

Jefferson County SWCD Board Minutes ~ June 28, 2022

Jefferson County SWCD
625 SE Salmon Avenue ~ Suite 6
Redmond, OR 97756
541.699.3170

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 28, 2022

Madras Airport Conference Room ~ Madras, Oregon

Members Present:

Board:

Scott Samsel (At Large 1)
Lloyd Forman (Zone 4)
Rob Galyen (At Large 2)
Sean Vibbert (Zone 3)
Curt Locke (Zone 5)

Staff:

Staci Merkt
Adam Haarberg
Breck Flanagan-Caldwell
Ellen Hammond
Lisa Windom

Advisors:

Ally Steinmetz, MDWC
Smita Mehta, DEQ
Lars Santana, NRCS
Jenn Eatwell, NRCS
Collin Cowsill, NUID
Leroy Buck, Landowner, Agency Plains

SUMMARY OF BOARD MOTIONS

- Motion #1:** *Motion made by Scott Samsel to approve the April, 2022 Board Minutes as presented. Seconded by Sean Vibbert. Motion carried unanimously.*
- Motion #2:** *Motion made by Rob Galyen to approve the June 28, 2022 financial activity report as submitted. Seconded by Scott Samsel. Motion carried unanimously.*

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Motion #3: *Motion made by Scott Samsel to approve the FY 2023 Budget. Seconded by Rob Galyen. Motion carried unanimously.*

Motion #4: *Motion made by Sean Vibbert to approve extending the deadline to submit disaster relief applications to July 14, 2022. Seconded by Scott Samsel. Motion carried unanimously.*

Call to Order:

The June 28, 2022 Jefferson County SWCD Board meeting was called to order by Chair Lloyd Forman at 12:10PM with a quorum in place.

Approval of April 26, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes:

The board reviewed the April board minutes as presented:

Motion #1: *Motion made by Scott Samsel to approve the April, 2022 Board Minutes as presented. Seconded by Sean Vibbert. The motion passed unanimously.*

Approval of June 28, 2022 Financial Activity Report:

Staci took the board through the check register, the balance sheet, profit and loss statement and job/vendor reports as of June 28, 2022.

Current active grants are reported on and balanced per grant requirements and all payroll taxes and reports are paid and current. As funding continues to flux, and grants focus more and more towards on the ground costs, it will be imperative that the District continues to seek out other possible sources of funding as well as new conservation stewardship ideas.

Motion #2: *Motion made by Rob Galyen to approve the June 28, 2022 financial activity report as submitted. Seconded by Scott Samsel. Motion carried unanimously.*

Approval of the FY2023 Budget:

Staci presented the budget and explained the line items and how the budget fluctuates throughout the year as the district receives additional grant funding and other grants come to a close. She said that the budget will be revisited at least monthly throughout the fiscal year:

Motion #3: *Motion made by Scott Samsel to Approve the FY2023 Budget. Seconded by Rob Galyen. Motion carried unanimously.*

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Approval of Extension of Deadline for Submitting Drought Relief Applications:

Staci explained that she has received dozens of phone calls about the drought relief applications in the past week as the deadline approaches and some producers said they were having a difficult time reaching the office as the phones were giving them a “fast busy signal”. Staci also said that others stated that they have been out of town and/or haven’t had time to fill out the applications and had questions about what is required and how to fill them out. After discussion, the Board agreed that a two-week extension for submittal of the applications was reasonable:

Motion #3: Motion made by Sean Vibbert to Approve Extending the Deadline to Submit Disaster Relief Applications to July 14, 2022. Seconded by Scott Samsel. Motion carried unanimously.

Central Oregon Irrigation Water Management Workshop Series – Session in Jefferson County on July 23rd at Fox Hollow Ranch:

Staci talked about the field visit at Fox Hollow Ranch and told the board that Todd Peplin, DSWCD had organized the workshop series across Central Oregon (one in each county – Jefferson, Crook and Deschutes). Breck added that he will be giving a short presentation at the one at Fox Hollow showcasing some of our irrigation efficiency projects. Staci said that the district is also providing lunch for all the participants.

Campbell Creek SIA Update ~ Ellen

Ellen gave an update on progress made with the SIA. She has been conducting field/site visits and meeting with landowners. She said that water usage has changed due to drought conditions and irrigation conversions to more efficient systems. She stated that due to this, most of the sites that were documented as areas of concern are no longer in that category.

Conservation Technician Update:

Breck gave updates on the OWEB Small Grant Program, Irrigation Workshop in coordination with Deschutes SWCD, JCSWCD Annual Report and Long-Range Work Plan and seeking alternative sources for funding.

MDWC Report:

Ally gave updates on Council administrative business, educational programs, monitoring and research projects, restoration activities and projects and outreach activities and events.

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Trout Creek Project Update:

Adam gave an update on his project implementation in the Trout Creek Watershed.

Conservation Specialist Update:

Lisa gave an update on CREP projects, plans and potential applicants. Lisa also gave a PSP update. She said the program is moving in a different direction as she is analyzing the effectiveness and is trying to make it relevant to current conditions.

PARTNER REPORTS:

NRCS: Lars and Jenn gave an update on NRCS programs and said that they've been working closely with all the JCSWCD and MDWC staff who are supporting them by helping with various projects.

DEQ: Smita said that she's been working with Ally and Ellen on plans and projects in the Campbell Creek Watershed and is looking forward to continuing to build momentum.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:21PM.