



*Coos Soil & Water Conservation District
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Coquille, OR 97423
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Coos Soil and Water Conservation District
Meeting Minutes
May 28, 2025
(Approved June 25, 2025)

Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:00PM

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

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), Beth Pietrzak (ODA), Chris Claire (ODFW)

Guests present on Zoom:

6:00PM Mark called the meeting to order.

6:02PM Mark asked for comments on April 24, 2025 regular minutes.

6:04PM Jonathan motioned to approve the April 24, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. Cindy seconded. Motion carried

6:04PM Finance Report – Caley

- Caley has been doing corrections each month
- Board is not always getting the corrected version since they get it sent to them as soon as Fandel sends it to the office.
- Rent will be paid out of general fund
- Some of the grant totals exceeded and needed to be corrected
- Reporting for capacity grant is due soon
- Zero balance currently
- ODA Support grant was over billed and needed corrections
- District Operations: rent freed up about \$3000
- Business Oregon – Albertson is closed/reporting complete
- Bear Creek – OWEB – have not done a funds request yet
- Bear Creek Small Grant – closed and final reporting due Monday
- Partnership grant closed
- Cunningham – need to do completion report and deliverables
- Cunningham PFA – working on funds requests
- Gatov – closing with Business Oregon
 - Will get to 90% designs
- Lee Valley will be timing out in November

- Designs were modified and will be working on it this month
 - No extensions permitted
- Lower Coquille SIA – nearly spent
- NF EF SIA – need to update the budget on finance report
 - Still have \$50,000 but will be spent on monitoring by end of year
- Noble Creek – closed out Business Oregon
 - OWEB TA is still open
 - At 60% design
 - Will be getting SOW for phase 3 after Business Oregon grants are completed
- NBWL – closed Business Oregon
 - Waiting on final payment
- NBWL – OWEB will be sending some money back
 - Have some more invoices
 - \$172,000 left to be sent back
- Randolph Island – steady progress almost at 60%
- Sitkum – ending the end of this year
- Winter Lake – will work on it tomorrow
- Winter Lake – Nature Conserve grant \$19,212.00. No expiration date
- Business Oregon and ODFW Winter Lake all funds should be used
- Asked if anyone had questions

6:23PM Jonathan motioned to accept the April Finance Report. Adela seconded. All in favor. Motioned carried.

6:23PM 2025-2026 Annual Budget Update – Caley explained updates

- Capacity grant was submitted
- Work Plans submitted for each year 2025-2026 and 2026-2027
- Slight raise by about \$10,000 on capacity grant
- Staff is at 1.0 FTE so everyone is funded to June 30, 2026
 - Modena is mostly out of the general fund
- Caley explained the secured grants
- 2026-2027: more will be billed to general fund
- Caley and Modena have 1.0 FTE: majority coming out of the general fund
- Abby and Strayer have .31 FTE secured
- We have been denied every grant we have applied for this year
- Caley explained her grants
- Explained Abby grants
- Did not get the ODA Support Grant
- Modena will help write monitoring grant
- OWEB deadline August 4th
- We do not have any major construction this summer
- Caley is planning to move to a model of staff writing grants to fund their own positions.
- Caley will email board members the budget

6:45PM Caley asked for any comments on the ODFW letter of support.

- Briefly discussed
- Mark will sign on behalf of the board
- Caley will sign as the district manager

6:53PM Cindy motioned to approve the letter of support to ODFW signed by both Caley and Chair of the board (Mark). Jonathan seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

6:58PM Beth Pietrzak update

- Went on two compliance site visits today
- Middle Fork Coquille: the landowner cleared about a mile of blackberries & willows then pushed them to the bank. The March flood took all the material and put it in the river.
 - SWCD, NRCS and ODA met with the landowner to come up with a plan.
 - Options discussed.
- South Fork Coquille: neighbor complained about cattle in the river
 - The fence has been placed
 - Owner did not want ODA on their land, but the neighbor allowed them.
- NF EF SIA – sent a few letters regarding issues
- District capacity grant was submitted
 - Funding is secure
- Ag Water Quality Support Grant was not funded
 - 21 applications and only 8 were ranked above the funding line
 - Funding might not come through

7:17PM Beth concluded

7:21PM MOU with ODFW discussed

- ODFW will keep \$5000 so the grant will be \$35,000.
- 3000 feet of fence (\$30,000)
- Site prep (\$5,000)
- Abby wrote a \$15,000 small grant and is currently in OWEB review.
- Abby explained the archeology (cultural resource) to the board.
- The tribe will do the review at their cost.

7:27PM Staff Reports – Caley

- Focused on imminent deadlines: grants, funds requests and permits
- Discussed future phases of projects

7:33PM Staff Reports – Abby

- Working on Cunningham planting plan
- Working on Bear Creek final report

7:36PM Staff Reports – Strayer is helping everyone

7:37PM Caley stated we will hold off on selling the work truck. Everyone will start driving the vehicle and the mileage will go into the general fund.

7:37PM Katie (NRCS)

- 7 out of 23 EQUIP funded
- Inflation reduction money might come back
- Barbara is retiring
 - She will be replaced by a new hire
 - Position possibly offered in October.
- Looking at EQUIP's for next year

7:42PM Chris (ODFW)

- Salmon season (2 a day and 20 for the year)
- Hatchery fish discussed (1 and 10)
- Coho season in both basins if NOAA approves
- Helping Caley
- Engineering meetings
- Disabled fishing platform at the tidegate at Noble Creek
 - Need match
 - Will make it all metal
- Spent two hours with Paul Slater: Cunningham and Noble Creek discussed
- Fat Elk discussed
 - Road washed out
- Ferry Creek permit

7:57PM Mark adjourned the meeting.

Signature of the Chairman

Date

Submitted by:

Modena Thomas

Date