



Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District
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MINUTES NOT FINAL UNTIL APPROVED

March 18th, 2025
Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District
(JSWCD)
Board Meeting

Directors, Associates

In attendance:

Ron Hillers – Director
Stan Dean – Director
Katelyn Detweiler – Director
Don Hamann – Director
Frank Baratta – Director
Maxine Cass – Director
Blake Elliott – Director
Barbara Niedermeyer – Director Emeritus

Guests/Partners

Commissioner Roberts - Zoom

Staff in attendance:

Jill Smedstad – Executive Director
Kim Ingram – Office Assistant
Kelli Klein – Outreach & Engagement Coordinator

Director Dean called the March Board Meeting to order at 4:00pm followed by introductions.

February Meeting Minutes

A motion by Director Baratta with a second by Director Hamman to approve the February Board meeting minutes with corrections passed unanimously. Under RRWC report higher was used instead of hired. Under Budget Calendar, should read, “A motion by Director Cass with a second by Director Detweiler.”

Treasurers Report

Director Hillers reported that the financial reports look good.

Rogue River Watershed Council

No Report but Director Dean gave a plug for Celebrate The Rogue happening on April 25th from 4:30 pm to 8 pm at Ashland Hills Inn. The theme this year is The American Beaver.

Admin Report

Kelli Klein will begin as Outreach and Engagement Specialist on March 16. She brings extensive experience in marketing, outreach, and sustainable land management. Consultants Amy Stork and Allison Handler will attend the March Board meeting for a kickoff session. A strategic planning advisory committee has been formed (Maxine Cass, Stan Dean, Clint Nichols, and staff). A summer retreat date is pending.

Jill attended a two-day District Manager training hosted by ODA, covering water quality, team building, performance management, and working with neurodivergent employees. OWEB is conducting pre-rulemaking outreach on capacity grant updates. Staff and board members are encouraged to participate, as changes may significantly impact SWCDs and watershed councils. Staff are coordinating a June tour of conservation sites in the Little Butte Creek watershed with ODA and DEQ water quality staff. Trevor is working on a compensation study. Board elections are coming up, look for email from Sandi at ODA.

Personnel Committee Report

Director Baratta shared the committee is meeting tomorrow, The committee is working on a compensation study to determine what other taxing districts are doing for benefits. Director Dean mentioned that Jill's annual evaluation is coming up.

Legislative Updates

Director Dean shared that the short legislative session has ended. This was one of the lightest sessions in natural resources that he has seen in years.

OWEB

Director Emeritus Niedermeyer said that two applications came in. One from Two Rivers for urban impact reduction for \$19,138. One from Illinois Valley for \$19,347. \$92,000 is leftover. Next window ends May 31st with a review on June 9th.

Financial Internal Controls

A motion by Director Cass to approve the Internal Controls as presented in the February 2026 meeting with minor edits as noted with a second by Director Hamman passed unanimously.

Position Statements

A motion by Director Detweiler to approve Resolution 120 by adopting the JSWCD Position Statements presented in the board packet, thereby rescinding Resolution 109 with a second by Director Hillers passed unanimously.

BLM

Director Dean noted that the BLM is doing some revisions to the way they manage their forests. Discussion was had. Jill will reach out to the BLM.

OACD

Advocacy Video #2 was played for the Board

Strategic Planning Kick-Off Meeting with Amy Stork

Amy Stork gave a presentation for the Strategic Planning meeting.

Agenda Build

Executive Director annual performance review

Public Input

There was no public input.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01pm

Respectfully submitted by: Kim Ingram
Office Assistant

Minutes approved as printed:

Stan Dean Date 04/17/26
Stan Dean (Apr 17, 2026 13:25:09 PDT)

Approved as amended:

_____ Date _____