



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

May 18th, 2022  
Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District  
(JSWCD)  
Board Meeting

**Directors, Associates**

**In attendance:**

Stan Dean – Chair  
Allan Campbell – Director  
Nicky Webb Smith – Director  
Don Hamann – Director  
Ron Hillers – Secretary/Treasurer  
Barbara Niedermeyer – Vice Chair  
Pam Hillers – Associate Director

**In attendance via zoom:**

Gordon Jones – Director

**Staff:**

**In attendance:**

Randy White – District Manager  
Trevor Morris – Business Manager  
Paul DeMaggio – Soil & Water Conservation Engineer  
Clint Nichols – Riparian Resource Conservationist

**In attendance via zoom:**

Hannah Satein – Education and Outreach Coordinator  
Kora Mousseaux – Community Water Resource Conservationist  
Meghan Montgomery – Agriculture Resource Conservationist

**Absent:**

Markie Germer – Administrative Specialist  
Jenna Sanford – Stewardship Monitoring Coordinator

**Guests:**

**In attendance:**

Colleen Roberts – County Commissioner  
Kara Baylog  
Chris Van Ness  
Swat Team  
Brian Hampson - RRVID  
Larry Martin – RRVID Board  
Peter Winnick - NRCS

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

District Manager White introduced the Student Watershed Assessment Team (SWAT) instructors, Kara Baylog and Chris Van Ness.

Kara Baylog and Chris Van Ness introduced the SWAT students and gave a brief explanation of what the SWAT team will present. Students from SWAT presented what they had been working on over the past year that included macroinvertebrate identification, vegetation plots, tree plots as well as water quality samples.

Brian Hampson and Larry Martin from the Rogue River Valley Irrigation District (RRVID) talked about current and future project and asked the District for a letter of support. The next project that RRVID will be securing funding for is the Joint Canal System project, and they will be working with Medford Irrigation District (MID). The funding for the Joint System Canal is coming from multiple sources. The total cost of the project is approximately 50 million dollars. Paul shared some data from the Bradshaw Drop Project that included a 70% reduction in E Coli in Antelope Creek. Paul also shared a short News 10 video from a recent interview involving himself, Brian Hampson, Senator Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley concerning modernizing irrigation systems.

Director Dean asked to add upcoming director elections under administration and discussion about the Envirothon under new business.

### **April Board Meeting Minutes**

**A motion by Director Hamann with a second by Director Campbell to approve the April 20, 2022, minutes with the correction on page one under the motion approving the minutes.** It should state the approval of the March 16, 2022 minutes not the April 20<sup>th</sup>. **The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Treasurer's Report**

**A motion by Director Hillers with a second by Director Campbell to accept the May treasurer's reports as presented passed unanimously.**

Director Dean stated that we have three director positions that are up for election: Director Dean (At-Large1), Director Jones (Zone 1), and Director Campbell (At-Large 2). Director Campbell does not intend to run again. The District will have an At-Large board position open in January of 2023. Director Dean described the requirements to run for re-election.

### **Staff Reports**

Kora stated that she just returned from vacation but is continuing site visits with a lot of interest in water conservation. She is also busy with PSP sampling which has picked up with the start of the irrigation season. Kora, Meghan, Clint, and Paul are conducting a drought panel for the Rogue Valley Association of Realtors to offer a different perspective on drought.

Hannah reported that she has been working diligently on day camp. She mentioned that she could use another day camp leader if any of the Board knows of anyone. She also conducted a social media campaign for wildfire awareness month via Facebook and Instagram.

Clint reported he has been working on an OWEB grant for the South Obenchain fire that will hopefully be tied to the Small Forestland Grant. He has also been busy with numerous site visits and technical assistance.

Paul reported that the Yale Creek project in the Little Applegate, which consists of piping approximately a ¼ mile of ditch, is moving forward. He discussed some of the challenges he faces concerning landowners wanting to pipe their ditches when it comes to water quality benefits.

Trevor reported that he has been working on the budget and budget message as well as continuing his training with Randy and Markie.

Meghan reported that they have been receiving response from the National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) survey that has been sent out. She is also starting some baseline monitoring on Reese Creek, Nicholas Branch, as well as Whetstone Creek. The Obenchain area received a lot of interest from landowners for post fire restoration. This includes re-planting, re-seeding, fencing, and soil stabilization.

### **NRCS**

Peter stated that they are allocating approximately \$600,000 more in the Greenspring's area. NRCS is continuing work on the West Bear project running the west side of the valley. This is an extremely high priority area.

### **Commissioner Roberts Report**

Commissioner Roberts reported that the Water Master was funded for illegal marijuana water use but are still waiting on the law enforcement portion. Senator Merkley met with the Army Corps of Engineers and ODFW, regarding the Cole Rivers Fish Hatchery. With Butte Falls fish hatchery closed down and the

Douglas County Fish Hatchery closed due to the Slater Fire, there is increased pressure on the Cole Rivers Fish Hatchery.

### **Personnel Committee**

Trevor reported that the Personnel Committee met and discussed position descriptions. Director Dean stated that the District is actively looking for an office assistant. District Manager White mentioned that after a discussion with the Personnel Committee, the office assistant position will be interviewed by himself and Trevor to hasten the hiring process.

### **Legislative Update**

Director Dean stated that it is a slow time of year. He mentioned that one of the projects that Clint has been working on, the Wildlife Habitat Conservation Incentive Program, has a committee hearing coming up soon.

### **New Business**

District Manager White stated that the Logos Charter School SORE team is advancing to Nationals. He asked the board to approve a \$2000 donation to help fund some of their travel costs.

**A motion by Director Niedermeyer with a second by Director Hillers to award \$2000 to Logos passed unanimously.**

### **Managers Briefing**

District Manager White stated that he will not present the PowerPoint presentation concerning the Basin Team Meeting at this time. He mentioned that the Basin Team Meeting that took place was successful, having all Districts except two in attendance. Board Chair Dean and District Manager White will be presenting to other SWCD's and Watershed Councils within the Basin Team area. He is hoping that the teleworking policy will be launched by July 1, after it is reviewed by the Personnel Committee, SDAO, and HR Answers, as well as legal counsel.

## **REPORTS**

### **OWEB – Small Grant Team**

Director Niedermeyer reported that the window to apply opens on May 12<sup>th</sup> and closes on 23<sup>rd</sup>. There is approximately \$23,000 left.

### **OACD**

Director Dean stated he had nothing new to report.

### **SWCC**

Director Dean stated they met yesterday for the first time in person since COVID. Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) started some public outreach for climate criteria for restoration grants. Director Dean attended one last week and there is one more coming up. Connect+ Conference is taking place on September 16<sup>th</sup> in Seaside.

### **Agenda Build**

Nothing to report.

The meeting adjourned at 5:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Trevor Morris  
Trevor Morris

Minutes approved as printed:

Alan Dean Date 6-15-22

Approved as amended:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_