



Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District
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MINUTES NOT FINAL UNTIL APPROVED

August 15, 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 - Absent
Stan Dean – Director
Gordon Jones – Associate Director - Absent
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
Colleen Roberts – Jackson County Commissioner
Tom Dover – Rogue River Watershed Council (RRWC)
Erin Kurtz – Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

Board Chair Campbell opened the Board meeting at 4:00 pm.

Erin Kurtz, from NRCS led the Board through the required annual review of the NRCS *Civil Rights Responsibilities for Partners*. Erin reviewed the benefits of having minority and female representatives on local boards and that federal law prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin. The District has the required civil rights posters posted. NRCS invites the District to attend the NRCS sponsored Civil Rights Training. Through the JSWCD and NRCS Memorandum of Understanding and the cooperative agreement, each Board member in attendance was required to sign the *NRCS Affirmation of Review*.

Erin reported that Dan Esposito accepted the position as District Conservationist in The Dalles. His vacated position will be filled sometime in the near future. The Pathway student from Virginia Tech was here from May until August 3rd and experienced different opportunities by going out in the field with different agencies including the District. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has been making surprise visits to NRCS offices and Erin will be using a check list to inspect the building to hopefully correct any deficiencies before OSHA inspects the building. The Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) contracts are finished for this year, with 12 contracts for a total of 1300 acres equaling \$1,113,600.00. They have five contracts in the Greensprings area for their new Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS). The CIS programs usually last five to seven years.

Commissioner Roberts reported that representatives from the Applegate Watershed Council spoke to the Commission about a merger with Seven Basins Watershed Council.

AGENDA

Director Dean wanted to know if the wolf issue will be followed up with someone from the local wolf committee addressing the Board. He also stated that there is potential conflict with the November Meeting. OACD will be meeting the same time as the November Board Meeting. A decision should be made at the September Board meeting.

MINUTES

A motion by Director Dean with a second by Director Hillers to approve the minutes from the July 25, 2018 Board Meeting as presented passed unanimously.

TREASURER REPORTS

A motion by Director Hillers with a second by Director Rice to accept the July Treasurers report as presented passed unanimously. The treasurer report the Board received in their Board Packet was replaced with an updated report. **A motion by Director Dean with a second by Director Rice to generate the treasurer report that reflects the previous months finances. The report should include the 1st to the last day of the previous month. The motion passed unanimously.**

STAFF REPORTS

Clint and Kora are moving forward on the restoration project for the Penninger Fire. Kora is working on getting landowners on board and is also helping with an outreach event in the Little Butte Creek area. Jenna reported that she is continuing with water quality monitoring and she also did monitoring on macroinvertebrates in Antelope Creek.

Clint reported that he is now an official published author. He helped write a paper for the *Forest Ecology and Management* publication on the fire history in the Rogue Basin by updating his capstone project. Clint asked the Board to participate in the September 11th American Red Cross blood drive to be held in the conference room. They can also donate platelets by contacting the American Red Cross directly.

CORRESPONDENCE

The OACD November meeting is a member district business meeting not the Annual Meeting. A “*save the date*” postcard will be mailed. It is scheduled for the second full week in November. OACD needs as much Board participation as possible. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for April of 2019.

OLD BUSINESS

Building Update

District Manager White reported that the District has received four bids to replace the HVAC units. He will be making a decision on one of the bids within the week. He mentioned that the District may be slightly over budget in order to get the 2.5 variable speed system instead of the single speed system.

District Funds Committee Update

District Manager White reported that two District Fund applications were submitted. The Cooperative Conservation Projects (CCP) application for \$7,278.00 was approved and the Education application for \$1,589.00 was approved with conditions.

Personnel Committee Update

District Manager White has been working with HR Answers on the pay equity report and this is in place for the 2020 requirement. He is also working with HR Answers on a template for position descriptions.

Director Elections

District Manager White reminded the Board that the deadline for submitting the election paperwork is August 28th. After the recommendations from the Board, a vineyard manager was contacted to see if he would be interested in running for Zone 1. Paperwork was e-mailed but there has been no response.

District Funds Projects 2013-2018

District Manager White presented the Board with a spreadsheet showing District Funds Projects for the last five years. He would like to include how much money these projects leveraged from other funders. Director Dean would like to see where these projects are located in Jackson County. Clint said staff is working with GIS to show locations of projects. Director Niedermeyer said that OWEB puts together a booklet for legislators to show funding locations and amounts spent. This spreadsheet could be sent to OACD for the same purpose. Pam Hillers suggested that we add minorities and/or female clients to show that the District works toward diversity when possible.

District Manager White also reported that he sent the Wagner Creek booklet to ODA (after landowner names were removed). ODA was impressed and will include it in their newsletter under success stories. Mr. White thanked and congratulated Karelia for spearheading the booklet. Karelia let the Board know that Alexis Larson was responsible for the cover and both Karelia and Donna Chickering co-edited the booklet. Karelia also thanked staff for their input and help with the project and event.

Staff was dismissed at 5pm. Erin and Commissioner Roberts also left the meeting at 5pm.

Managers Briefing

District Manager White informed the Board that there will be a Basin Realignment Committee teleconference this Friday at 3pm to go over the white paper. OACD will send the paper out to the basin leaders who will then send it to the districts for review before the OACD November meeting. Director Dean and Mr. White feel the paper should go directly to each district. The intent for these papers is to have members at November meeting discuss and review the topics, and to hopefully produce resolutions for the April 2019 OACD Annual Meeting.

OWEB

Director Niedermeyer reported that the Small Grant Team met on August 9th to review five applications. They recommended funding three applications totaling \$31,619.00. Two applications from the last grant cycle were resubmitted due the depletion of funds. One application submitted for this grant cycle was funded at a reduced amount because there were no more funds available. The Small Grant team has used their \$100,000.00 allocation for this biennium.

SWCC

Director Dean’s written report was passed out at the beginning of the meeting. The Oregon SSWC met for a tristate meeting on August 7th & 8th in McMinnville with soil and water commissioners from Washington and Idaho. Director Dean spoke about some of the presentations from the meeting. Yamhill SWCD has used acquisitions and easements to further projects on their properties. Also, Tualatin SWCD worked with their wastewater agency to make what would have been an expensive treatment improvement for the agency less expensive by helping, landowners with riparian tree planting, to control river temperature.

RRWC

Director Dean submitted a written report that was included in the Board Packet. Director Dean did want to bring up Commissioner Roberts comment about the Applegate Watershed and 7 Basins Watershed wanting to merge. He said 7 Basins is no longer recognized by OWEB. They no longer are getting their capacity funding and no longer eligible to apply for OWEB grants. This is a big hole in terms of watershed health. Director Dean would like the District to speak and encourage Commissioner Roberts to think about this. RRWC is in a position to merge with 7 Basins and the fit would be better than the Applegate Watershed due to locality. Tom Dover invited the District to Rogue River Watershed Council’s annual celebration on October 20th at the Inn at the Commons.

There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Markie Germer

Markie Germer

Official Minutes approved as printed:

Allan Campbell 3^A

Date 09-19-18

Approved as amended: _____ Date _____