



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

April 20th, 2022
Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District
(JSWCD)
Board Meeting

Directors, Associates

In attendance:

Stan Dean – Chair
Allan Campbell – Director
Nicky Webb Smith – Director
Don Hamann – Director
Ron Hillers – Secretary/Treasurer
Barbara Niedermeyer – Vice Chair
Pam Hillers – Associate Director
Gordon Jones – Director

In attendance via zoom:

Absent:

Guests:

In attendance:

Colleen Roberts – County Commissioner

In attendance via zoom:

Staff:

In attendance:

Randy White – District Manager
Trevor Morris – Business Manager
Paul DeMaggio – Soil & Water Conservation Engineer
Clint Nichols – Riparian Resource Conservationist

In attendance via zoom:

Hannah Satein – Education and Outreach Coordinator
Kora Mousseaux – Community Water Resource
Conservationist

Meghan Montgomery – Agriculture Resource Conservationist

Absent:

Markie Germer – Administrative Specialist

Jenna Sanford – Stewardship Monitoring Coordinator

Director Dean called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Director Dean stated that he would like to move the administration portion to the top of the agenda, followed by reports.

District Manager White suggested Meghan provides her staff update last as she will be updating and presenting a grant the district received.

March Board Meeting Minutes

A motion by Director Hillers with a second by Director Hamann to approve the April 20th, 2022, minutes passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

A motion by Director Hillers with a second by Director Hamann to accept the April treasurer's reports as presented passed unanimously.

Staff Reports

Kora stated that she submitted a grant for this funds review period for \$4,000 for rain gutters on a horse barn. She also closed out two stormwater rebate projects, one was a private landowner for a rain harvest

system and the other was a rainwater harvest storage for the Master Gardeners at OSU extension office. She has eight other landowners showing interest in the program.

Hannah reported that they just had the 2nd Southern Oregon Regional Envirothon (SORE) event. The event went great. She is working diligently to prepare for day camp and extended an invitation to the Board members to volunteer and help with the event. The date for the barbeque is Friday, July 1st. Director Dean asked how many schools and participants participated in the Envirothon. Hannah stated that there were six teams and three schools present.

Clint reported that he had three grants recently approved to include one with the Applegate Watershed Council to purchase a prescribed fire trailer, a riparian restoration project for Stone River Vineyards, as well as a large restoration project on the Vesper Meadow property that includes beaver dam analogs and native restoration. Clint is also finishing the reporting for the OWEB grant for the South Obenchain fire.

Paul reported that the district signed a letter of support with the Farmers Conservation Alliance (FCA) to pipe the entire east canal. This is the canal that comes out of Emigrant lake and runs along the east side of the valley. 20%-30% is lost in the canal now. The FCA have done system improvement plans thus far. Paul has also been working alongside the Medford Irrigation District (MID) and the FCA to do a community solar project by floating solar array on the Medford irrigation districts regulating reservoir located out towards Jacksonville.

Trevor reported that he has been working closely with Randy and Markie, continuing to learn the daily financial functions of the District as well as preparing the budget and budget message for next month's Budget Committee Meeting.

Meghan reported that she has been working closely with Hannah and Jenna as well as the Rogue River Watershed Council (RRWC), Medford Water Commission, and Rogue Valley Council of Governments (RVCOG) on the National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) project. This is a project that identifies agriculture inputs to water quality in six watersheds that are all tributaries to the Rogue River.

Two small forest landowner grants from the SB 762 grant were awarded. One of the projects is on John Speece's and his neighbor's property and the other is for the Obenchain fire footprint, covering 220 acres. District Manager White asked Meghan to give a quick overview of the project. Meghan stated that there will be 228 acres of treatment that include thinning of regrowth, noncommercial thinning of remaining stands, and 170 acres of slash pile burning as well as 50 acres of chipping. The grant request was for \$173,000 and the District will receive a grant application for \$50,000 that will be utilized as match.

ODF Small Forestland Grant Program 4SFG-01-02

A motion by Director Hamann with a second by Director Niedermeyer to approve signatory authority for the District Manager for ODF Small Forestland Grant Program, number 4SFG-01-02 and all related documents, upon final approval from the Department of Justice, and for the interim authority to initiate landowner outreach efforts, as described in the ODF grant agreement, and to allow the Invitation to Bid (ITB) process to start, with the Request for Proposals (RFP) to be sent out pending final approval from the Department of Justice passed unanimously.

Quarterly Reports

Director Dean thought the quarterly report was very thorough and appreciated the report. Director Webb-Smith stated that staff are very busy. Director Dean asked Paul why some of his projects were listed in multiple areas. Paul stated that the Little Butte Creek Priority Area and the Bradshaw Drop area are split out and the remaining water quality quantity projects are not associated with those large projects.

Commissioner Roberts Report

Commissioner Roberts reported that she met with District Manager White and Director Dean about the water assessment regarding the illegal marijuana grows, much like IVSWCD conducted. They discussed the potential of our county to participate in an assessment. Ultimately it was decided that it may conflict with

our mission as a District to participate. District Manager White stated that if someone developed a report, the District may want to publish a page or two to help the legal growers realize the resources that the District offers.

Equipment Committee

Trevor reported that equipment committee hopes to meet here in the coming weeks to revisit a trailer purchase and the possible purchase of a weed wiper. District Manager White stated that Jan Lee asked for a list of our equipment and that he had sent that list to her.

District Funds Committee

District Manager White reported that four applications were taking in. All reviews were positive. This was a great batch of projects submitted and total of all projects amounted to \$59,022.

Personnel Committee

Trevor reported that the Personnel Committee had a meeting next week and would be discussing position descriptions. He also reported that there has been very little interest in the office assistant position. District Manager White stated that we will also be scheduling another meeting to discuss the grade and step changes in the personnel policy.

Legislative Update

Director Dean stated that all natural resource agencies are in the process of preparing their budgets and legislative concepts that they want to take forward in 2023.

Strategic Planning Committee

Director Dean reported that the committee has most of the writing assignments complete. Trevor is compiling all of the sections and will be sending it to the committee the following day. The committee will be meeting again next week.

ODF Small Forestland Grant Program 4SFG-01-03

A motion by Director Hillers with a second by Director Campbell to approve signatory authority for the District Manager for ODF Small Forestland Grant Program, number 4SFG-01-03 and all related documents passed unanimously.

REPORTS

OWEB - Small Grant Team

Director Niedermeyer reported that the window to apply opens in May.

OACD

Director Dean stated he had nothing new to report.

SWCC

Director Dean stated he had nothing new to report and that the next meeting is in May.

RRWC

The RRWC is holding their celebrate the Rogue event on April 23rd. Also, a non-profit center that is associated with the University of Oregon approached the RRWC and asked to do a study of the Council. They conducted the study and built a report that was given back to RRWC. Overall, the Watershed Council is functioning at a high level.

Agenda Build

Nothing to report.

The meeting adjourned at 4:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Trevor Morris
Trevor Morris

Minutes approved as printed:

 _____ Date 6-15-22

Approved as amended:

_____ Date _____