

# Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District

## MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2026

8:30 AM

USDA Service Center

### Board Present

Jess Stutzman  
Josh Hilderbrand  
Brian Simantel  
Ryan Thompson  
Nick von Borstel

### Others Present

Amanda Whitman, District Manager  
Marylou Martin, Office Assistant  
Taylor Bullock, Watershed Coordinator  
Tatiana Taylor, Conservation Tech  
Joan Bird, County Commissioner  
Jacob Powell, OSU Extension  
Jean Hulbert (Call-in)

#### I. ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by chairman, Jess Stutzman

#### II. REVIEW/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

One addition-2 Watershed Education grants, added under Action Items

#### III. MINUTES

Nick moved to approve the minutes from the March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026 meeting and Brian seconded. Motion carried with Nick-yes, Brian-yes, Ryan-yes, Jess-yes, Josh-yes.

#### IV. GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Joan Bird reminded everyone of the Speedway meeting tomorrow in Grass Valley at 5:30pm.

#### TREASURERS REPORT

Financials and bank statements through March were presented, bills through April were presented and reviewed by the board. Nick moved to approve the financials and bills as presented and Brian seconded. Motion carried with Nick-yes, Brian-yes, Jess-yes, Josh-yes, Ryan-yes.

#### V. STAFF UPDATES

A. District Manager – See attached

- Budget
- OACD Workgroups
  - Strategic Planning
  - Board
- SDAO Board Training
- District Manager Training, Condon
- Small Grants
  - Assisting Taylor w/completion reports & fund requests
- Tree Sale Pickup \$4,946.21

\*Documents/attachments mentioned in minutes can be obtained by request

- Public Meeting Policy
  - Working on Fund Request-ODA, NRCS TA
  - Completed Annual John Day TMDL report for the County/DEQ
- B. Office Assistant—See attached
- a. Community Outreach
    - SWCD Website & Facebook
    - SWCD Newsletter
  - b. Education Outreach
    - Conservation Awareness Program (CAP)
      - Homeschool programs
        - Wildflowers of the Northwest with Author Ashley Erdely
          - i. 9 students
        - Tree planting at Bill Todd Memorial/BEO Teaching Children to Save
          - i. 8 students
          - ii. Planted 4 Oregon Grape and 1 Bailey Red Twig Dogwood
      - School Programs
        - Owl Pellet Dissection-Grade 4
          - i. 25 students
        - Hyacinth Field Trip to Bill Todd Memorial-Grade 2
          - i. 21 students
      - Grants
        - Sherman County Education Foundation-\$1,495
        - Sherman County Cultural Coalition-\$1,500
- C. Watershed Coordinator—See Attached
- a. SG:
    - 1 new application for Spring Development
    - 2 Pending applications
      - (ODFW funding for 2 guzzlers pending)
    - 2 Projects approved
      - (Fencing & Spring Development)
    - 2 Completion reports
  - b. NRCS:
    - Assistance with CRP reviews
  - c. Education:
    - Creating PowerPoint for Liz Cranston on ArcGIS and what it is used for
  - d. Other:
    - Connect at Seaside 3/31-4/2
    - Tree Sale

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- D. Conservation Technician—See Attached
  - a. Site visits/field work
    - Site visit for CCS Application for Haul Road
    - Site visit with Taylor for Small Grant Application for Solar Development
  - b. Meetings
    - Staff Meeting
    - Safety Meeting
  - c. Project work
    - Project Planning for CCS to present at this meeting
    - Tree Sale: collected plants in Culver and distributed them 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>
  - d. Trainings:
    - All day low-tech approaches for salmon restoration
    - Freshwater Explorer 2.0 Training
    - Annual Connect Conference March 31<sup>st</sup>-April 2<sup>nd</sup> (Seaside)
  - e. Education Assistance
    - Homeschool Program assistance on 4/13

## VI. ACTION ITEMS

- A. County Cost Share
  - a. 1 new application
    - i. 2 haul roads-pictures and maps were presented. Total cost is \$5,671. SWCD 75% cost share is \$4,253.25. Brian moved to approve the CCS application and Nick seconded. Motion carried with Brian-yes, Nick-yes, Jess-yes, Josh-yes, Ryan-yes.
- B. Watershed Education Grants
  - a. 2 applications
    - i. 4-H Camp (Cindy Brown). Josh moved to approve the Watershed Grant for 4H Camp for \$2,000 and Ryan seconded. Motion passed unanimously with Josh-yes, Ryan-yes, Jess-yes, Brian-yes, and Nick-yes.
    - ii. Science stream monitoring equipment (Mrs. Cranston). Brian moved to approve the Watershed Grant for the science class stream monitoring equipment for \$361.56 and Josh seconded. Motion passed with Brian-yes, Josh-yes, Ryan-yes, Jess-yes, and Nick-yes.
- C. Scholarship Applications
  - a. Scholarship applications were presented to the Board for review. Brian moved to approve 2 scholarships for \$3,000 each and Nick seconded. Motion passed with Brian-yes, Nick-yes, Jess-yes, Josh-yes, Ryan-yes.
- D. Public Meeting Policy
  - a. The Lawyer's edits on the Public Meeting policy were reviewed by the Board. Ryan moved to approve the Public Meeting policy with edits and Nick

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seconded. Motion passed with Ryan-yes, Nick-yes, Brian-yes, Jess-yes, and Josh-yes.

**VII. AGENCY REPORTS**

- A. NRCS-Misty reported that there is a change in the EQIP Firebreak program and it won't be funded this year. The tech team from the State office has been out to review our fire break program and found that there are some technical changes that need to be implemented. They suggested combining applications to help get special funding. Fire breaks will be called fuel breaks from now on.
- B. FSA-none
- C. OSU Extension-Jacob Powell talked about Solar Ag mitigation in Morrow County and how money is being put in a pool to increase production on existing acres. Hazardous waste collection in Moro is next Friday. You must pre-register by next Friday. Sherman County Crop Tour is Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30am. It will include lime trials, wheat trials, and McGregor customer appreciation lunch. Sherman County Experiment Station field day is Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. The Wheat League 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration is in the afternoon at the Fairgrounds on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

**VIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. Budget Committee Meeting today at 10:00am
- B. Sign Checks

**IX. NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting is May 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am in the USDA Service Center conference room.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

Ryan moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 am and Nick seconded. Motion carried with Ryan-yes, Nick-yes, Jess-yes, Josh-yes, Brian-yes.

Respectfully,

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Nick von Borstel, Secretary

Approved by the Board of Directors May 12, 2026:

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Jess Stutzman, Chair