

IN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE COUNTY OF YAMHILL
SITTING FOR THE TRANSACTION OF COUNTY BUSINESS

In the Matter of a Resolution)
opposing expansion of Federal)
control under the Clean Water) RESOLUTION 14-10-02-1
Act) Board Order 14 - 000

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF YAMHILL COUNTY, OREGON (“the Board”) sat for the transaction of county business in formal session on October 2, 2014, commissioners Allen Springer, Kathy George and Mary Starrett being present.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) have released a 371 page draft regulation for Definition of Waters of the U.S. under the Clean Water Act; and

WHEREAS, both agencies are seeking a rule change to give the federal government more authority by expanding the definition of “navigable waters” in the Clean Water Act; and

WHEREAS, the rule change proposed by the EPA and the Corps would subject almost all physical areas with a connection to downstream navigable waters, including features such as ditches, natural or man-made ponds, and flood plains, to the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act; and

WHEREAS, the proposed rule change, if adopted, will cause significant harm to local farmers, stall the development of businesses, take control of land used for food production out of our local providers’ hands, and negatively impact County-owned and maintained infrastructure such as roadside ditches; and

WHEREAS, the cost to our farms, municipalities and taxpayers will be enormous; and

WHEREAS, it is impractical for the federal government to regulate every ditch, pond and rain puddle that may have some tenuous connection, miles away, to a body of water currently defined as “navigable”;

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Yamhill County Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) does hereby strongly oppose the EPA and Corps expansion of the Clean Water Act, as proposed. Furthermore, the Board will hereby forward a certified copy of this resolution to Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Army Corps of Engineers, the National Association of Counties, and the Association of Oregon Counties.

ATTEST

YAMHILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BRIAN VAN BERGEN

County Clerk

Allen Springer

Chairman

ALLEN SPRINGER

By:

[Signature]
Deputy LUCY FLORES MENDEZ

Commissioner

Kathy George

KATHY GEORGE



FORM APPROVED BY:

Christian Boenisch

CHRISTIAN BOENISCH
Yamhill County Counsel

Commissioner

Mary Starrett

MARY STARRETT

Accepted by Yamhill County Board of Commissioners on 10.2.14 by Board Order # 14-000