



Grant Soil and Water Conservation District
721 S. Canyon Blvd. - John Day, OR 97845 - Phone (541) 575-0135

MINUTES OF GRANT SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S
February 7th, 2019 MEETING

Directors:

Phil St. Clair – Director
Pat Voigt - Director
Nick Stiner – Associate Director
Ted Clausen – Associate Director

Staff:

Jason Kehrberg - District Manager

Visitors:

Lorraine Vogt – Natural Resources Conservation Service

Attendance

Joanne Keerins - Director
Roger Ediger – Director
Rick Henslee - Director

Pat Holliday – Program Assistant

Amy Stiner – Upper South Fork Watershed Council

ADMINISTRATION

1. Call Meeting to Order – PatVoigt called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.
2. Approval of Minutes - Pat Holliday stated the paragraph regarding the Oath of Office was moved to Item #1, to reflect when the action was taken. Pat Voigt stated the minutes should reflect that Phil St. Clair gave the Oath of Office, not he. **Phil moved to approve the January 3rd, 2019 meeting minutes with the corrections noted. Joanne gave the second with the motion passing unanimously.**
3. Introduction of Visitors –There were no visitors in attendance.
4. Public Input – There was no public input.

REPORTS

5. NRCS – Lorraine stated the Grant County Local Work Group met January 29th and was well attended. The EQIP application deadline is March 15th and includes those submitted through the two Regional Conservation Partnership Programs (RCPP). Programs from the 2014 Farm Bill, including the Conservation Security Program (CSP), were continued in the 2018 Farm Bill. The office expects some changes in existing programs when the new Farm Bill rules are released.
6. OSU Ext. - A representative was unable to attend.
7. BOR – A representative was unable to attend.
8. John Day Basin Trust - A representative was unable to attend.
9. ODFW Wildlife – A representative was unable to attend.
10. ODFW Fisheries – A representative was unable to attend.
11. ODFW Fish Habitat – A representative was unable to attend.
12. CTWSR of OR – A representative was unable to attend.
13. ODA –A representative was unable to attend.
14. Malheur National Forest – A representative was unable to attend.
15. Freshwater Trust - A representative was unable to attend.
16. USFWS Partners Program – A representative was unable to attend.
17. North Fork John Day Watershed Council – A representative was unable to attend.

18. Upper South Fork Watershed Council – Amy reported the Council’s first month as a fully organized 501(c) (3) was successful. The staff has been completing reporting requirements and working on future grant applications, including the OWEB Watershed Council Capacity grant, which is due in March.
19. Monument SWCD – A representative was unable to attend.
20. OWEB – A representative was unable to attend.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

21. Annual Meeting Resolution – Jason asked the Directors if March 7th would be acceptable to hold the District’s 2019 Annual meeting. The meeting is proposed to include a presentation by Phil Brown, Professional Hydrogeologist, regarding groundwater aquifer recharge and recovery opportunities within Grant County. **Phil moved to pass a resolution setting Grant SWCD’s 2019 Annual meeting for Thursday, March 7th at 6:00pm at the Grant County Airport meeting room. Joanne gave the second with the motion passing unanimously.**
22. Fox Creek Focus Area – Outreach Mailer – Jason reviewed the outreach material for the Fox Creek Focus Area with the Directors. The information will be mailed to landowners within the Focus Area. Pat stated he felt the letter was informative and presented the required information. **Joanne moved to approve the Fox Creek Focus Area landowner outreach letter and associated visuals. Roger gave the second with the motion passing unanimously.**
23. Other – Jason informed the Directors the District has not received its 2017-18 audit which was originally due December 31, 2018. The auditing firm requested an extension from the Oregon Secretary of State to January 31, 2019. The District has contacted the auditing firm several times regarding the delay.
24. Other – Jason reported the District has been asked by Ted Williams, Grant County Emergency Management Coordinator, to be involved in the planning process for a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan for Grant County. The plan will involve natural hazards such as flooding and wildfires and will enable Grant County to apply for FEMA funding in the event of a qualifying incident.

DISTRICT PROGRAMS

25. Weed Control – Matt was unable to attend the meeting as he is in Salem attending the grant review session of the 2019 Oregon State Weed Board. The weed staff has been doing some building upgrades and maintenance including an extra storage loft at the chem shed.
26. District Programs – Jason reported he has been researching the use of Airborne Electromagnetic Survey (AEM) to map ground water aquifers along the Upper Mainstem John Day River as well as prospective funders. He has been working on potential budgets and draft grant applications. The engineering staff has been working on contracting and permits for projects to be implemented in 2019.

The Directors discussed the staffing of the John Day Farm Service Agency office.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

27. Financial Report/Financial Summary – Financial reports for the month of January 2019 were reviewed.
28. Approve Bills – **Joanne moved to approve the bills and financial reports for the month of January 2019. Roger gave the second with the motion passing unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50pm.



 Board Chair

4-4-19

 Date



 District Manager

4/4/19

 Date