



Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District  
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**MINUTES NOT FINAL UNTIL APPROVED**

May 16, 2018

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

**Directors**

Allan Campbell – Chair  
Don Hamann – Director  
Ron Hillers – Director – Treasurer/Secretary  
Barbara Niedermeyer – Vice Chair  
Marilyn Rice – Director  
Juanita Wright – Director  
Stan Dean – Director  
Gordon Jones – Associate Director  
Pam Hillers – Associate Director

**Staff & Guests**

Paul DeMaggio – Soil & Water Engineer  
Markie Germer – Administrative Specialist  
Kora Mousseaux – Urban Planner  
Clint Nichols – Rural Planner  
Sophia Roesch – Office Assistant  
Jenna Sanford – Natural Resource Technician  
Karelia Ver Eecke – Education & Outreach Coordinator  
Randy White – District Manager  
Tom Dover – Rogue River Watershed Council (RRWC)  
Colleen Roberts – Jackson County Commissioner  
Kara Baylog – OSU Extension – Student Watershed Assessment Team (SWAT) Coordinator  
Chris Van Ness – Logos Charter School – SWAT  
Logos Charter School Students – SWAT members:  
Josiah Chan                      Alyssa Grimm  
Ian Jones                         Angelia Ehresmann  
Reagan Saunders               Griffin Smith  
Levi Pettett                       Noah Hunter

Board Chair Campbell opened the Board meeting at 4:00 pm. Introductions were made by those in attendance.

Students from Logos Charter School presented a power point presentation on a District Funded grant for the Student Watershed Assessment Team (SWAT) program through OSU Extension. The goal for the students is to provide usable scientific data for natural resource management activities. Local agencies and related organizations are able to obtain the data on the internet.

**AGENDA**

District Manager White requested time under New Business to discuss the topic of Wolves.

**MINUTES**

**A motion by Director Niedermeyer with a second by Director Rice to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2018 Board Meeting with the spelling correction on Pam Hillers last name passed unanimously.**

**TREASURER REPORTS**

**A motion by Director Hillers with a second by Director Hamann to accept the April Treasurers report as presented passed unanimously.**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Karelia informed the Board that the Day Camp Registration is full with 40 campers. The Board was invited to attend and help out with the camp. The Wagner Creek Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) Board Tour is scheduled for Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Jenna reported that the data loggers have been placed along Antelope Creek and Yankee Creek for the monitoring project related to Bradshaw Drop. She will be going out every other week starting next week.

Kora reported on a District Funds project for the Butte Falls Charter School pollinator habitat. She suggested this great location for a future Board tour as the school has worked on some good conservation projects.

Paul talked about the past month as an educator month. He taught a class every weekend last month. At Dunbar Farms he taught a class about Irrigating in Jackson County. At the Living on the Land (LOL) event he taught a workshop titled "Getting water where you want it". He was involved with the OSU Forage plot irrigation upgrade that had 10 volunteers helping. He is still working on the Rogue Valley Irrigation District (RVID) design for Bradshaw drop project.

Clint also taught at the LOL about funding opportunities with Brian Bar. Kora and Clint taught a landscaping for water conservation class to a homeowner association (HOM). They had seventeen participants. Clint said that he and Donna Chickering taught a horse property management workshop to the realtor association. It was another well attended event. There were good comments, feedback, and the group was very engaged.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Board received the paper titled *End of ODA State Provided Liability Coverage for SWCD's* in their Board Packet. Jan Keppinger sent an e-mail that was also included in the Board Packet regarding the ODA insurance. All but one district has their insurance through Special Districts Insurance Service (SDIS). ODA supplied supplementary liability insurance to all the districts at no charge to the District. This was to help out the smaller poorer districts. The biggest question is why the districts were not asked for input and discussion prior to ODA's decision to stop the insurance coverage. The Board did not see any reason to pursue this topic any further.

Karelia gave a review of the activities each day of the day camp.

District Manager White informed the Board that Manette Simpson, Program Analyst with ODA, will be retiring effective May 31, 2018. The replacement for this position is on hold until further notice.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Building Update**

There is nothing to report at this time.

### **District Funds Committee Update**

No District Funds Applications were submitted this month and the committee had nothing to report.

### **Personnel Committee Update**

The Personnel Committee will meet on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm to review performance evaluations.

Staff was dismissed at 5 pm.

## **Basin Team Meetings**

Right now none of the Basin Boundaries for Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), the Oregon Association of Conservation District (OACD), and the Soil & Water Conservation Commission (SWCC) are the same. District Manager White handed out a map of Oregon with proposed boundaries that include six areas. His proposal is based on county by drainages. He also proposed that each team basin should have at least one meeting a year by September so that when OACD has their annual November meeting, any issues or concerns that come out of the team basin meetings could be put on the OACD agenda. Director Dean suggested writing a letter to the Commission and OACD advocating these proposals.

**A motion by Director Rice with a second by Director Niedermeyer to appoint Director Dean and District Manager White to draft a letter with the proposed realignment of watershed basin boundaries and concepts and bring it to the June Board Meeting for Board approval then to forward it to State agencies. The motion passed unanimously.**

**A motion by Director Niedermeyer with a second by Director Hillers to authorize District Manager White to continue on the Basin Committee and work with John Keith on the OACD November Annual Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **NRCS Cooperative Agreement**

OACD is taking the lead on the NRCS/SWCD Cooperative Agreement. Right now it is on hold due to sage grouse issues.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Wolf Issue**

District Manager White reported that Lin Bernhardt would like to work with folks in this county on non-lethal methods of wolf control but she would like backing from the District. Several Board members requested she give a presentation on this issue and what she proposes as a solution and outcome. Director Dean stated that the Board should consider our reputation and whether it is worth our time to get involved in this controversial issue. Commissioner Roberts said that the County has set up a multi-advisory committee that statutorily takes care to non-lethal ways to handle wolfs. This committee has funding through ODA and the state. The committee is made up of county staff, Fish and Wildlife, and citizens both for and against the issue. Lin will be invited to the July Board Meeting to present an outline and plan of action. District Manager White will request she send us an outline prior to the July meeting.

##### **Managers Briefing**

District Manager White reported on the Oregon Open the Books (American Transparency). They have made requests for information asking not to be charged. The District has e-mailed them our policy on Public Records Information that states the charges and the procedure for receiving the information. The last correspondence from Open the Books stated that they have closed the request but that they may appeal. District Manager White just wanted the Board to be aware of this situation.

##### **OWEB**

There was nothing to report.

##### **RRWC**

Tom Dover reported that Sarah Sauter, RRWC Program Manager has resigned. She is moving to Redmond. OWEB approved the three applications submitted by the Watershed Council. On Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, the Council will have a booth at the Shady Cove Festival on the Rogue.

##### **SWCC**

Director Dean reported that he attended the Fort Rock/Silver Lake Soil & Water District's board meeting.

##### **NRAC**

Commissioner Robert's told of the presentation from Parks Committee about the Bear Creek Greenway Project. Paul and Clint were involved with this project as well as Craig Tuss from Rogue Valley Council of Governments.

##### **Agenda Build**

There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Markie Germer

Markie Germer

Official Minutes approved as printed: Allan Campbell Date 06-20-18

Approved as amended: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_