



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

Coos Soil and Water Conservation District  
Meeting Minutes  
January 28, 2026  
(Approved February 25, 2026)

Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:06PM

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

Board members present on Zoom/Telephone:

Absent board members: Cindy Gant

Staff present in office: Caley Sowers, Modena Thomas

Staff present on Zoom:

Guests present in office: Sydney Paoli (Curry SWCD), Chris Claire (ODFW), Justin Queen (CoqWA)

Guests present on Zoom:

6:06PM Mark called the meeting to order.

6:08PM Introductions

6:11PM Mark asked for comments on December 3, 2025 regular minutes.

- Add Eric Nausbam to December 3, 2025 minutes as a guest

**6:12PM Adela motioned to approve the December 3, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes with above changes made. Jonathan seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.**

6:13PM Finance Report – Caley

- Caley explained line by line in the finance report on which projects have been paid and what needs to still be paid.
- Bear Creek funds request will be done next
- CoosWA MOU budget line explained
- Monitoring funds request was done but need some corrections done by Fandel. Waiting on clean report to send in funds requests.
- Cunningham is closed.
- PFA has still not been processed 52 later. Caley reached out and is waiting for the funds. Will need to do another funds request soon.
- Lee Valley is closed and should balance out next month.
- NF/EF needs to complete monitoring report
- Caley is going to start doing advances since we keep getting negative balances
- NBWL: the money needs to be sent back to OWEB (billing error)
- Randolph Island: trading along but might do an advance. Waterways are about to get back to this project.

- Have not done funds request for SGT Lead.
- Need to do a funds request for Sitkum
- Tigert has some hours billed to it and can be moved to the SOW
- Winter Lakes (BizOR) – closed
- Status reporting is small grant two-year report
- Caley asked for any questions.

**6:26PM Jonathan motioned to accept the December Finance Report. Ernie seconded. All in favor. Motion carried**

6:28PM Old Business: Adopt a Park

- We completed 20 hours for this quarter.
- Modena asked the board if they want to do another workday this quarter.
  - Most board members are busy for the rest of this quarter.
- Jonathan will ask Mark at the city about who replaces the boards on the bridge.

6:36PM Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes

- Caley made a couple of corrections and highlighted the changes.
- Modena will check with Eric regarding adding the Personnel or any committee meeting minutes discussed/approved during the board meeting.

6:40PM Coos Watershed MOU for attending CBCP Meetings

- Funds for attending the CBCP meeting (\$6366.00)
- Goes through until the end of 2026
- Brief discussion. Board members read the MOU.
- Board discussed what the exact dates of the MOU would be.
- Ends April 30, 2027. Effective date once signed.

**6:42PM Jonathan motioned to approve to accept the Coos Watershed MOU (Coos Basin Coho Partnership). Adela seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.**

6:49PM Board trainings discussed.

- HR Answers
- SDAO

6:50PM Medical Insurance for staff

- Discussion
- Met with Kriston (our insurance agent)
- Showed the board the cost
- Caley will look over budget and report back to
- Abby will not join the plan until 2027
- Three person benefit Navigator Gold 2500 will be \$711.67 per person per month
- Each person can give up the \$250 stipend
- Put the stipends towards the premiums
- Caley needs a budget target number

- Potentially \$100 per person put towards it.
- Could add on dental and vision and have employee pay for the addons.
- Caley explained to the board that she contacted Curry SWCD to see if we could partner up with them under this plan.
- Board asked about the budget (discussion)
- Caley explained the administrative funds going into the general fund. General Fund is unrestricted funds.
- We received a large OWEB award
- We are still gathering information and would like to compare with Curry SWCD.
- Mark suggested Caley works on the budget and let the board know at the next meeting.
- 

#### 7:09PM Staff Reports – Caley

- Wrote the staff report two days ago so not much more to add.
- Attended the OWEB board meeting
  - Did not talk about every individual award
  - Open solicitation from summer 2025
- We are not submitting anymore OWEB grants at this time.
- We are still waiting to hear back about the ones submitted to the PFA.
- Discussed the audit and deadline
- Caley discussed having a budget meeting and giving Strayer a raise since he will be taking on Abby's work.
  - Assistant Project Manager with the same pay as Abby.
- Abby is planning on coming back part time.
- Caley discussed offering benefits to current staff

#### 7:23PM Staff Reports – Modena

- Nothing new to add.

#### 7:23PM Safety Meeting

- Nothing new for safety meeting

#### 7:24 Sydney Paoli (Curry SWCD)

- Local workgroup meeting is April 6<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm at Bandon library
- Bandon is moving to make gorse management optional within city limits
  - Will be discussed at the next city hall meeting
- CREP doesn't have any money. Will know by September if they will be putting money into CREP or not. No new contracts. Just managing current contracts.
- Can still do TA and planting plans.
- CREP meeting will be the first week in March.

#### 7:28PM Christopher Claire (ODFW)

- Not a lot going on since it's not fishing time

- Working with SWCD
- Going to have a meeting regarding a tidegate project.
- Discussed Gatov project and the need to clean up the water
- Need to work on Winter Lake Phase III permit approval.

7:35PM Justin Queen (Coquille Watershed)

- No updates
- Gave background about himself.

7:43PM Caley gave legislative updates

- Caley read email from SDAO regarding state shortfall funding.

7:51PM Mark adjourned the meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Submitted by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Modena Thomas

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date