



Grant Soil and Water Conservation District
Kenneth H. Delano Agricultural Service Center
721 S. Canyon Blvd. - John Day, OR 97845 - Phone (541) 575-0135

MINUTES OF GRANT SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S
May 1, 2025 Meeting

Attendance

Directors Attending:

Roger Ediger – Director
Rick Henslee – Director
Ted Clausen – Associate Director
Alec Oliver – Associate Director – via telephone

Phil St. Clair – Director
Joanne Keerins - Director
Pat Voigt - Chairman
Jared Livingston - Associate Director – via telephone

Staff Attending:

Kyle Sullivan – District Manager
Matt Wenick – Weed Control Coordinator

Pat Holliday – Program Assistant

Visitors:

Sara Ugalde – Farm Service Agency

ADMINISTRATION

1. Call Meeting to Order – Pat called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.
2. Approval of Minutes – Joanne moved to approve the April 3, 2025, meeting minutes. Phil gave the second. Roger Ediger, Rick Henslee, Joanne Keerins, Phil St. Clair and Pat Voigt voted yes. There were no votes in opposition. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Introduction of Visitors – There were no visitors to introduce.
4. Public Input – There was no public input.

REPORTS

5. NRCS – Hannah was not able to attend.
6. FSA – Sara reported the offices have been working on fire damage claims funded the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP). The Acreage report deadline is July 15th. Kailey will be back next week working part-time, every Wednesday & Thursday and every other Friday. Sara will continue to be in the John Day office once a week.
7. South Fork John Day Watershed Council – Phil and Joanne reported Council staff are working on current projects.
8. Malheur Forest – A representative was unable to attend.
9. ODA – Brent was unable to attend.
10. OR State Forestry – A representative was unable to attend.
11. OR Dept. Environmental Quality – A representative was unable to attend.

DISTRICT PROGRAMS

12. Grant Weed Control – Matt reported roadside spraying has been completed for all Grant and Wheeler county roads. Staff are currently applying bare ground treatments for private landowners. Matt stated they are about a month ahead of schedule. The second right-of-way spray truck has made a big difference in accomplishing roadside spraying. Tereasa will be conducting annual grass surveys and contacting landowners regarding interest in fall aerial treatments. Broadleaf treatments have begun on Bureau of Land Management and Malheur Forest lands as well as private. Grant Weed Control will be entering into a new agreement with the Malheur Forest to accomplish noxious weed control in areas affected by wildfires. Grant Weed Control had five items in the Grant County Road Department surplus auction. All items were sold, totaling \$4,560. Matt stated Grant Weed Control and NRCS are hosting a tour that will focus on past annual grass, juniper reduction and conifer thinning treatments and the effects those treatments had on reducing the severity and intensity of the Battle Mt. Complex fire. The tour will be held Tuesday, June 3rd, and will begin at 9:00 am at Clyde Holliday State Park.
13. District Programs – The Program Status Report was sent out in the Directors meeting packet. Kyle encouraged the Directors to contact him if they had any questions. Tyler is working with Firewise communities. Tyler and Roy visited several properties that are interested in conifer thinning treatments through the CWDG grant.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

14. Terms of Payment for District Services Policy Review – Kyle stated one of the late payments the District has been waiting for was paid. He explained what is legal regarding charging late fees. Kyle presented the Draft Payment Terms Policy for the District. The policy states a cooperative agreement will be required for work that will generate invoices for services either directly by Grant SWCD staff or by contractors retained by the District exceeding \$10,000. The policy includes wording to accommodate hardship or unforeseen circumstances. **Phil moved to approve the Grant Soil and Water Conservation District Payment Terms Policy. Roger gave the second. Phil, Roger, Rick, Joanne and Pat voted in favor. There were no votes in opposition. The motion passed unanimously.**
15. Review and Approval of ODA Workplan – Kyle reviewed the Grant Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Work Plan July 2025 – June, 2026 with the Directors. **Rick moved to approve the Annual Work Plan July, 2025 – June, 2026. Joanne gave the second. Phil, Roger, Rick, Joanne and Pat voted in favor. There were no votes in opposition. The motion passed unanimously.**
16. Summary of LAC Meeting – Kyle gave an update on the Biennial Review of the Upper Mainstem & South Fork John Day River Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan held April 8, 2025. A representative from Oregon Department of Environmental Quality presented maps showing the Status and Trends from 2022 for temperature, bacteria and dissolved oxygen in the John Day River Basin. The map showed several locations that exceeded standards. Comments were made that if standards could not be met in those areas it would be difficult for standards to be met in any area in the Basin. Measurable objectives were added in the Plan. Discussion was held on Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) and the Ag Water Quality Management Area Plan.
17. OACD Dues Discussion – Kyle expressed concerns with the OR Association of Conservation Districts dues schedule being based on Districts gross revenues from their last audit. Pass through funds should be excluded from any dues calculation. Kyle and Pat met with Andrea Kreiner, OACD Executive Director regarding the issue. She suggested the District put their concerns in a letter to the OACD Board. Kyle shared the letter he wrote on the issue and the Directors agreed it should be sent.
18. Other - The Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan for Grant County is scheduled for its mandatory 5-year review and update. Grant SWCD and other local governments were partners in the development of the original plan and Kyle recommended the District continue our participation. As before, the SWCD Board of Director's will have to formally adopt the final plan. The District was successful in securing funding through FEMA in the past; most FEMA funding sources seem to require a valid plan to participate in their programs.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

17. Financial Report/Financial Summary – Financial reports for the month of April 2025 were reviewed by the

Directors.

18. Approve Bills– Roger moved to approve the bills and financial reports for the month of April 2025. Joanne gave the second. Rick Henslee, Phil St. Clair, Roger Ediger, Pat Voigt and Joanne Keerins voted in favor. There were no votes in opposition. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.



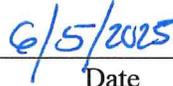
Board Chair



Date



District Manager



Date