



Coos Soil & Water Conservation District
379 North Adams
Coquille, OR 97423
Phone 541-396-6879

Coos Soil and Water Conservation District
Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2025
(Approved May 28, 2025)

Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:08PM

Board members present at office: Ernie Newton, Jonathan Morse, Adela Villers, Mark Villers, Cindy Gant

Board members present on Zoom/Telephone:

Absent board members:

Staff present in office: Caley Sowers, Modena Thomas, Abigail Richards

Staff present on Zoom:

Guests present in office: Katie Woodruff (NRCS)

Guests present on Zoom:

7:08PM Mark called the meeting to order.

7:11PM Mark asked for comments on March 27, 2025 regular minutes.

- Discussed the FTE's from the last meeting

7:14PM Adela motioned to approve the March 27, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. Cindy seconded. Motion carried

7:17PM Finance Report – Caley

- Working on year end
- Cost of audit keeps going up
- District Operations grant is short due to increased costs
 - Around \$29,000
- New requirement – 5% match for capacity grants
- Rent will be paid out of general fund to cover match
- Under spent on SOW: net income of roughly \$9400.00 and will receive another payment for the final quarter.
 - Shifted hours to use up funds
- Billing more staff time to SIA grants through end of year
- ODA Support Grant needs to have funds moved
- District Operations \$10,000 over spent
- Will submit final report
- Working on the next biennium capacity grant due at end of May
- Business Oregon grants are coming to an end this year (June 30th)
- OWEB Bear Creek TA – will start using this grant
- Strayer and Abby working on closing out small grant Bear Creek

- FIP monitoring grant will support Abby and Strayer
- Cunningham OWEB TA grant needs to have fund shifted
- Cunningham PFA will cover the OWEB TA overage
- Gatov will be ending
 - May have to make contract amendments with Business Oregon
- Lee Valley small grant discussed (2 year time limit) November 20th deadline
 - Should be done before summer
- Lower Coquille SIA: some funds were moved to SOW
- NF EF SIA has about \$18,000 left
- Noble Creek coming to an end (Business Oregon)
- NBWL: finishing up final reporting
 - Work is complete
- Submitting multiple applications in August
- Randolph Island will be the next focus after June
- Sitkum is completed other than final reporting and funds request
- Winter Lake Phase III – ODFW: design
 - DEQ 1200C and final federal authorization needed

7:36PM Jonathan motioned to accept the March Finance Report. Adela seconded. All in favor. Motioned carried.

7:36PM Disposal of Surplus Property Policy discussed

7:43PM Cindy motioned to adopt the Disposal of Surplus Property Policy. Adela seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

7:44PM 2025-2026 Budget

- Grants coming to an end.
- Funding is uncertain with everything going on.
- OWEB is state funding but has federal funding in them.
- PCSR funds are in most of the district's funding to a certain degree.
- Selling the Toyota discussed (rent coming out of general fund).
- We might wait until we know about the pending grants before purchasing a new truck.
- Caley showed an article that to the board regarding pacific salmon recovery funds.
- CONNECT discussed.
- Caley gave a brief explanation of the 2025-2027 annual budget.
- Not subject to budget law because we are not tax based
- Caley will add most recent small grant to the budget.
- FTE's discussed.

8:04PM Jonathan motioned to approve the 2025-2026 Budget. Cindy seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

8:05PM Caley will look up the training for the board members since the district is over 1 million.

8:06PM Mark discussed the meetings being on Thursday and would like to change the board meetings to the fourth Wednesday. Discussed changing time to 6pm to 8pm.

8:10PM Adela motioned to change the board meetings to the fourth Wednesday from 6pm to 8pm. Jonathan seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

8:14PM Staff Reports: Caley

- Schedule a work session meeting for the Long Range Business plan.
- Cindy will read it.
- Adela will read it.

8:17PM Staff Reports: Modena

- Nothing new to add.

8:17PM Assistant Project Manager

- Nothing new to add.

8:18PM Discussed tubes, cages and stakes for planting.

8:26PM Katie Woodruff (NRCS) report

- Probation employees were let go.
 - Second buy out
 - 17 people short in Oregon
- Closing the hubs down.
- Not allowed to hire.
- Waiting to find out about contracts.
- 7 EQUIP preapprovals out of 24.
 - Under half million dollars
- Doing CSP (5 applications)
- EQUIP is becoming more competitive with more applications.
- Lost admin person.
- Civil Rights Committee disbanded.
- Half the staff has less than five years.

8:35PM Mark adjourned the meeting.

Signature of the Chairman

Date

Submitted by:

Caley Sowers

Date