



Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District
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MINUTES NOT FINAL UNTIL APPROVED

February 21st, 2024
Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District
(JSWCD)
Board Meeting

Directors, Associates

In attendance:

Katelyn Detweiler – Director
Barbara Niedermeyer – Director
Don Hamann – Director
Ron Hillers – Director
Stan Dean - Director
Pam Hillers – Associate Director
Maxine Cass – Director

Guests in Attendance:

Beth Pietrzak - ODA
Peter Winnick - NRCS
Amy Wilson
Colleen Roberts – Jackson County Commissioner

Staff:

In attendance:

Jill Smedstad – Executive Director
Trevor Morris – Business Manager
Meghan Montgomery – Forest Resource Conservationist

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

Maxine Cass introduced herself and shared her background and experience. Maxine is interested in joining the Board of Directors.

Agenda

Director Dean asked the group if they would like to add anything to the agenda, Beth Pietrzak with ODA asked to share an update.

January Meeting Minutes

A motion by Director Hamann with a second by Director Hillers to approve the January 17th Board Meeting minutes passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report

A motion by Director Hillers with a second by Director Niedermeyer to approve the Treasurers Report passed unanimously.

Director Nomination

A motion by Director Niedermeyer with a second by Director Detweiler to appoint Maxine Cass as the Zone 3 Director passed unanimously. The Oath of Office was conducted immediately after the motion passed.

Partnership Reports

Rogue River Watershed Council

Director Dean stated that the RRWC is receiving several new grants totaling 1.75 million dollars. Much of the work is in the same focus areas as the Districts work.

NRCS

Peter Winnick shared that NRCS has been extremely busy with numerous programs to include IRA funds, Green Springs project, and West Bear. The Local Work Group meeting is scheduled for 6:10pm on March 20th, 2024.

Commissioner Report

Commissioner Roberts thanked Jill and Director Dean for presenting to her Board and stated that they did a wonderful job. She stated she recently attended a National Association of Counties conference in Washington D.C. where she had the opportunity to represent Jackson County and our wildfire policy planning with agencies and legislators. Congress was presented with a plan entailing 148 recommendations on wildfire planning.

Watershed Friendly Stewardship Program

Amy Wilson gave a presentation on the Watershed Friendly Stewardship Program. The program aims to encourage and recognize landowners that do an outstanding job being a steward of their property and are recognized via signage. Amy was asking if anyone on the Board would be interested in volunteering to help launch the program and/or be present for grading of criteria before awarding. The Board had several questions concerning the program and asked for a follow-up discussion at the next meeting.

ODA & Water Quality Program

Beth gave an update to the Board from ODA and the Water Quality Program. She mentioned they have a new Director, Lisa Hanson, she came back to ODA from OWEB. They also have a new Water Quality Program Manager, Kevin Fenn. There have been a lot of changes and new staff recently. The Inland Rogue biennial review is coming up in April. In 2024, ODA will be looking for new SIA's (Strategic Implementation Area) and the Inland Rogue will be coming up again. This would include JSWCD or IVSWCD (Illinois Valley SWCD), Beth stated that IVSWCD has not had one yet so they may be a good candidate. Beth gave an update on agricultural water quality complaints, stating that there are currently two. She attended a site visit and concluded that there was not an issue. Another complaint was in the Applegate area. ODA conducted soil sampling and water quality testing which led to no issues as of now.

Admin Report

Executive Director Smedstad reported that JSWCD held a two-day staff retreat in Shady Cove recently. The staff worked through some big picture items to include CAP (Conservation Assistance Program) and the updated AWP (Annual Work Plan) structure. The District's staff working groups are continuing to meet regularly. The metrics and monitoring advisory committee meets next Friday.

Budget Calendar

Trevor sent the Budget Calendar out to the Board in the Board Packet. The dates in the calendar meet all ORS Statute requirements and provide a timeline for the Board and Committee on the 24-25 FY Budget process. **A motion by Director Niedermeyer with a second Director Hamann to approve the 24-25 Budget Calendar passed unanimously.**

ODF – Jackson SWCD Disaster Relief Agreement

Executive Director Smedstad gave a brief overview of the grant agreement and asked Meghan to share in more detail. Meghan briefly presented the history of the grant, the agreement, and the scope of work concerning the project and funds. **A motion by Director Detweiler with a second by Director Cass to approve the ODF-Jackson SWCD Disaster Relief sub-award agreement and delegate signatory authority to the Executive Director.** Director Detweiler asked about the seedling establishment and if irrigation was possible for this project. Meghan stated irrigation is not possible with this specific project although Clint is working diligently to plant in strategic areas to ensure success.

Updates

Legislative Update

Director Dean gave a brief update on the short session, which is about 2/3rds of the way through. Any bill that did not make it through its first committee is now dead. Director Dean mentioned a few bills that relate to the type of work the District does.

OWEB – Small Grant Team

Director Niedermeyer reported that they have a window closing at the end of the week. The team is holding a review meeting in March.

OACD

Nothing to report.

SWCC

SWCC’s next meeting is February 27th and 28th, 2024.

Agenda Build/Other Business

Wildlife Habitat Conservation Management Program
Weed Management

Public Input

Nothing to report.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28pm.

Respectfully submitted by: _____
Business Manager

Minutes approved as printed:

Stan Dean Date 01/07/24
Stan Dean (Jul 1, 2024 16:29 PDT)

Approved as amended:

_____ Date _____







2024-02-21 MINUTES

Final Audit Report

2024-07-01

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