Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District

MEETING MINUTES

June 9, 2026
8:30 AM
USDA Service Center

Board Present	**Others Present**
Jess Stutzman	Amanda Whitman, District Manager
Josh Hilderbrand	Marylou Martin, Office Assistant
Ryan Thompson	Tatiana Taylor, Conservation Tech
	Kara Lanthorn, FSA
	Joan Bird, County Commissioner
	Jacob Powell, OSU Extension
	Drew Messenger, County Assessor

I. ORDER

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

II. REVIEW/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None

III. MINUTES

Ryan moved to approve the minutes from the May 12th, 2026 meeting and Josh seconded. Motion carried with Ryan-yes, Josh-yes, Jess-yes.

IV. GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

None

V. AGENCY/PARTNER REPORTS

A. NRCS-Not present

B. FSA-Kara reported that they just got new payment eligibility rules, they must contact all LLCs and Corporations by September 15th, and will adjust to show that each person has a payment limitation. Everyone's 902 will become ineligible at the end of the year if it's not edited. FSA is also asking people to start using the on-line system.

C. OSU Extension-Jacob reported that he did get some funding for fire outreach, which he is hoping to set up for the end of the summer. He said there were about 15 fewer people at the crop tour this year. Jacob reminded everyone that tomorrow is the OSU Field Day at 8:00am and the Oregon Wheat 100-year celebration at 2:00pm, both at the Sherman County Fairgrounds.

D. Sherman County-Drew Messenger talked to the Board about SIP, about the structure and how it has changed since it first began in Sherman County. The Board asked what happens when SIP is gone? Drew used Golden Hills as an example to explain what happens with the taxes after the SIP runs out. The Board also asked about a baseline for the taxes, the lowest taxes will go? Drew answered that he wasn't sure,

but it shouldn't go too low unless the towers are taken out. The county is currently navigating new SIP or PILOT (payment in lieu of tax).

VI. TREASURERS REPORT

Financials and bank statements for May were presented. The payroll is up-to-date. Ryan moved to approve the financials as presented and Josh seconded. Motion carried with Ryan-yes, Josh-yes, Jess-yes. Bills through June were presented and reviewed by the board. Ryan moved to approve the bills as presented and Josh seconded. Motion carried with Ryan-yes, Josh-yes, Jess-yes.

VII. STAFF UPDATES

A. District Manager – See attached
- OACD Workgroups
- Large Grants
- Small Grants
- Field visit on erosion control w/Misty
- Safety Meetings
- Staff Meetings
- Cottonwood Canyon Field Day
- Succession Planning work session
- Met w/SDAO and insurance reps
- Watershed Tech position-updated job description & advertised
- Watershed Council Meeting prep

B. Office Assistant—See attached
   a. Community Outreach
      - Website, Facebook, County Reporter
   b. Education Outreach
      - Lego Challenge grade 5
      - Cottonwood Canyon Field Day
   c. Applied for 2 grants-Pacific Power & Autzen

C. Watershed Coordinator—See Attached
   a. SG:
      - Team 16 spring development application, Team 1 completion field visit, & budget training
   b. CCS:
      - Assisting Tatiana w/ field visits
   c. Watershed Council:
      - Agenda/minutes
   d. Other:
      - Cottonwood Field Day, 2026 CREP renewals, Action Plan, pickup inspection

D. Conservation Technician—See Attached
   a. Site Visits/Field Work

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

b. Meetings
c. Project work
d. Trainings:
e. Education Assistance
f. Miscellaneous:
    - Virtual Meeting w/ Yamhill SWCD
    - Cottonwood Canyon Field Day
    - Picked up Lincpass
    - Truck inspection

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Personnel
    a. Watershed Technician
        i. Received 3 applications. Amanda will do initial interviews, Board interviews after that
B. Annual Work Plan
    a. The Annual Work Plan was reviewed and some changes/edits were made. Ryan moved to approve the Annual Work Plan with edits and Josh seconded. Motion carried with Ryan-yes, Josh-yes, Jess-yes.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Sign Checks

X. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is September 8th at 8:30 am in the USDA Service Center conference room.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Ryan moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:21 am and Brian seconded. Motion carried with Ryan-yes, Josh-yes, Jess-yes.

Respectfully,

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Nick von Borstel, Secretary

Approved by the Board of Directors September 8, 2026:

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Jess Stutzman, Chair

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