



Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District
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MINUTES NOT FINAL UNTIL APPROVED

January 18th, 2023
Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District
(JSWCD)
Board Meeting

Directors, Associates

In attendance:

Stan Dean – Chair
Barbara Niedermeyer – Vice Chair
Don Hamann – Director
Frank Baratta – Director 5:32pm
Nicky Webb Smith – Director
Katelyn Detweiler – Director
Gordon Jones – Director Emeritus
Juanita Wright – Director Emeritus

Zoom:

Ron Hillers – Secretary/Treasurer
Pam Hillers – Associate Director

Staff:

In attendance:

Randy White – Executive Director
Trevor Morris – Business Manager

In attendance via zoom:

Hannah Satein – Education and Outreach Coordinator
Jenna Sanford – Stewardship Monitoring Coordinator
Kora Mousseaux – Community Water Resource
Conservationist
Paul DeMaggio – Soil & Water Conservation Engineer
Meghan Montgomery – Agriculture Resource
Conservationist
Clint Nichols – Riparian Resource Conservationist –
Kim Ingram – Office Assistant

Guests:

In attendance:

Commissioner Roberts

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

Preview Agenda

Director Niedermeyer requested to move up the appointment and swearing in of new Directors to before the December Minutes.

Oath of Office

Stan Dean, Board Chair, and Katelyn Detweiler, at large 2, recited the oath of office as elected Directors.

Consent Agenda

A motion by Director Hamann with a second by Director Niedermeyer to approve the December 21st, 2022, minutes, and the December treasurers report passed unanimously.

Staff Quarterly Reports

Executive Director White asked the Board if they had any questions. There were none at this time.

Staff Reports

Hannah reported that she has been working on revamping her grants program. As of January, the education grants will be available to non-profits, tribes, government entities and educational institutions. Additionally, fixed grant windows will be implemented as well as a change in the application process.

Clint reported that he is finally getting started with the OWEB fire restoration project. Crews are starting invasive species removal January 20th. These are expected to continue through February.

Paul reported that he has been able to put the final touches on the Upper Garrison ditch project on Yale Creek. The project focused on piping the leakiest section of their ditch. This piping project came out to roughly \$25 per foot including all costs.

Kora reported that she will be submitting a grant for February as well as working on PSP coordination.

Meghan reported that she has been busy with Post fire fuel treatment work on the South Obenchain fire footprint. She has met with many landowners and has been writing prescriptions. Inventory and contractor work is starting late December. She has been out a few times with some GIS oriented partnership meetings with the Klamath Siskiyou Oak Network Little Butte Oak Initiative.

Administrative Update

Executive Director White reported that the Scope of Work report for Q6 has been turned into ODA. Q7 request for funds has been submitted which leaves one for payment for the biennium(Q8).

Quarterly Financial Report – Budget vs. Actual

Trevor reported that there was nothing out of the ordinary and that most line items were on track based on the fiscal year. He also reported that there will be some savings as there are positions budgeted for the year that have not been filled.

Partnership Reports

RRWC

Director Dean reported that RRWC is taking over Valley of Rogue Watershed Council. He believes the paperwork has been filed with the state, but it is not official yet. This will expand the territory that the RRWC currently works in.

Commissioner Roberts Report

Commissioner Roberts reported that BLM has contracted with the Langdon group and are looking to interview interested parties as they prepare to enter into a resource management plan with BLM on the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument.

District Funds Advisory Group

Executive Director White reported that he is meeting with staff for a possible restructure of the current District Funds process.

Personnel Committee

Associate Director Hillers reported that we will be talking about Executive Director recruitment later in the meeting as well as that JSWCD has received a couple applications for the Natural Resource Conservationist position at this time.

Legislative Update

Director Dean reported that things are in full swing in the legislature right now. In the last week, approximately half of the bills have dropped. Committees are starting to meet this week, mostly discussing rules and administrative processes and will continue to meet over the next few weeks. Director Dean said he would like JSWCD to weigh in where it is appropriate.

Officer Elections

A motion by Director Hamann with a second by Director Webb-Smith to elect Director Dean as the Board Chair, Barbara Niedermeyer as Vice Chair, and Ron Hillers as Secretary/Treasurer passed unanimously.

A motion by Director Niedermeyer with a second by Director Webb-Smith to appoint Pam Hillers as Associate Director and Gordon Jones and Juanita Wright as Director Emeritus passed unanimously.

Committee Appointments

After Board deliberation, it was decided that not all standing committees are needed. The equipment committee, climate change committee, and education and outreach committee are disbanded.

Personnel Committee - Don Hamann, Randy White, Pam Hillers, Trevor Morris, and Juanita Wright. The District Funds Committee will be re-evaluated in a few months as leadership changes commence. **A motion by Director Hamann with a second by Director Webb-Smith to approve the committee roster for 2023-2024 passed unanimously.**

23-01/110 Annual Meeting Resolution

Director Niedermeyer with a second by Director Detweiler to approve the Annual Meeting Resolution 23-01/110 passed unanimously.

Strategic Plan Updates

Executive Director White reported that concerning the metrics, the process should be postponed until the new Executive Director starts. He also stated that it may be an option to contract with a contractor to develop a baseline for monitoring and metrics. Director Jones had some questions about the processes and how/when these will be developed. Priority Areas are still under discussion but at this time, it is anticipated the Big Butte and Little Butte watersheds would be a main focus. This would include forestry and upland health. Little Butte Creek's focus would be on water quality and quantity. Director Jones questioned how and why those areas were selected. Executive Director White asked staff to explain this choice. Meghan reported that these were selected based on previous data collections, inputs from antelope creek, Ag water quality, drinking water intake, and overall water quality in the watershed. It also coincides with the current projects in the Obenchain fire footprint. Paul also reported that by continuing work in this priority area, measurable results are more likely than expanding into additional areas. Executive Director White proceeded to elaborate on the District Funds program and how these funds may be more focused on priority area concerns. Director Wright shared concerns of becoming too focused and leaving one off sites and opportunities behind. District staff are still meeting consistently to determine the best possible use of District funds going forward. Director Dean asked how this would be brought forward to the Board. Executive Director White explained that it would be presented to the Board in form of resolution that would supersede the previous policy and resolution.

Director Training

Director Dean urged Board members to attend the Director training on February 22nd located at the JSWCD meeting room. This is a regional meeting and would be a great opportunity for JSWCD Board members to network with other Districts.

Executive Director Recruitment Updates

Director Dean reported on the executive session of the candidate review committee. The committee met on January 9th, reviewed all complete applications, as well as assessed and ranked the candidates. The results of this will be discussed in Executive Session after the Board Meeting tonight.

REPORTS

OWEB – Small Grant Team

Director Niedermeyer reported that they did not receive any applications. The next window will be open February 14th through the 28th. There is roughly \$31,000 remaining.

OACD

Director Dean stated that OACD is still looking for an Executive Director. Director Dean stated OACD is holding advocacy training January 19th at 8:30am for anyone that is interested.

SWCC

Director Dean stated they will be meeting in February.

Agenda Build

Director Dean wanted to keep Strategic Plan updates and District Funds Committee in the agendas parking lot.

Director Dean called the meeting into Executive Session per ORS 192.660(2)(a) at 5:31pm to discuss the Executive Director selection process. Executive Session was paused and no discussion took place.

Frank Baratta joined the meeting at 5:32pm.

Officer Elections

A motion by Director Webb-Smith with a second by Director Hamann to appoint Frank Baratta as Zone 1 Director passed unanimously.

Oath of Office

Frank Baratta recited the oath of office as a newly elected Director.

Executive Session

Director Dean resumed Executive Session per ORS 192.660(2)(a) at 5:35pm
Executive Session concluded at 6:04pm.

Results

A motion by Director Webb-Smith with a second by Director Hamann to interview the top 4 ranked candidates with the possibility of interviewing the fifth ranked candidate due to any of the top 4 withdrawing passed unanimously.

A motion by Director Hamann with a second by Director Webb-Smith to pay actual travel expenses for interviewees passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:07pm.

Respectfully submitted by: _____
Business Manager

Minutes approved as printed:



Date 2-15-23

Approved as amended:

_____ Date _____

