



Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District
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MINUTES NOT FINAL UNTIL APPROVED

March 16th, 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
Gordon Jones – Director

In attendance via zoom:

Absent:

Guests:

In attendance:

Colleen Roberts – County Commissioner

In attendance via zoom:

Staff:

In attendance:

Randy White – District Manager
Trevor Morris – Business Manager
Paul DeMaggio – Soil & Water Conservation Engineer

In attendance via zoom:

Clint Nichols – Riparian Resource Conservationist
Jenna Sanford – Stewardship Monitoring Coordinator
Hannah Satein – Education and Outreach Coordinator

Absent:

Markie Germer – Administrative Specialist
Kora Mousseaux – Community Water Resource
Conservationist
Meghan Montgomery – Agriculture Resource Conservationist

NRCS:

Peter Winnick

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

Staff Reports

Hannah reported that she has been working on the National Water Quality Initiative with Meghan, Jenna, and the Rogue River Watershed Council. They are hoping to get their first outreach mail, with a link to the survey, out by the end of March. She has also been spending a lot of time on day camp coordination. She now has all the sites scheduled and reserved. The Southern Oregon Regional Envirothon is coming up in early April. She has been working closely with Karelia to coordinate the event.

Jenna said that she has been involved with the National Water Quality Initiative. She is currently putting together an outline for the 5- and 10-year Antelope Creek Water Quality Monitoring reports. She is hoping by early 2023 to have the 5-year report complete. She is also gearing up for field work as well as having already started on PSP.

Peter joined the meeting at 4:08pm.

NRCS

Peter stated that they are wrapping up contracting Green Springs CIS which consists of 8 landowners and 600 acres of forest land. He updated everyone on the projects that have been going on over the past year. He stated that NRCS is also working closely with landowners in the West Bear project area, where they are potentially working with 6 landowners and 900 acres under contract.

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Commissioner Roberts Report

Commissioner Roberts reported that they are working through their budget reviews. Drought and fire is a concern as we are getting closer to summer.

RRWC

Director Dean stated that he didn't have anything to report. Registration for Celebrate the Rogue on April 23rd at the Ashland Springs Hotel is now open.

February Board Meeting Minutes

A motion by Director Campbell with a second by Director Jones to approve the February 16th, 2022, minutes passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

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

Equipment Committee

Director Hillers is going to assist with maintenance on the No-Till Drill. The District is still actively searching for a trailer for the Dew Drop Drill.

District Funds Committee

District Manager White reported that nothing has been turned in yet. Meghan may have something to turn in the first part of April. District Funds has been slow in the past months, mainly due to some larger scale projects taking place.

Personnel Committee

Director Hiller's reported that the Personnel Committee is hoping to meet in the first part of April to discuss position descriptions of the District Manager and the Agricultural Resource Conservationist position description.

Legislative Update

Director Dean stated that at OACD they were tracking 20 bills in the short session. More than half of them died. The number one bill that OACD was trying to get through was the implementation of the Oregon global warming commissions natural working lands proposal. The other top priority bill was funding for the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program. The program was approved a number of years ago but was never funded by the legislature. This year they received five million in funding. There was also some money approved for the Oregon Department of Transportation to construct a wildlife crossing near the Siskiyou summit on I5.

Clint Nichols joined the meeting at 4:21pm.

Strategic Planning Committee

Director Dean reported that the committee has met five times and are now working on writing assignments. The committee is planning on meeting again in late April.

Banking Options

District Manager White stated that we needed to replace Marilyn Rice with Director Dean as a signer on the account. Washington Federal requires all board members need to be present on the same day and we need to include the approved minutes showing the changes. The board discussed and informed District Manager White that it is under his authority to research and move banks if needed.

Paul DeMaggio joined the meeting at 4:27pm.

Manager's Briefing

District Manager White shared that IVSWCD put out a report on the cannabis industry. He is meeting with Commissioner Roberts and Director Dean on the 25th of March at 2:00pm. District Manager White has been in communication with Angie Boudro as her contract is ending this fiscal year. The district will not be renewing her contract but may use her services in the future.

REPORTS

OWEB – Small Grant Team

Director Niedermeyer reported that had four applications come in. There was one water quality and quantity irrigation efficiency project from APWC for \$14,845 with an overall project cost of \$66,563. The second project was the upland process and function from APWC for \$8,856. with an overall cost of \$17,106. The third project was Riparian process and function from Two Rivers SWCD for \$15,000 with an overall cost of \$26,400. The last project was an instream process and function from APWC for \$15,000 with an overall project cost of \$22,199. All four were approved for a total of \$53,701. This leaves \$21,300 left for this biennium. The next cycle is May 12-23rd.

OACD

Director Dean reminded everyone to review the newsletter that OACD mails out and stated that there is some great information available. OACD is going to have two webinars, the first one will be Water Rights 101 on March 29th and the second will be OACD position statements on March 30th.

SWCC

Director Dean stated that he had already covered the last meetings notes at the February Board Meeting.

Staff Reports Cont.

Clint reported that Meghan has written a ODF grant for the South Obenchain area. JSWCD was awarded that grant which consists of \$170,000 to treat 220 acres in that area. Clint also stated he had an interview with NewsWatch 12, but the media misinterpreted the story. FEMA asked that Clint rewrite a portion of the grant and resubmit for review and approval. The City of Gold Hill approved the wildfire mitigation and vegetation management plan for the Gold Hill Sports Park.

Paul reported that Farmers Conservation Alliance called and stated that they would like JSWCD to sign a letter of support for a piping project in the Talent Irrigation District. He also showed a short video about the Joint System Canal Piping Project.

Other Topics

Commissioner Roberts stated that Valleys of the Rogue is potentially dissolving or looking to merge with Applegate due to lack of funding. Commissioner Roberts stated that we should have a drought declaration update soon.

Agenda Build

Nothing to report.

The meeting adjourned at 4:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Trevor Morris
Trevor Morris

Minutes approved as printed:

Stan Dean Date 4-20-22

Approved as amended:

_____ Date _____