

**Ash Creek Water Control District
Board of Directors
REGULAR MEETING**

**Thursday, February 2, 2023
7:00 A.M.**

MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of minutes:
 - a. January 19, 2023 – Special Meeting
 - b. January 5, 2023 – Regular Meeting
4. Audience Comments
5. Director Comments
6. Reports
 - A. Finance
 - a. Monthly Report
 - b. RILOA update
 - B. Phone
 - C. Nutria
 - D. Engineer's Report
 - E. Subcommittee Report: Outreach
 - a. Activity Log
7. Unfinished Business
 - A. Legislative Advocacy
8. New Business
 - A. 2023 Election
9. Miscellaneous Business/Information Items
 - A. Correspondence
 - B. Task Log
10. Adjourn

Notice of Regular Meeting

The Board of Directors of Ash Creek Water Control District will hold a Regular Meeting at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 2, 2023. The meeting will be conducted via video conference. To provide comments in advance or to get videoconference attendance information, email the District Secretary at DistSec@ashcreekwcd.com, no later than 5:00 pm, February 1, 2023.

Ash Creek Water Control District Special Meeting

Vegetation Study Presentation January 19, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Dan Farnworth.

Roll call of board members: Ed Matteo, Chair Dan Farnworth, Mancil Russell, Andrea Melendy, Donna Schuyler, Madeline Fisher.

Also present were Hanna Porter, Heather Tovar, Anastasia Popcheck, David Szpakowski, Patrick Melendy, Joe Brooks, Beeb Simpson, Joseph Fisher, Steve Taylor, Bryan Dutton, Samantha Levell, Samuel Bedgood. Kristen Larson, Anne Scheck and Steve Scheck arrived later.

A Zoom meeting link was opened for remote access.

After introductory remarks by the chair, Bryan Dutton and his team from WOU presented their 2022 vegetation study results from selected sites along Ash Creek. Surveys along seven transects were taken by ground workers. Photographic surveys of vegetation along six of those transects were done by UAV.

Conclusions of the surveys were that the results were promising if limited. Lack of access and time required limited the ground surveys. Tree cover, season and shadow limited the UAV surveys.

Discussion of the results followed between the WOU team and the rest of the audience. Suggestions were made for a following study to increase accuracy of results and expand the scope of the study.

The WOU team will be in contact with the District board with focused suggestions. The board will consider what it needs and wants. The formal report will be delivered to the board by the end of February.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

**Ash Creek Water Control District
Board of Directors
REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, January 5, 2023

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order via Zoom at 7:00 a.m. by Chair Dan Farnworth.

2. Roll Call. Board present: Dan Farnworth, Madeline Fisher, Ed Matteo, Roger Weber, Andrea Melendy, Mancil Russell, Donna Schuyler, Tom Wilson
Others Present: Karin Johnson, Todd Whitaker, Anne Scheck

3. Approval of previous meeting minutes: December 1, 2022. Tom moved to approve the minutes as submitted; Madeline seconded. Motion passed by all board present.

4. Audience Comments.

4.1. Anne Scheck said she is here to finish an article on Professor Dutton and students. She will be reaching out to the board; she would like to have their opinion on blackberry preservationists. She will be sending emails.

5. Director Comments.

Madeline reported:

- we had 7.35" precipitation in December.
- Dutton students will be coming for ivy pull.
- Hearing coyotes.
- Read an interesting book, Water Log by Roger Deacon (about nutria in England).

She has comments about the Dutton report; Dan noted we will discuss this with the contract renewal. She noted they are having quite an impoundment on the field, not over road, though.

Roger stated he noticed that walking on Ash St, north of the creek, that there is a tributary going into Ash Creek and that there are many nutria in it.

Andrea reported they had water over the road on the north side of the bridge, a couple of times (note: Gun Club Road); it didn't impact her property.

Donna reported she went to Spirtopia to hear a small presentation by Dan Gorman re: his book – he thanked the District in the book. A sign by the trash can in the park is to be installed.

Tom reported that Kristen went to the same event; he would like to put a little blurb on our website, perhaps link to where one can buy the book. He said it is a great piece of outreach work.

Donna also reported that water went high/low/high/low. Coyotes were seen on neighbors trail cams.

Dan reported that after the ice melted, the creek went up. Gentle Woods park got enough to block the bridge over the creek.

6. Reports

A. Finance

a. Monthly Report.

Cash in bank: LGIP, \$407870.40; PTB, \$5,992.45

Checks - Ascension Acct; Karin Johnson

There are two new bills – Streamline & Ascension Accounting and they will reflect on next month's report.

Karin reported that the Report in Lieu of Audit needs amendment. She will contact the state to see how to fix.

Dan said we seem to collect funds, not spending. Knows we are saving for projects; both Monmouth and Independence have some coming up; doesn't know status of projects in Dallas. Need to save but also have funds to spend on local projects.

B. Phone. No report.

Mancil excused at 7:20 am

C. Nutria. Ed summarized the report; 52 traps are out; November, 1 caught in Dallas, 2 in Independence (Willamette). December, 2 caught in old town, 2 in Dallas, 1 south of Independence in Willamette. Donna asked that since Roger has reported nutria, does Ed set traps; Ed says has done so in the past, but he needs property owner permission. Roger reported he saw them in an undeveloped lot. Lots of debris piling up. Discussion. Ed will make contact with person that may do trapping for us. Tom suggested perhaps we could get staff to assist. Discussion.

D. Engineer's Report. Todd reported:

- The book is available on Amazon for \$9.99.
- Nothing to report for this month.
- Will look a potential projects. There are lots of federal grants – state, counties and cities are going out for them. Not sure if Dallas is moving forward on the Godsey Rd bridge project yet. One of the hangups to the project was the railroad crossing. It has since been partially defunded. He will talk with Dallas public works. The other project, Mid-Valley Paper, has had no movement in awhile. Perhaps pursue a downstream project w/Godsey Road; he saw a recent article there is interest in restoring the natural channel. If Dallas puts in for grant, it would score well, then ACWCD could provide some match. Cities can have challenges coming up with match funds. Discussion. Tom thinks this is a great point, we could help leverage with our funds; could we reach out?. Further discussion of federal grant requirements, Dallas project.

E. Subcommittee Report: Outreach.

- Dan noted Anne sent an email re: article in I-O about the book.
- Tom reported the website is updated; he needs approved minutes for the last 3 months of 2022. A mailing is to be sent out this month. Will put link to article on our website.
- He found out Zoom has internet phone, at \$15 per month, messages get email reminder. Dan asked if it could replace the district phone; Tom said it could; same phone number, just no physical phone. He will bring more information back.
- Ed displayed banner and t-shirts made for outreach (booths, etc).
- Madeline asked about the birdwalk update; Tom said no new information, he will reach out.
- Tom noted we should think if we want to do tables again; Saturday markets will be starting up.
- Ed reported the t-shirts came in at \$8 each; hats, \$5. He will get an invoice to Andrea.

7. Unfinished Business

A. Legislative Advocacy. Dan has not had the opportunity to look into this as of yet. Will do so.

8. New Business

A. WOU contract extension. Dan reported that Bryan asked for an extension to the end of February. We have meeting set up for 1/19 to receive the vegetation survey. Consensus.

Andrea asked if we had decided on a place for meeting; she will get information from Bryan. Madeline asked if they have questions on the study, do they contact him; Dan said to send them to him and he will forward and get responses.

ACTION:

Madeline moved to extend the contract to the end of February; Ed seconded. Motion passed by all board members present.

Dan noted this originally was to get information regarding vegetation in the creek; he wants the board and Todd to review to see if this information will be helpful to our mission - is this cost effective; can we tailor it to future investigations. Tom would also like forward thinking re: the Emerald Ash Borer. Discussion. Madeline suggested a survey on the ground and also from the air, map whole thing. She could see the study expanded for the whole corridor. Discussion. Karin noted will need meeting date/time/location information for notice.

Dan noted we also had an aerial survey done to find out what's on creek. Asked Todd that he would like to know if either provided useful information. Todd noted that the first one was done during the summer when the leaves were on; when we do the next flight he hopes to see where are obstructions, etc. - hopes to get to see the extent of the vegetation. Discussion; will report back.

B. Dan reported we have had lots of rain lately, with more on the way; asked if anyone sees any problems. Todd reported he did some spot checks, didn't see anything of grave concern. Asked about Gun Club Road; Andrea said it was only over the road twice, briefly; only one car was stalled from going around the barrier. No other areas noted. Dan said he looked at Riverview Park; the footbridge is okay, but some water was over the path north of it. Brief discussion of planted willows.

C. Karin will contact Monmouth and Independence public works regarding district funds for city projects.

D. Todd said that the county is looking at a grant project for a bridge at Riddle Road, north of Monmouth; they possibly will be coming to the district in February to ask for a partial match.

9. Miscellaneous Business/Information Items

A. Correspondence. No action required.

B. Task Log. Karin asked if 10-year plan should be updated; Todd will look to see if it is project specific.

10. Adjourn. Ed moved to adjourn; Roger seconded. Motion passed by all Board present.

Meeting adjourned 8:22 am.

ACWCD Board of Directors Tracking Log 2022-23

Project	Assigned	Person Assigned	Status		Comments
			Pending	Completed	
Buy laptop	05/07/2020	Karin	x		Purchase laptop & Office 365
Website, records	11/04/2021	Karin/Tom/Andrea			Go to storage unit/Karin to put agenda packets & minutes on website
Take old laptop to Tom	11/04/2021	Karin			
Vegetation survey	12/2/2021	Board	x		Report reviewed 01-19-2023
Update Policy Manual	01/06/2022	Board			Ongoing
Outreach subcommittee	06/02/2022	committee	x		ONGOING
File Report in Lieu of Audit	9/1/2022	Karin		x	File no later than Sept 30th
Create Outreach Comm. Activity Log	9/1/2022	Tom	x		Ongoing
Associate Directors, add'l information	12/1/2022	Tom		x	Not applicable to our district
Legislative Advocacy	10/6/2022	Dan	x		Future meeting discussion
Correct RILOA	1/5/2023	Karin		x	Amended report filed with state; closed 01/20/2023
Approved minutes to Tom for website	1/5/2023	Karin	x		