affairs Team will be starting soon and OSWA will send out invitations to join.
- There will be a Legislative Day in Salem the last week in February.
- Issues to be addressed, so far, are: a severance tax; funding for OFRI; wildfire funding; PFA funding promises; and carbon/environmental issues.
- The OSWA 2025 Members' Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Family Forest Convention of June 20th, 2025. Candidates are needed for a President-Elect and Vice-President.
- Dave Sullivan of Marion-Polk County is embarking on an OSWA History Project. Members are encouraged to send him any pertinent chapter or state information.

B. OSU Extension:

- The Ties to the Land Lunch & Learn webinar series (all noon-1PM) will be held on December 10, 17, and January 7. Registration information is posted on the OSU Extension website.
- There will be a wreath-making party at the Extension office on December 7th from 10 AM until noon.

C. ODF

- The next Committee for Family Forestlands (CFF) is January 22, 2025.

9. Announcements/Partner News/Other

- The OWIT Brunch will be held December 8, 2024
- The Forests Today & Forever Annual Meeting is January 17th at 8 AM at Venue 252 in Eugene.
- The OWIT Annual Auction is February 19th at 4PM at The Graduate in Eugene.
- The Oregon Logging Conference is February 20-21, 2025.

10. Recap/Action Items: Kate reminded everyone to renew their OSWA membership.