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
December 4, 2025 Meeting

Attendance

Directors Attending:
Roger Ediger – Director
Ted Clausen – Associate Director
Rick Henslee – Director
Phil St. Clair – Director
Pat Voigt – Chairman
Joanne Keerins – Director – Via Phone

Staff Attending:
Kyle Sullivan – District Manager
Matt Wenick – Grant Weed Control
Danielle Kimball – Program Assistant

Visitors:
Didgette McCracken
Hannah Smith – Natural Resources Conservation Service
John Rowell – Grant County Commissioner
Andrea Mann – Eastern OR Representative for OACD
Jennifer Bush – Malheur Forest Service

ADMINISTRATION

1. Call Meeting to Order – Pat called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes – **Rick moved to approve the November 6, 2025, meeting minutes. Phil gave the second. Phil St. Clair, Pat Voigt, Roger Ediger, Rick Henslee, and Joanne Keerins 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 reported application deadline for programs is in January. EQIP allocation from the state is $40 million. Budget details are still unknown, with many uncertainties remaining.

6. FSA – A representative was unable to attend.

7. South Fork John Day Watershed Council – Joanne reported a strong turnout at the November meeting, which focused on virtual fencing and Landowner Preference tags. Tyler from Firewise will be at the December meeting.

8. Malheur Forest – Jennifer reported the agency is in recovery mode following the federal shutdown. Many deadlines have been extended due to the shutdown, and funding levels remain uncertain.

9. ODA – A representative 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.

12. John Rowell County Commissioner – John reported that a meeting is upcoming to review potential changes. Committee members will be included in the discussion.

DISTRICT PROGRAMS

13. Grant Weed Control – Matt reported that in November they finished treatments for Umatilla Forest, on the top road out of Monument. Have done some seeding on the Rail Ridge fire dozer lines. Still adding landowners to the aerial seeding list. Right now, looking at aerial seeding to start in January or February, as conditions are still too warm. The drone has been delivered to Salem. Nate passed his aerial application exam in November. The Envo carbon credit program will not move forward this year due to insufficient time to sign up landowners. Tereasa is breaking spray polygons out per landowner so mapping will be ready if the Envo carbon credit program is pursued next year.

14. District Programs – Kyle reported that Pat Hollidays last day was November 26th. We gave her a good sendoff within the office. Pile burning has begun. Kyle attended a small grant team meeting on December 3rd. Major changes will be implemented. The grant system will now be open to everyone, so the process will be more competitive with less funding available. Office phone numbers changed unexpectedly today, December 4th. The 541-575-0135 number is no longer active. Everyone in the office as a new direct number. The District website has been updated and our partners notified.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

15. Joanne Keerins Board Retirement – Kyle reported that Joanne has expressed she would like to resign from the board before the end of her term. Kyle has reached out to Ted Clausen, Alec Oliver, and Didgette McCracken to see if either of them would be interested in replacing Joanne. Once the board has a resignation letter from Joanne, then they will appoint a replacement to fill in for the remaining of the term.

16. Other– The district has received the audit back this afternoon. Kyle gave the board a review of the audit and presented the Plan of Action for Grant Soil & Water Conservation District.

Phil moved to approve the Plan of Action, dated November 26, 2025, for Grant Soil & Water Conservation District. Rick gave the second. Phil St. Clair, Pat Voigt, Roger Ediger, Rick Henslee, and Joanne Keerins voted yes. There were no votes in opposition. The motion passed unanimously.

At 4:31 Pat Voigt stated there would be a 10-minute recess after which the meeting would go into Executive Session.

17. Executive Session – ORS 192.660(2)(i) – Pat called the meeting into Executive Session, under ORS 192.660(2)(i) at 4:45. At 5:27, Pat stated the meeting was back in open session.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

18. Salary/Incentives Review and Discussion – Kyle presented the 2026 proposed salary adjustments and 2025 incentive payments.

Phil moved to approve the 2026 salary adjustments and 2025 incentive payments as presented. Joanne gave the second. Phil St. Clair, Pat Voigt, Roger Ediger, Rick Henslee, and Joanne Keerins voted yes. There were no votes in opposition. The motion passed unanimously.

19. Financial Report/Financial Summary – Financial reports for the month of November 2025 were reviewed by the Directors.

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

Patrick Voigt
Board Chair

1-8-26
Date

District Manager

1/8/2026
Date