



Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District
89 Alder Street Central Point OR 97502
Telephone: (541) 423-6159 Fax 541-727-7471
www.jswcd.org

MINUTES NOT FINAL UNTIL APPROVED

July 22, 2020

**Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District
(JSWCD)
Board Meeting Minutes**

Directors

Allan Campbell – Chair Absent
Stan Dean - Absent
Don Hamann
Pam Hillers – Associate Director - Absent
Ron Hillers – Treasurer/Secretary
Gordon Jones – Associate Director- via ZOOM
Barbara Niedermeyer – Vice Chair
Dave Picanso – Arrived at 4:35pm
Juanita Wright – Absent

Staff & Guests

Markie Germer – Administrative Specialist
Randy White – District Manager
Bob Jones - Rogue River Watershed Council (RRWC) - via ZOOM
Karelia VerEecke –Education & Outreach Coordinator - via ZOOM
Jenna Sanford – Water Monitoring Coordinator - via ZOOM
Clint Nichols – Forest & Riparian Resource Conservationist – via ZOOM
Paul DeMaggio – Soil & Water Conservation Engineer- via ZOOM
Meghan Montgomery – Agriculture Resource Conservationist – via ZOOM
Nicky Webb Smith - Public

Board Vice Chair Niedermeyer opened the Board meeting at 4:05pm. Attendees stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. It was noted that there were only three board members attending the meeting therefore there is not a quorum. Without a quorum, the members can not make any decisions, but they can come to a consensus for the purpose of record.

AGENDA

Added to the agenda under New Business is a letter of support for Peter Winnick to Ron Alvarado of Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

MINUTES

It was the consensus of the members attending the meeting that the minutes from the June 17, 2020 Board meeting are accurate with no corrections needed.

It was the consensus of the members attending the meeting that the minutes from the June 17, 2020 Budget Hearing are accurate with no corrections needed.

TREASURER REPORTS

It was the consensus of the members attending the meeting that the July's treasure report was correct to the best of their knowledge.

The Year End Financial report is for review. No action is required.

STAFF REPORTS

Clint reported on the two District Funds Applications he submitted and that were approved on Monday. The first application is the Firewise program that includes fuel reductions with a riparian restoration project in the subdivision of Twin Creeks. The project involves several organizations including the Southern Oregon Land Conservancy, Fire District 3, and the Jackson Oak Neighborhood Association and, as of today, an Eagle Scout. The planting date is set for November 14 and will include these organization as well as landowners. The second application that was approved is the Meyer Creek project which is another riparian project and the landowner is so excited, she is actively telling her friends and neighbors about the good things that JSWCD does. Two site visits have resulted from her publicity.

Meghan spoke about the Neil Creek application that was approved as well. This project will involve irrigation piping for better water conservation. ODFW will install a fish screen and headgate. And a water measuring device will allow the landowner to accurately measure and control the water.

Paul reported that the project with the NRCS Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) in the Focus Area; the Lower Bradshaw Project is now complete. They installed part circle center pivots. NRCS paid for a soil moisture monitoring device. Paul will be reviewing the soil moisture values to report the results.

Karelia said that with the help from staff, they successfully reviewed, updated, and edited the Natural Resource Handbook. It has been sent to the printers. Karelia will be out on maturity leave starting July 27th until November 2nd.

REPORTS

Building Committee Update There was nothing to report at this time.

Equipment Committee Update

Now that Trevor is back to work, the Equipment Rental Program will be starting up in the fall. The Committee will be scheduling a meeting to discuss the weed wiper.

District Funds Committee Update

Three District Funds applications were submitted and approved. One application was in the category of Small Acts of Conservation (SAC) and other two were under the Cooperative Conservation Projects (CCP). The applications totaled almost \$30,000. Trevor has been tasked with the District Funds Summary. He will update the summary on a continuous basis.

Personnel Committee Update

The personnel policy is very close to having the Personnel Committee review the policy.

Legislative Update There was nothing to report at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

Director Criteria

Four directors submitted the survey. When all of the Directors have submitted their surveys, they will be tallied and e-mailed to Director Dean for him to take to OACD. Director Niedermeyer said that the directors who have not submitted their survey, should be emailed with a deadline as to when the survey must be submitted.

NEW BUSINESS

Letter of Support for Peter Winnick

The letter of support recommends Peter Winnick as the new NRCS District Conservationist for this office. The members felt that the letter did not warrant a motion and that there is a timeline that needs to be met. Director Niedermeyer highly recommended that the letter be mailed with the salutation from the whole Board instead of just the Board Chair.

Managers Briefing

District Manager White said that the mandatory Pay Equity process has been completed with HR Answers. HR Answers asked why our state association had not developed a state-wide Pay Equity process. District Manager White has passed the question on to Jan Lee at Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) along with HR Answers contact information.

Director Picanso arrived at 4:33pm

OWEB

Director Niedermeyer reported that there is less than \$10,000 in the pot for Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) Small Grants Program for this area. Future funding is still unknown. More information will come after the September 9th OWEB Board Meeting.

OACD

Director Dean was not in attendance.

SWCC

Director Dean was not in attendance.

RRWC

Bob Jones thanked the District for their on-going financial support. He also reported that the Celebrate the Rogue Event is in the planning stages, but they plan to have a virtual auction for the whole month of October. More information will follow.

NRAC

There was nothing to report at this time.

Staff was excused at 4:45pm .

With the arrival of Director Picanso, there is now a quorum to make decisions on the previous minutes and the July treasurers report.

Minutes

A motion by Director Hillers with a second by Director Hamann to approve the June 17, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes as presented passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report

A motion by Director Hillers with a second by Director Hamann to accept the July Treasurers Report as presented passed unanimously.

Letter of Support

A motion by Director Hillers with a second by Director Hamann to approve the letter of support for Peter Winnick with the change of the salutation to read: Jackson Soil and Water Board of Directors.

There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Markie Germer

Markie Germer

Official Minutes approved as printed: *Allan Campbell* Date: August 19, 2020

Approved as amended: _____ Date: _____