



Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District
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MINUTES NOT FINAL UNTIL APPROVED

May 20, 2026
Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District
(JSWCD)
Board Meeting

Directors, Associates

In attendance:

Ron Hillers – Director
Stan Dean – Director
Blake Elliott – Director – arrived at 4:12pm
Don Hamann – Director
Frank Baratta - Director
Maxine Cass – Director

Staff in attendance:

Jill Smedstad – Executive Director
Trevor Morris – Business Manager

Guests/Partners:

Peter Winnick - NRCS
Ezra Huebner – NRCS
Commissioner Roberts
Pam Hillers
Chris VanNess – Logos Charter School
Kara Baylog – Logos Charter School
Logos Charter School Student Watershed Assessment
Team
Michael – Member of the Public - Zoom

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

SWAT Presentation

Logos Charter School’s Student Watershed Assessment Team gave their yearly presentation. The students did a great job presenting their work throughout the year.

April Meeting Minutes

A motion by Director Cass with a second by Director Hamann to approve the April Board meeting minutes passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report

Business Manager, Trevor Morris, reported that things are looking pretty good. In June, he will provide a budget vs. actual.

NRCS

Peter Winnick said that NRCS is most likely going to allocate the full amount of \$612,000 to NWQI, which is in partnership with JSWCD. He complimented the JSWCD staff on their outreach, planning and landowner engagement. Two of the projects are irrigation and one is riparian and grazing management improvements. Peter also noted that NRCS is going through a lot of change. NRCS had Local Work Group Meeting earlier that day with farmers, ranchers and partners. NRCS will be moving more towards Ag and “Random Acts of Conservation” in the future.

Rogue River Watershed Council

Director Dean noted that RRWC Conservationists have been out monitoring their projects such as Trail Creek and Chicago Creek. RRWC had their yearly fundraiser and will probably net between \$20-30,000 in donations.

Commissioner Roberts:

The county has a drought declaration in place, and the state declared fire season was called May 15th by ODF. The Jackson Board of Commissioners had a presentation from all the fire agencies, and they feel ready for this fire season. Applegate Partnership also gave a presentation to her Board.

Admin Report

The Admin Report is in the May Board Packet. Please See Kim Ingram at the front desk for a physical or digital copy.

Personnel Committee Report

Trevor has been working on the Compensation Survey. The committee is looking to reschedule their meeting to ensure all members are present.

Legislative Updates

Director Dean reported that OWEB is forming their Rules Advisory Committee. He is hopeful that he will get on it.

OACD

The best practices effort is underway. They will be rolled out and presented November 3-5 at the OACD Conference at the Salishan Lodge in Lincoln City.

Executive Session Annual Performance Evaluation ORS 192.660(2)(i)

Director Dean called the meeting into Executive Session at 5:12pm

The regular meeting resumed at 5:29pm. A motion by Director Baratta with a second by Director Cass to have Director Dean deliver the performance review to the Executive Director Smedstad passed unanimously.

Agenda Build

- a) Budget Hearing in June starts at 3:45pm before the next Board Meeting.
- b) Soil Health Rebate in June
- c) Annual Work Plan Discussion in June and Approval (July)
- d) Staff Compensation Study
- e) Strategic Planning Retreat: July 6th 2:30pm-6:30pm and July 7th 9am-4pm at the Jacksonville Community Center

Public Input

None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:32 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Kim Ingram
Office Assistant

Minutes approved as printed:

Stan Dean Date 07/09/26
Stan Dean (Jul 9, 2026 15:33:02 PDT)

Approved as amended:

_____ Date _____