Jefferson County SWCD
625 SE Salmon Avenue ~ Suite 6
Redmond, OR 97756
541.699.3170

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 27, 2024 11:00 AM
Madras Airport Conference Room ~ Madras, Oregon and
Virtually Via Zoom

Members Present:
Board:
- **Scott Samsel (At Large 1)**
- **Rob Galyen (At Large 2)**
- **Brad Klann (Zone 2)**
- **Lloyd Forman (Zone 4)**
- **Curt Locke (Zone 5)**
- **Craig Weigand, Jr. (Zone 3)**

Staff:
- **Kate Haarberg**
- **Ellen Hammond**
- **Ryan Brummer**

Advisors:
- **NRCS ~ David Phipps, Chris Handy**
- **North Unit Irrigation District ~ Collin Cowsill**

SUMMARY OF BOARD MOTIONS

Motion #1: ***Motion made by Rob Galyen to approve the June 18 & June 26th special meetings and the July 24th board minutes. Seconded by Brad Klann. Motion carried unanimously.***

Motion #2: ***Motion made by Scott Samsel to approve 2024 financial activity report as submitted. Seconded by Brad Klann. Motion carried unanimously.***

Motion #3: ***Motion made by Rob Galyen to approve Job Description & plan to hire a Natural Resource Specialist, Conservation Planner TA. Seconded by Craig Weigand. Motion carried unanimously.***

Motion #4: ***Motion made by Scott Samsel to approve the Jefferson County SWCD Annual Plan of work for 2024-2025. Seconded by Brad Klann. Motion carried unanimously.***

Jefferson County SWCD Board Minutes ~ August 27, 2024

Call to Order:
The August 27, 2024 Jefferson County SWCD Board meeting was called to order by Chair Lloyd Forman at 11:10 PM with a quorum in place.

Approval of the June & July Board Meeting Minutes:
The June 18 & June 26th special meetings and the July 24th board minutes were emailed to the board a week before today's meeting for review. The only edit was to add Craig Weigand to the attendees of the June 26 special meeting.

Motion #1: ***Motion made by Rob Galyen to approve the June 18 & June 26th special meetings and the July 24th board minutes. Seconded by Brad Klann. Motion carried unanimously.***

Approval of the Aug, 2024 Financial Activity Report:
Kate went into more detail about the current grant status and funds requested that we have not received yet. Kate mentioned that there seems to be a solid consistent reserve of approximately $200,000 and suggested we look into a high yield savings account for a portion of those funds. Kate will look into this more and bring details to a future meeting.

Motion #2: ***Motion made by Scott Samsel to approve 2024 financial activity report as submitted. Seconded by Brad Klann. Motion carried unanimously.***

Speaker Michael Curri
Michael Curri, President, Strategic Networks Group, zoomed into the meeting to discuss Jefferson County Broadband planning. (see attached slides) Ellen was given several names that were interested in participating in the pilot program.

Job Description Review for Natural Resource Specialist/Conservation Planner ~ Kate
Kate explained to the Board the plan to bring in a new Natural Resource Specialist – Conservation Planner. The job description was emailed to the board in advance of the meeting. Kate went through the current approved grants that will fund this position as well as potential future funding in the near future. Kate also mentioned meeting with Lars and how he would initially mentor this position.

Motion #3: ***Motion made by Rob Galyen to approve Job Description & plan to hire a Natural Resource Specialist, Conservation Planner TA. Seconded by Craig Weigand. Motion carried unanimously.***

Annual Plan of work 2024 – 2025 for Jefferson County SWCD ~ Ellen
The Annual Plan of Work draft was emailed to the Board in advance of the meeting. We explained that this task was late and had missed the deadline during the recent change in District Manager. In the last month the JCSWCD staff had all given input in the draft presented.

Motion #4: Motion made by Scott Samsel to approve the Jefferson County SWCD Annual Plan of work for 2024-2025. Seconded by Brad Klann. Motion carried unanimously.

Conservation Specialist & PSP Outreach ~ Ellen
Ellen provided a summary of her recent activities to the board in advance of the meeting. She also mentioned that she was recently asked to be a speaker about the Drought program at COCC special upcoming series. Several of the board members volunteered to participate in her speaking engagement.

Weed Coordinator Update ~ Ryan
Ryan gave an update on all of his weed spraying activities.

Trout Creek Project Manager Update ~ Adam via email
Foley Complex Project.

- Finished new Road (0.5 miles) with 0 creek crossings on Thursday! (There were 4 fords and 2 culverts)
- Starting on Channel and Pools with Large wood structures
- Floodplain shaping/widening

MDWC Report ~ Ally
Ally was not in attendance at this board meeting

NRCS Update ~ Dave & Chris
No updates

North Unit Irrigation District ~ Collin Cowsill
Collin talked about a recent excess of water and the plans to modify how the patrons apply when there is an excess of water at no charge.

BOARD Update ~ All Board members
The board members that are running for re-election said that they all would have their paperwork to Sandi Hiatt by the end of today, which is the deadline. The board also mentioned wanting to take a deep dive into the finances in an upcoming board meeting. The board also mentioned that the board officer roles haven't been revisited in awhile and we discussed doing that in January after the election process is over.

NEXT BOARD MEETING
The Board agreed to meet on Tuesday, September 24th at 12 pm.
Lloyd adjourned the meeting at 12:45 PM.