

Jefferson County SWCD Board Minutes ~ May 26th, 2026

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 28th, 2026 - 12:00 pm

Madras Airport Conference Room ~ Madras, Oregon (Virtually Via Zoom)

Members Present:

Board:

Lloyd Forman (Zone 4) - Chair
Rob Galyen (At Large 2)
Brad Klann (Zone 2)
Craig Weigand (Zone 3)

Staff Present:

Kate Haarberg
Adam Haarberg
Ellen Hammond
Ally Steinmetz
Amber Herman

Advisors/Partners:

Con Fed Tribes – David Stuart

Associate Board/Community:

Scott Samsel

Call to Order:

May 26th, 2026, Jefferson County SWCD Board meeting was called to order by Chair Lloyd Forman at 12:07 PM with a quorum in place.

Approval of April 28th, 2026, Board Minutes. Minutes were emailed ahead of the meeting for review.

Motion #1: Motion made by Craig Weigand to approve April 28th, 2026, Board Minutes.

Seconded by Brad Klann. Motion carried unanimously with no Nays.

Approval of the May 2026 Financial Activity Report: Kate Haarberg went through the recent checking transactions, balance sheet, as well as the active grants.

Motion #2: Motion made by Brad Klann to approve the May 2026 Financial Activity Report.

Seconded by Craig Weigand. Motion carried unanimously with no Nays.

Annual Plan of Work FY 26/27: The Annual Plan of Work was emailed to the Board ahead of the meeting. Kate explained this is a requirement by ODA and that everyone on staff contributed to the Annual Plan of Work based on their awarded grants and plans for this next fiscal year. Kate explained that the tasks assigned to Ellen would be transferred to a new employee should that happen.

Motion #3: Motion made by Rob Galyen to approve the FY 26/27 Annual Plan of Work.

Seconded by Brad Klann. Motion carried unanimously with no Nays.

Associate Board Member – We wanted to recognize Scott Samsel as an official Associate Board Member on the record.

Motion #4: Motion made by Rob Galyen to have Scott Samsel as a Jeff Co SWCD Associate Board Member. Seconded by Brad Klann. Motion carried unanimously with no Nays.

New Grants: Kate went through a proposal from Crook SWCD that would have JCSWCD assist with fence inspections as a contractor on an upcoming grant that they are looking to receive from the USFS to repair fences destroyed in the Flat & Alder Springs fires.

Ellen is looking to submit an application to OWRD by July 15th to help with funding irrigation upgrades for Lat43. Ellen is also looking to gather information for drought funding should Oregon Legislature include this in session this winter. We want to be prepared with a proposal. Ellen asked for Board input on

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drafting a letter to the state. Craig, Rob and Brad said they would work with Ellen to provide input into the proposal.

Motion #5: Motion made by Rob Galyen to move to support a letter to the Water Legislative committee in support of drought funding for Jefferson County. Seconded by Brad Klann. Motion carried unanimously with no Nays.

Ally said that her OWEB Upper Willow Creek Technical Assistance grant has been recommended to fund. This grant has approximately \$39,000 in wages and \$18,000 in indirect. Ally also detailed the Google juniper cut grant that we 'pre-applied' for which would be around 3,000,000 to treat 6500 acres over a three-year period. We'll find out this summer if we are able to move onto the full submission in the fall. Ally also has a few education grants she is working on with Trout Unlimited & PGE. She is also looking at an education grant with the Roundhouse Foundation out of Sisters.

2026 SWCD Board Elections – Kate showed the Board the Ad going into the Madras Pioneer announcing the election and outlining the deadlines to run.

Jefferson County SWCD Heat & Smoke Safety Policy - Kate presented the updated JCSWCD Heat & Smoke Safety Policy.

Motion #6: Motion made by Rob Galyen to move to approve the JCSWCD Heat & Smoke Safety Policy as amended. Seconded by Craig Weigand. Motion carried unanimously with no Nays.

Staff Updates:

Adam: The Foley field tour went great. About 16 people attended. Adam has been busy spraying weeds on project sites. He has been working though the permitting for the new grant Little Trout Creek Habitat- Phase 2. We are about 28% complete with the HB5006 Juniper Cut award. Has recently seen in Degner Canyon, more trout and juvenile steelhead than he has seen in a long time.

Amber: CSP deadline for application ranking was last Friday. 3.7 million will end up in Deschutes and Jefferson County. Most of the cropland funding went to Jefferson County. They want 100% of the contracts obligated by the end of July. Started a grant writing class through COCC.

Ellen: The virtual fence workshop was amazing. 50 people showed up. 20 were landowners with lots of interest and follow-ups planned. Thanks to Lloyd for saving Ellen with her flat tire out in Antelope.

Partner Check-in's

David Stuart: Window for funding with the Tribes has to be used by the FY end of 2028. Hoping to submit requests beginning of June. Hopeful to have funding for partners that don't have projects developed yet. Adam mentioned he would send him an outline of a project.

NEXT BOARD MEETING - set for Tue July 28, 2026, 12pm at Madras Airport.
Adjourned 1:20 by Lloyd Forman