

**Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District  
Minutes from January 9, 2025, District Board Meeting**

Present: Directors: Brian Nakamura, Annie Alsheimer, Andrew Halliday, Pete Siragusa and Ben Saur  
Associate Directors: Chuck Gehling and Richard Larson  
District and NRCS Staff: Heather Hendrixson, Kris Schaedel, Cheryl Rice, and Carly Heron (NRCS)  
Visitors (online): N/A

**Oath of Office:**

- Andrew Halliday, Annie Alsheimer, Pete Siragusa, and Brian Nakamura read the Oath of Office and were officially sworn in.

**Election of Officers:**

- The board moved to retain the same officers, Brian Nakamura as Chair, Pete Siragusa as Vice-Chair, Andrew Halliday as Secretary-Treasurer. Andrew moved and Annie seconded.
- The board moved to retain the same Associate Directors: Chuck Gehling, Chal Oates and Richard Larson. Ben moved and Andrew seconded.

**Consent agenda** – Andrew moved, and Annie seconded:

- To approve the minutes of December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, as written.
- To accept the December 2024 Profit & Loss statement and Balance Sheet as distributed. As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, the balance in the bank accounts (including the CD) was \$261,645.37. Income of \$7,099.79 included \$6,342.10 from workshops and \$757.69 reimbursement from the Watershed Group.
- Expenses were those authorized at the December meeting.
- Reviewed Budget vs. Actual from July 1, 2024-January 7, 2025.
- To approve payment of bills #5551-5562 and bank transfers to Lease Direct, ADP, and Ascensus as follows:

Bills to be Paid		January 9, 2025	
Check No.	Payee	Account	Amount
DD/EP	staff	staff wages and liabilities (not SIMPLE IRA)	\$17,671.62
5551	MCAREC	office rent (May 1, 2024 rate increase)	\$1,164.20
5552	US Bank	Clicktime, Zoom, workshop food, audit fees	\$2,634.93
5553	Century Link	Office phone service	\$216.50
5554	Kris Schaedel	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$5,236.58
5555	Cheryl Rice	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$402.54
5556	Heather Hendrixson	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$1,048.02
5557	Number Gurus	bookkeeping services	\$35.00
5558	Special Districts Insurance	annual liability insurance	\$1,670.00
5559	Pine Grove Grange	rental fee 4 events@\$100 each. PSP	\$400.00
5560	Watershed professionals Network	ODA Ag WQ support invoice #2634 & 2635	\$7,479.00
5561	Weatherly Printing	workshop materials - PSP	\$417.80
5562	Pacific Office Automation	copies - invoice #920639	\$85.59
EP	ADP	payroll services	\$61.46
EP	Lease Direct	copier lease	\$73.44
EP	Ascensus SIMPLE IRA	Simple IRA	\$2,029.09
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$40,625.77</b>

The motion passed unanimously.

**Old Business:**

Cheryl showed the status of the irrigation mapping project. She will be meeting with NRCS next week to add in their edits.

**New Business:**

A resolution to have the annual meeting on January 8, 2026 was made. Pete moved and Andrew seconded.

The annual report and audit for FY 2023-2024 were reviewed. The board discussed the audit and the annual report. A motion to send the next annual report online was made. Andrew moved and Annie seconded.

The cost-of-living increase percentages were reviewed. A 3% COLA increase was made. Pete moved and Ben seconded.

The board discussed the hiring of the new District Manager. The Hiring Committee has narrowed the search down to 2 candidates. The board discussed both candidates. Ben motioned to offer the District Manager position to Sarah Risorto. If Sarah declines the offer, the District Manager position will be offered to Jed Arnold. Annie seconded the motion.

Brian motioned Pete to negotiate salary, benefits, and start date with the candidates. Ben seconded.

To assist with the transition of new District Manager, Heather suggested that she be contracted to hourly beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> for 4 months for a total of 100 hours (if necessary). Ben motioned Heather as Assistant Manager. Andrew seconded.

**Informational Reports –**

**Carly** reported the deadline for FSA eligibility has passed. She worked on getting the remaining parts of applications. There were a few applications that did not get submitted since people did not complete their paperwork. She began onboarding Cal on how the ranking process works with the applications. There is funding for all the applications.

**Cheryl** reported the Annual Native Plant Sale is up and running with over 80 orders made since January 2. She created an Instagram account and has been promoting the plant sale and on farm education trainings on Instagram and Facebook. She wrote a puncturevine grant funding completion report. She assisted with on farm education trainings. She went on a completion site visit for paddock footing and began writing the completion report.

**Kris** reported another round of trainings began in January with the Worker Protector Standards/Pesticide Handler Trainings. Additionally in February, there will be Respiratory Fit Testing, Spanish Language Supervisory Skills training, and another Spanish License Pre-license training. Tomorrow there will be a bill, House Bill 3010, for the pesticide legislation. Rep. Neron will sponsor along with co-sponsors Rep. Helm and Rep. Owens. She met with Rep. Sanchez and set up a meeting with Rep Ruiz. The FIP application is complete and ready to go. Skyline and One Community Health are providing in-kind donations of staff to support the respiratory fit testing. We will need to fund Providence Health staff. The board discussed options for funding. Kris proposed to use \$5000 workshop fees to pay for Providence Health staff. Andrew moved that up to \$5000 from workshop fees can be used. Ben seconded.

**Heather** reported the ODA Ag Water Quality Plan review will be pushed out past March with the new District Manager. She met with Bear for bookkeeping and will help the new District Manager with the transition. She discussed wetland easements with a landowner on Trout Creek Ridge Road. She mentioned that OACD will be looking for someone to replace her on their board.

**Directors' reports –**

**Pete** reported working on the interview process. Currently, the water budget is over 160% of normal.

**Richard** reported he has been working with 4 forest collaboratives.

**Andrew** had nothing to report. He thanked Heather for all of the work she has done.

**Chuck** had nothing to report.

**Ben** reported he completed the paddock footing project and hedgerow projects. Seeds were ordered.

**Annie** had nothing to report. She thanked Heather for her service.

**Brian** reported pruning began this week. The pipeline upgrades have finished at his place. The East Fork Irrigation District is preparing for bids on the East Side Lateral project. The bids are due January 22<sup>nd</sup> and will be a \$12-14 million project.

**Permits** –No permits.

Executive Session is canceled.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 6th at 4 p.m. at the OSU extension office conference room.

**Summary of Actions Taken:**

- ✓ Moved, seconded and approved to retain the same officers.
- ✓ Moved, seconded and approved to retain the same Associate Directors.
- ✓ Moved, seconded, and approved consent agenda.
- ✓ Moved, seconded and approved to have the annual meeting on January 8, 2026.
- ✓ Moved, seconded and approved to send the next annual report online.
- ✓ Moved, seconded and approved a 3% COLA increase for staff.
- ✓ Moved, seconded and approved to offer the District Manager position to Sarah Risorto, or Jed Arnold if she does not accept.
- ✓ Moved, seconded and approved Pete to negotiate salary, benefits, and start date.
- ✓ Moved, seconded and approved Heather being the Assistant Manager and being contracted to hourly beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> for 4 months.
- ✓ Moved, seconded and approved up to \$5000 from workshop fees can be used to pay Providence Health staff for Respirator Fit Testing.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Rice, Conservation Technician

Approved at the \_\_\_\_\_ meeting of the Hood River SWCD.

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Brian Nakamura, Chair

**Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District  
Minutes from February 6, 2025, District Board Meeting**

Present: Directors: Brian Nakamura, Andrew Halliday, Pete Siragusa and Ben Saur  
Associate Directors: Chuck Gehling and Chal Oates  
District and NRCS Staff: Heather Hendrixson, Kris Schaedel, Cheryl Rice, and Carly Heron (NRCS)  
Visitors (online): Lissa Biehn: finishing up paying MASK people, acreage reports are due, Cherry Days on February 18<sup>th</sup>, Hort Days on February 19<sup>th</sup>

**Consent agenda** – Andrew moved, and Ben seconded. Brian and Pete voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

- To approve the minutes of January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, as written.
- To accept the January 2025 Profit & Loss statement and Balance Sheet as distributed. As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, the balance in the bank accounts (including the CD) was \$276,312.31. Income of \$55,397.41 included from ODA \$24,148.50, \$8,879.04 from workshops, \$777.85 reimbursement from the Watershed Group, Plant Sale \$8,621.02, and an OWEB small grant \$12,971.00.
- Expenses were those authorized at the January meeting.
- When the Watershed Group moves out by April 1<sup>st</sup>, Ayn Hunt from OSU Forestry will be taking over the upstairs office.
- To approve payment of bills #5564-5576 and bank transfers to Lease Direct, ADP, and Ascensus as follows:

Bills to be Paid		February 6, 2025	
Check No.	Payee	Account	Amount
DD/EP	staff	staff wages and liabilities (not SIMPLE IRA)	\$13,975.03
5564	MCAREC	office rent (May 1, 2024 rate increase)	\$1,164.20
5565	US Bank (Heather Hendrixson)	Clicktime, Zoom, stamps and postage	\$123.76
5566	US Bank (Kris Schaedel)	workshop food and supplies, printed materials, bluehost, microsoft 365 annual subscription	\$5,750.10
5567	Century Link	Office phone service	\$214.28
5568	Kris Schaedel	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$2,818.29
5569	Cheryl Rice	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$447.22
5570	Ben Saur	small grant #14-24-006 final payment	\$11,610.00
5571	Mt Adams Resource Stewards	2 days mobile chipping (Oct 21, 22 2024)	\$7,000.00
5572	Watershed Professionals Network	ODA Ag WQ Support Grant - invoice #2646	\$1,768.00
5573	Gorge Interpreting & Translating	respirator fit test flyer and other flyer translation	\$166.00
5574	Sunshine Technologies	computer set up, Outlook set up new computer	\$240.00
5575	Columbia Gorge News	annual meeting published notice	\$81.00
5576	Pacific Office Automation	copies - invoice #986916	\$27.12
EP	ADP	payroll services	\$61.46
EP	Lease Direct	copier lease	\$73.44
EP	Ascensus SIMPLE IRA	Simple IRA	\$1,084.15
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$46,604.05</b>

\*check 5563 was misprinted and voided

**Old Business:**

Jed Arnold is the new District Manager and will be starting on Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Heather will onboard Jed on evenings and weekends. Jed's Microsoft Outlook and Gmail accounts have been set up.

Kris asked the board if they would provide written testimony to the pesticide legislation. Kris can draft up the language and put it on SWCD letterhead. The board agreed.

#### **New Business:**

ODF wrote and was awarded a Western States Grant that provides the SWCD with \$25,000 to coordinate and contract mobile chipper. The board agreed.

#### **Informational Reports -**

**Carly** reported existing EQIP contracts are on schedule. She is training Cal on inventory, assessment and ranking. Almost all of the applications are ranked. The Local Work Group meeting was well attended. She worked with a team to create and deliver a Business Tools 101 course to newer planners across the state. She met with Oregon Ag Trust team. Since the Middle Fork RCPP has not spent all its funds, they can be transferred to the East Fork to complete projects.

**Cheryl** reported the annual native plant sale kicked off on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. To date, there have been 110 orders with over \$9000 in sales. She confirmed 5 Spring 2025 Mobile Chipping dates with Mt. Adams Resource Stewards (MARS). Promoted mobile chipping and plant sale on Facebook and Instagram. She met with Carly to update the irrigation map and worked on updating irrigation mapping. She began an application for a small grant for an irrigation upgrade.

**Kris** reported on the pesticide legislative work. She met with Senator Bonham and the chief of staff for Representative Ruiz. Last Monday, she testified in Salem to the house Ag, land use natural resource and water committee. She presented in Portland at the 4 County "Pull Together" CWMA conference. She met with an OACD publicist, OSU PSEF staff and board regarding the legislative work. The Facilitated Worker Protection Standards & Pesticide Handler Training took place where almost 200 people were in attendance. There has been great collaboration with Providence, One Community Health and Skyline Hospital for planning the Respirator Fit Testing. During the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of February, the Supervisory Skills and Leadership class will be held followed by the Spanish Pre-license class. She is in talks with WSDA about train the trainer training for the Worker Protection Standards and Pesticide Handler class. The OWEB FIP landowners can move forward with their projects. Next month she will present to OWEB staff.

**Heather** reported she paid the January bills and prepared for the board meeting. She created onboarding documents for Jed and wrote a report for the CTWS.

#### **Directors' reports -**

**Andrew** had nothing to report.

**Ben** had nothing to report.

**Pete** reported he was the point person in hiring the new district manager. There has been a lot of pruning done due to the dry weather.

**Cal** had nothing to report.

**Chuck** reported working on the Indian Creek trail. During a Hood River Town Hall, Senator Merkeley recognized the HRWG for their service and presented a flag that was flown at the Capitol in Washington, D.C. HRWG will be moving to Wasco Street by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Once the HRWG is settled, there will be an open house.

**Brian** reported East Fork Yasui line has wrapped up and the Central Lateral pipeline went out to bid. There were 5 bidders and Tapani won the \$8.5 million bid. Construction will begin in October. He finished all pruning.

**Permits** – Andrew discussed the dam restoration project at Middle Fork. There is a preferred method of restoration however alternate routes need to be looked at (for example, get rid of the dam). Andrew asked if the SWCD Board could write a letter in support of the preferred method. He brought a list of talking points and will email them out. The board discussed and supported.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, March 6th at 4 p.m. at the OSU extension office conference room.

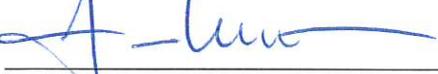
**Summary of Actions Taken:**

- ✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the consent agenda.

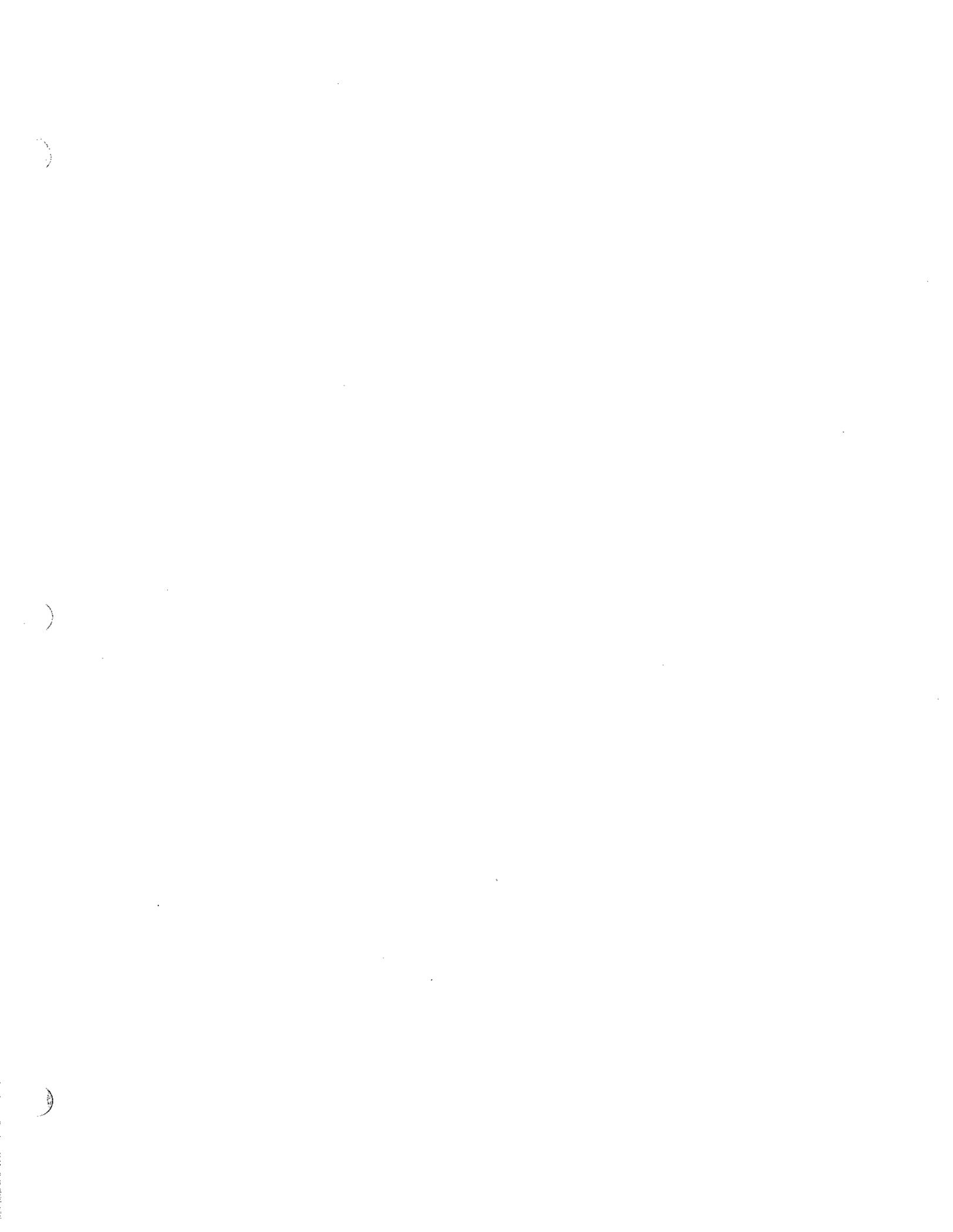
Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Rice, Conservation Technician

Approved at the \_\_\_\_\_ meeting of the Hood River SWCD.



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Brian Nakamura, Chair



**Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District  
Minutes from March 6, 2025, District Board Meeting**

Present: Directors: Brian Nakamura, Pete Siragusa, Annie Alsheimer (online) and Ben Saur (*in attendance only for Director Reports*)

Associate Directors: Chal Oates (online)

District and NRCS Staff: Jed Arnold, Heather Hendrixson, Kris Schaedel, Cheryl Rice, and Carly Heron (NRCS)

Visitors: Jed reported per Lissa's email: They are finishing up the acreage reporting for perennial fruit crops and encourage producers to timely report any spring plantings they complete. Please encourage producers to report losses to FSA and/or their crop insurance agent if we have any adverse weather events that cause damage.

**Consent agenda** – Pete moved and Brian seconded. Annie voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

- To approve the minutes of February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025, as written.
- To accept the February 2025 Profit & Loss statement and Balance Sheet as distributed. As of February 28<sup>th</sup>, the balance in the bank accounts (including the CD) was \$253,955.45. Income of \$23,964.24 included from workshops \$11,439.27, Plant Sale \$482.39, and the CTWS contract for \$11,848.00, and \$194.58 from reimbursed expenses.
- Expenses were those authorized at the February meeting.
- To approve payment of bills #5577-5585 and bank transfers to Lease Direct, ADP, and Ascensus as follows:

Bills to be Paid		March 6, 2025	
Check No.	Payee	Account	Amount
DD/EP	staff	staff wages and liabilities (not SIMPLE IRA)	\$13,119.63
5576	MCAREC	office rent (May 1, 2024 rate increase)	\$1,164.20
5577	US Bank (Heather Hendrixson)	Clicktime, Zoom	\$48.99
5578	US Bank (Kris Schaedel)	bluehost, calendly	\$27.00
5579	Century Link	Office phone service	\$146.57
5580	Kris Schaedel	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$4,972.27
5581	Cheryl Rice	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$1,298.70
5582	Leo Garcia/The next step	Leadership skills workshop 2/19 - 2/21	\$7,500.00
5583	Weatherly Printing	Printed materials for Spanish lang pesticide train	\$194.95
5584	Numbers Guru	Bookkeeping services Jan 25 - Inv17348	\$87.50
5585	Pacific Office Automation	copies - invoice #62800	\$72.45
EP	ADP	payroll services	\$61.46
EP	Lease Direct	copier lease	\$73.44
EP	Ascensus SIMPLE IRA	Simple IRA	\$1,000.60
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,767.76</b>

**Old Business:**

Kris provided information on the OWEB FIP grant agreement for on-farm irrigation upgrades which total \$375,000.00. The board discussed. Annie moved and Pete seconded. Brian voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

Jed received the Columbia Gorge CWMA MOU request for the SWCD to continue to be a part of the Columbia Gorge CWMA. The board discussed signing the MOU request but support the request for funding. Pete moved and Brian seconded. Annie voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

Jed reported that the NACD sent out a Federal Impacts survey voluntarily requesting responses. The board discussed whether they would like to respond to the survey. Jed will send out the questions to the board. Brian

reported that he attended the Required Board Member Public Meeting Law online training last week. Board members are required to take the training once in their term.

#### International Reports -

Carly reported working through EQIP applicants and sending out draft documents for applicants to review. The existing IRA contracts are moving forward with payment. She terminated and offboarded Cal due to Federal Government cuts since she was a probationary employee. Carly appealed but is still waiting to hear.

Cheryl reported that the native plant sales are doing well, and we are getting closer to the break-even point. She has scheduled more than half of the available time slots for the April mobile chipping days with MARS. She completed an application for irrigation upgrade. She supported Kris with various on farm education trainings/classes. She helped CTWS pit tag Spring Chinook and created a video showing her work and posted on social media.

Kris reported Respiratory Fit Testing went very well in collaboration with Providence, One Community Health and Skyline Hospital. It will happen again on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> since the second day was snowed out. Leo Garcia's Supervisory Skills and Leadership Class took place with 50 people in attendance. The Spanish Pre-license also took place, along with the Oregon Rules and Laws Training with OSU PSEF, the day after the test. She has been assisting many people with the reciprocity process between WA and OR pesticide applicators license. The pesticide legislation, House Bill 3010, is still waiting on a work session. Representatives Helms and Owens believe the bill has the votes to pass through. Funding for future trainings have been incorporated into the FIP (\$250,000) and PSP (\$80,000). She met with Ashley and Virginia (OSU PSEF) to begin planning a Spanish Winter Hort class for next year.

Jed reported this is his second week as District Manager. Heather has onboarded him on various District Manager duties. He has reviewed the current ODA Ag Water Quality Support grant and submitted a new ODA Ag Water Quality Support grant.

#### Directors' reports -

Cal reported winter maintenance is ongoing.

Annie reported she attended the HRWG Climate meeting. The Watershed Rock Opera is taking place on April 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> at the Columbia Center for the Arts.

Pete reported Farmers Irrigation District had to shut water down on a couple of occasions due to the cold and when water flows were too high. The reservoir is still filling and getting ready for irrigation and spring season. Brian reported East Fork Irrigation District will turn water on next week to test out the new pipelines. Steve is applying for more grants to upgrade more pipelines.

Ben reported he had just attended the Farm First Aid Course. He has started seeding.

Permits - application for a farm stand off Neal Creek Road. The board discussed. Jed will draft a letter and pass it along to Heather regarding the importance of riparian vegetation since the farm stand will be close to creek. Von Flotow submitted a denial appeal for construction on his land. The board discussed and decided no action needed to take place.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. in the OSU extension office conference room.

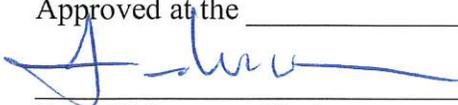
#### Summary of Actions Taken:

- ✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the consent agenda.
- ✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the OWEB FIP grant agreement.
- ✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved signing the Columbia Gorge CWMA MOU agreement.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Rice, Conservation Technician

Approved at the \_\_\_\_\_ meeting of the Hood River SWCD.



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Brian Nakamura, Chair

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**Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District  
Minutes from April 3, 2025, District Board Meeting**

Present: Directors: Brian Nakamura, Annie Alsheimer, Ben Saur and Andrew Halliday (online)

Associate Directors: Chuck Gerling, Chal Oates, and Rick Larson

District and NRCS Staff: Jed Arnold, Kris Schaedel, Cheryl Rice, and Carly Heron (NRCS)

Visitors: N/A

**Consent agenda** – Annie moved and Ben seconded. Brian and Andrew voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

- To approve the minutes of March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025, as written.
- To accept the March 2025 Profit & Loss statement and Balance Sheet as distributed. As of March 31st, the balance in the bank accounts (including the CD) was \$245,644.65. Income of \$20,126.98 included from the NACD grant \$15,000.00, workshops \$2,012.98, and Plant Sale \$3,114.00.
- Expenses were those authorized at the March meeting.
- To approve payment of bills #5599-5591 and bank transfers to Lease Direct, ADP, and Ascensus as follows:

Bills to be Paid		March 6, 2025	
Check No.	Payee	Account	Amount
DD/EP	staff	staff wages and liabilities (not SIMPLE IRA)	\$13,119.63
5599	MCAREC	office rent (May 1, 2024 rate increase)	\$1,164.20
5597	US Bank (Heather Hendrixson)	Clicktime, Zoom, monthly fees	\$48.99
5598	US Bank (Kris Schaedel)	Workshop expenses, office supplies, training fees	\$5,709.70
5590	Century Link	Office phone service	\$105.27
5589	Kris Schaedel	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$225.20
5588	Cheryl Rice	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$588.05
5596	Watershed Professionals Network	ODA WQ grant contracting	\$272.00
5595	Weatherly Printing	Weed education signs for Master Gardeners	\$81.00
5594	Pine Grove Grange	Rental fee for Mar 10 respirator training	\$200.00
5593	OSE Extension	Purchase of folding tables	\$1,344.00
5592	WACD Nursery	Plant Sale plants	\$1,232.44
5591	Pacific Office Automation	copies - invoice #164364	\$56.69
EP	ADP	payroll services	\$61.46
EP	Lease Direct	copier lease	\$73.44
EP	Ascensus SIMPLE IRA	Simple IRA	\$1,000.60
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,282.67</b>

**Old Business:**

Jed provided the contract for the \$25,000 from the Western States Grant through ODF Ben moved, Annie seconded. Andrew and Brian voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

Kris provided updates on that the House Bill 3010 passed through Ag Committee and will go to Ways and Means. There was some pushback from a few representatives. Kris will be meeting with Andrea and Jan with OACD for the next steps. OACD will focus on creating media attention and developing a pitch to send out to media outlets.

Cheryl provided updates on the plant sale preparations. The plant sale begins tomorrow, Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> from 12-5pm and Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> from 9am-1pm.

**New Business:**  
N/A

### **Informational Reports -**

Carly reported about half of the EQIP applications are completed. She stated people are starting to get work done on their properties. ODF continues to work with NRCS. She welcomed Cal back to the office. RIFS are coming.

Cheryl reported there are 5 mobile chipping days (2 next week and 3 the following week) with 35 people signed up. She began collecting PSF water samples and Groundwater Well Monitoring. She assisted in the coordination of an Earth Day Event collaboration on 4/19 with HRWG and pFitem. She helped UCD with their tree packing.

Kris reported the Respiratory Fit Testing makeup day was held with 45 people attending with over 90 people in total attendance over the 2-day testing. 10 free respirators from GS Long were handed out and participants had a chance to meet with an MD for medical clearance. There is a potential collaboration with the Farm Bureau for future funding of Respiratory Fit Testing and/or additional trainings. The WFS training is sold out and in 2 weeks. The Spanish Orchard Pest Disease and Scouting Class is in the second week of May. She has been working on the ODA PSP grant (trainings and sampling) and the FIP engagement grant (trainings). There is a possible Train the Trainer event in the works. She proctored the Oregon English Pesticide Exam for 3 people. She presented to the Master Gardeners.

Jed reported writing 1 grant every 2 weeks. He is figuring out the financial side of things and will be streamlining the financials in the future. He will be attending the Connect Conference next week in Florence to connect with other district managers.

### **Directors' reports -**

Chuck reported the HRWG moved out and into their new office. He has continued his work on the Indian Creek Trail. He helped to put up 14 signs to create a "Poetry Walk" all throughout the trail. HRWG signed contracts for logs for their projects this year.

Cal reported the trees are budding out and they will start spraying tomorrow.

Ben reported he has hired everyone on the farm. He recovered the big greenhouses where seeding was done. He completed projects with NRCS which included a bat box, owl box, and perch.

Annie reported about the tire toxicity 6PPD in storm water. She will be attending storm water treatment webinars and might be presenting. The 6PPD is toxic to spawning salmon which comes from the untreated runoff from tires. The 6PPD can be trapped in bioretention to absorb the toxins, however the standard roadside catch basins do not filter it. The board discussed.

Andrew reported the pruning of trees. He mentioned the CCFG executive director was fired, and Andrew has been involved with oversight of the CCFG. He and others are trying to shut down the Ag Advisory Bill which takes away employment at will and allows the board to set new standards and go around the legislature. He stated that many small farms would be affected if this happened. The board discussed.

Brian reported he is waiting to spray since the buds are still tight. The snowpack is still good, about 90%. The East Fork Irrigation District is going forward to put pipeline in and replace the canal.

**Rick** reported he is involved with 4 different collaborative groups.

**Permits** – The Crystal Springs Water District project focuses on reconstruction and replacement of the existing subsurface David Spring potable water collection system. This project would be not drawing any extra water out and an additional 670 square feet (.02) acres are being added. The board reviewed and did not have any comments. Jed will contact the county to let them know.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, May 1st at 4 p.m. in the OSU extension office conference room.

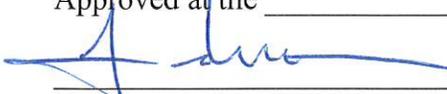
**Summary of Actions Taken:**

- ✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the consent agenda.
- ✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the \$25,000 from the Western States Grant through ODF.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Rice, Conservation Technician

Approved at the \_\_\_\_\_ meeting of the Hood River SWCD.



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Brian Nakamura, Chair

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**Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District  
Minutes from May 1, 2025, District Board Meeting**

Present: Directors: Brian Nakamura, Annie Alsheimer, Pete Siragusa, and Ben Sauer (online)

Associate Directors: Chuck Gerling

District Staff: Jed Arnold, Kris Schaedel, and Cheryl Rice

Visitors: Ellen Hammond (online) from Jefferson County SWCD reported she is currently filling Heather's position on the OACD Board and is our liaison to OACD. She mentioned the annual OACD conference will be in Pendleton in October. She provided information about the National Working Lands Committee, Oregon Climate Ag Network, and how to access Natural Climate Solutions funding which can be found on the OACD website. OACD is in Salem reviewing legislation and how it impacts SWCDs. She invited us to attend monthly OACD board meetings and to be a part of a committee. There will be OACD board elections this fall, if we are interested. Andrea Kreiner (online) from OACD reported the 2023 audits will be used for the dues. Karen O'Neil from Uplift Local reported she is attending the board meeting to capture what the district is doing and to report out the information our local community needs to hear about. .

**Consent agenda** – Annie moved and Pete seconded. Brian and Ben voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

- To approve the minutes of April 3rd, 2025, as written.
- To accept the April 2025 Profit & Loss statement and Balance Sheet as distributed. As of April 30th, the balance in the bank accounts (including the CD) was \$230,499.97. Income of \$21,907.70 included from the NACD grant \$8,250.00, workshops \$1,066.46, and Plant Sale \$9,658.20.
- Expenses were those authorized at the April meeting.
- To approve payment of bills #5600-5611 and bank transfers to Lease Direct, ADP, and Ascensus as follows:

Bills to be Paid		May 1, 2025	
Check No.	Payee	Account	Amount
DD/EP	staff	staff wages and liabilities (not SIMPLE IRA)	\$17,739.95
5611	MCAREC	office rent (May 1, 2024 rate increase)	\$1,164.20
5609	US Bank (Heather Hendrixson)	Clicktime, Zoom, monthly fees. Quickbooks annual fee	\$1,058.99
5603	US Bank (Kris Schaedel)	Workshop expenses, office supplies, training fees	\$146.11
143.84	Century Link	Office phone service	\$143.84
5601	Kris Schaedel	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$4,187.94
5602	Cheryl Rice	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$504.86
5600	Jed Arnold	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$635.45
5608	Lava Nursery	Plant Sale stock	\$1,494.90
5607	Weatherly Printing	WPS packets printing	\$241.70
5606	Number Gurus	Monthly bookkeeping services	\$52.50
5605	Watershed Professionals	Ag WQ mapping subcontract work	\$2,584.00
5604	OSU	V. Balbi presentation at pesticide training	\$1,612.65
	Pacific Office Automation	NO INVOICE RECEIVED FOR APRIL	
EP	ADP	payroll services	\$61.46
EP	Lease Direct	copier lease	\$73.44
EP	Ascensus SIMPLE IRA	Simple IRA	\$1,000.60
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$32,702.59</b>

**Old Business:**

Kris reported there are no updates on House Bill 3010. The legislature is waiting to see what the budget looks like. The bill is scalable. If the bill does get assigned a sub-committee, public comment will be available.

**New Business:**

The FIP grant through OWEB was awarded for pesticide education outreach and the PSP grant was also awarded. These grants total approximately \$350,000.

**Informational Reports –**

**Cheryl** reported the native plant sale was a huge success! Over 400 left over trees and shrubs were planted by 50+ volunteers in an Earth Day Collaboration Event with the Hood River Watershed Group and Pfriem. Additional leftover conifers were donated to the Yakima Nation and the USFS. She will pot up approximately 20-25 conifers to grow out and sell in the future. There were 4 days of mobile chipping completed with the last day and a half to be completed in May. She attended a MARS prescribed burn in Glenwood. She pulled Garlic Mustard with Kris, ODA and USFS in Parkdale and scouted out False Brome with Hood River County Parks, ODA and USFS. She participated in a Swift Water Rescue Course with HRWG and CTWS. She also participated in the All-Lands Partnership meeting and the Education and Engagement Focus Team meeting.

**Kris** reported hosting the Worker Protection Standards training where 78 people attended. In 2 weeks, the Spanish Language Field Scouting Class will be held and a Spanish and English Train the Trainer from WSDA will be held in mid-June. Ashley and she sat down with local Farm Bureau President determining the resources available for the agricultural community, the needs, and the gaps. She presented as part of a panel at the Western Region Pesticide Program on what the district is doing in the valley. Salmon Safe reached out to her with grant funding and Kris will meet to determine the scope of the grants. She continues to facilitate the reciprocity between Oregon and Washington pesticide licenses.

**Jed** reported completing and submitting quarterly grant reports for the NACD Urban, ODA Capacity and the ODA PSP grants. He is looking to update the way we track our grant budgets to a monthly system rather than quarterly. He attended the CONNECT conference and OACD Managers meeting in Florence.

**Directors' reports –**

**Chuck** reported the Earth Day Planting Collaboration was a success at the Baldwin Creek Restoration. He worked on building a new section of the Indian Creek Trail behind the high school. The last presentation of the Climate Series by the HRWG was well attended at Working Hands. There will be a tour of the completed Baldwin Creek Restoration project in June.

**Pete** reported Farmers Irrigation is preparing for irrigation season and still have a few miles of open ditch to upgrade. The snowpack is approximately 85-88%, however there has only been 1.7" of rain in April. Irrigation will start early (about a month earlier than last year) due to the dryer soil. Around the valley, tree planting has been going on and the young trees need water. On his orchard, he is planning and preparation for irrigation season.

**Ben** reported volunteering at the Earth Day Planting event. On the farm, it is go time with the first harvest today and the first Farmer's Market this Saturday.

**Annie** reported volunteering at the plant sale and at the Earth Day Planting. She accepted the position as City Engineer of Hood River.

**Brian** reported the bloom was full and quick this year. He is concerned about a huge crop of everything so the fruit size might be small. East Fork Irrigation can now monitor the flow due to gate automation. Trail cameras were installed to make sure the equipment is safe. The CTWS paid for the trail cameras. Irrigation crews are out making repairs.

**Permits –**

Dooly-Wimmer Conditional Use Permit for wine making. The board discussed and would like to know if there is any waste discharge. Jed will comment. The City of Hood River DSL Removal/Fill permit stormwater quality soil. The board discussed and determined there is no need to comment since the permit enhances a storm water quality feature.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, June 5th at 4 p.m. in the OSU extension office conference room.

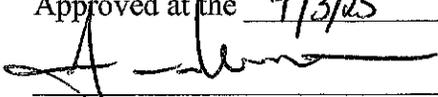
**Summary of Actions Taken:**

✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the consent agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Rice, Conservation Technician

Approved at the 7/3/15 meeting of the Hood River SWCD.



Brian Nakamura, Chair





**New Business:**

The 2025/2026 PSP-EPA was awarded.

The board discussed the Annual Workplan. Next year, they are interested in estimated work hours and actual work hours for next year for each program/project. These hours are not needed this year due to staff turnover.

**Informational Reports –**

**Carly** reported she prepared additional applications for funding if IRA were released, unfortunately it was not. She met with ODF to discuss capacity and workload given the unknowns surrounding the statewide agreement. She met with growers, local reps and Representative Maxine Dexter to discuss concerns with the local fruit growers. She met with group of NRCS and ODF staff to discuss RCPP fuels treatment. Carly showed provided updates on a 3<sup>rd</sup> year pollinator planting project. Angel's drone service.

**Cheryl** reported the last 2 days of the mobile chipping program were completed. She created a Hood River Wildfire Resources one pager to be distributed at various tabling events throughout the county. She participated in the Mountain Shadows/Cooper Spur Road Firewise Assessment with OSFM and ODF where they assessed 28 houses. She began ground truthing irrigations systems while updating irrigation map in the field. She attended the Columbia Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) Field Day.

**Kris** reported she has been preparing for the June 17-18<sup>th</sup> Train the Trainer for Worker Protection Standards (WPS) class. The Orchard Pest Disease Scouting Class by Eduardo Garcia went very well. She is finishing up completion reporting for various irrigation projects. She organized the Garlic Mustard abatement work and assisted in coordinating the False Brome spray work with Hood River County.

**Jed** coordinated with ODA about the upcoming LAC Ag Water Quality rules for Hood River. He has been working on various grant reporting and there are 5 grants that are closing out by October 1<sup>st</sup>. He will be cleaning up the grant management process. He reported the audit will start in early July. He will also update our policies and procedures.

**Directors' reports –**

**Andrew** reported he is using soil monitors and has not begun irrigating. CGFG will begin interviewing for their new director. The Ag Advisory Board is not happening.

**Pete** reported that the Farmers Irrigation water flows were good through the May 1st. The irrigation season started earlier on the west side and the reservoirs are filled.

**Chuck** reported he helped Farmers Irrigation pull trees from the face of the dam. HRWG had a tour at Baldwin Creek will about 40 participants. The next HRWG monthly meeting will be a social event with no presentations on June 24<sup>th</sup> at Working Hands. The HRWG contracted a non-profit accountant to assist in the financials for their 2024 audit.

**Brian** reported thinning had begun in the orchard and well as irrigating. The East Fork project is continuing and prep work for construction in October. They will need a large-scale irrigation engineering firm to create the plans.

**Permits –**

There are 2 HRWG Restoration Project applications. The board discussed it and had no comment.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, July 3rd at 4 p.m. in the OSU extension office conference room.

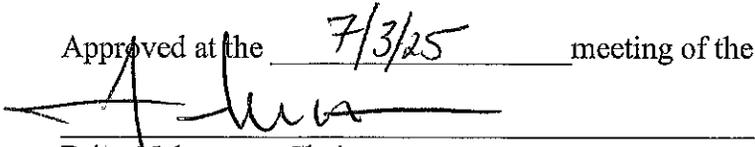
**Summary of Actions Taken:**

✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the consent agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Rice, Conservation Technician

Approved at the 7/3/25 meeting of the Hood River SWCD.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Nakamura", is written over a horizontal line.

Brian Nakamura, Chair



**Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District  
Minutes from July 3rd, 2025, District Board Meeting**

Present: Directors: Brian Nakamura, Andrew Halliday, Annie Alsheimer, and Ben Saur

Associate Directors: Chal Oates (online)

District Staff: Jed Arnold, Kris Schaedel, and Cheryl Rice; Carly Heron (NRCS)

Visitors: Karen Heinemann (Uplift Local) and Lissa Biehn (online USDA-FSA). Lissa reported the Market Assistance for Specialty Crops (MASC) payments are being distributed. USDA is unable to help out with market disaster for crops, contact ODA to see if they can provide assistance. Please remember to keep updating USDA with acreage reporting and if there are any natural disasters.

**Consent agenda** – Andrew moved, and Ben seconded. Annie and Brian voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

- To approve the minutes of June 5th, 2025, as written.
- To accept the June 2025 Profit & Loss statement and Balance Sheet as distributed. As of June 30th, the balance in the bank accounts (including the CD) was \$276,610.86. Income of \$52,568.24 included from the OWEB grant for \$50,795.12 and workshops for \$1773.12.
- The board authorized Board Chair, Brian Nakamura and Vice Board Chair, Pete Siragusa to cancel a Washington Federal CD at a lower interest rate and move the money to another Washington Federal CD at a higher interest rate.
- Expenses were those authorized at the June meeting.
- To approve payment of bills #5625-5639 and bank transfers to Lease Direct, ADP, and Ascensus as follows:

Bills to be Paid		July/3/2025	
Check No.	Payee	Account	Amount
DD/EP	staff	staff wages and liabilities (not SIMPLE IRA) - Includes vacation payout for H. Hendrixson	\$21,860.79
5637	MCAREC	office rent (May 1, 2024 rate increase)	\$1,164.20
5634	US Bank (Jed Arnold)	Clicktime, Zoom, monthly fees. Binoculars, HRSWCD Stickers	\$553.47
5635	US Bank (Kris Schaedel)	Workshop expenses, pesticide posters, training fees	\$2,651.93
5633	Century Link	Office phone service	\$138.97
5639	Kris Schaedel	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$517.08
5638	Cheryl Rice	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$416.98
5625	Providence Health Svcs	Respirator fit testing services	\$2,997.00
5627	AFS Forestry	OWEB Small grant - Fuentes property spray	\$273.44
5628	Oregon PERS	SSA Administration Fee	\$15.00
5629	Weatherly Printing	Anexo de Oregon Manual printing	\$281.40
5630	Rancho Paz LLC	Eduardo Garcia - Training Services	\$4,000.00
5631	Weatherly Printing	WPS Training Books printing	\$612.40
5632	WSU Extension Publishing	WSU Pesticide Applicator training manuals	\$2,382.96
5636	AFS Forestry	False Brome spraying, Fuentes property spray	\$9,102.64
5626	Pacific Office Automation	Copies/Printing	\$32.38
EP	ADP	payroll services	\$61.46
EP	Lease Direct	copier lease	\$73.44
EP	Ascensus SIMPLE IRA	Simple IRA	\$1,028.44
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$48,163.98</b>

**Old Business:**

The board reviewed the Draft 25/26 Budget and Work Plan. Annie moved, and Andrew seconded. Ben and Brian voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

Jed mentioned he would like to ask board members to update their contact information on a yearly basis. He will send out contact information next week.

Andrew reported that Pete, Brian and himself conducted a 3-month review with Jed. The board felt Jed was doing a good job with the financials. Once Jed has a handle on things and after harvest, it is important that he gets out to meet with local organizations and take tours to continue to make connections within the community.

**Project Updates**

Kris reported the legislative session ended last week and the Pesticide Education Bill 3010 did not make it into Ways and Means. There was an immense amount of work put forth to support this bill. Andrea and Jan are interested in pursuing the bill again in 2027 along with Lesley Tamura. There are plenty of opportunities to educate more legislative members and continue to increase the number of Spanish pesticide license applicators in the next 2 years.

Kris also reported on the Train the Trainer for Worker Protection Standards (WPS) through Washington State Department of Agriculture class went well. There were a lot of agency people who attended to hopefully kickstart Train the Trainer Trainers. The next training for the Train the Trainer WPS will be in October. Over the past two years, there have been 41 training days (37 in-person and 4 remote), over 1200 people participated, 8 testing days with 67 pesticide licenses earned (41 through the Spanish exam), 140 people signed up for pesticide credits and 75 pesticide credits offered.

Cheryl reported the Ag Water Efficiency Mapping ground truthing has been completed estimating 56% of irrigation systems in the have been upgraded, 36% have not been upgraded and less than 8% is unknown.

**Informational Reports –**

**Carly** reported she toured around Damon and Astor Boozer to see local projects. She met with Oregon Ag Trust to discuss RCPP proposals for the Upper Valley. There is potential for forest thinning on smaller parcels of land. Carly was interviewed by the Columbia Gorge News on Federal agency staffing and funding changes. She assisted with a statewide conservation planner training on an experienced planner panel. She also assisted with the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Spanish speaking wildfire preparedness event.

**Cheryl** reported most of her month was focused on updating the irrigation map by ground truthing. She participated in a Native Seed Collection Workshop by Humble Roots. She also assisted with the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Spanish Language Wildfire Resilience Event.

**Kris** reported irrigation projects have started to become implemented. She coordinated False Brome spray work from the extra money in the Garlic mustard grant which has completely been spent down.

**Jed** reported working on several final grant reports. He is continuing to go through QuickBooks. Our audit begins next week, so he has been compiling materials requested from the auditor. He is consistently looking for new grant opportunities to expand our outreach.

**Directors' reports –**

**Chal** had nothing new to report.

**Andrew** reported gearing up for cherry harvest. There was legislation that was passed to create a study (through PSU) that will interview ag workers regarding their working conditions. He stated there needs to be transparency in the study to make sure current ag workers are being asked. The Columbia Fruit Growers Association has an official advertisement out for their Executive Director position.

**Annie** reported she is 2 weeks into the City Engineer of Hood River position and so far, things are going well. She visited the springs with the water operator to learn about how everything is interconnected. She mentioned she wants to be the liaison for the city and us. If there is anything that needs to be coordinated, please let her know.

**Ben** reported he is right in the middle of his busy season. The farm has hired 3 full time people along with an intern. He had his first hay cutting of the year.

**Brian** reported getting ready for cherry harvest. Everyone is turned on and diverting full water at East Fork Irrigation. There will be almost 5 miles of pipe delivered at the end of this month to continue to complete upgrades.

**Permits –**

There is permit for a new farm stand on Hwy 35. The board discussed. No comments need to be made. The additional permit is for the Clear Branch Dam Remedial Project. The board discussed and determined Jed will meet with Craig Dehart to discuss further.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, August 7th at 4 p.m. in the OSU extension office conference room.

**Other business**

The board discussed the SDAO Board Member Training dates.

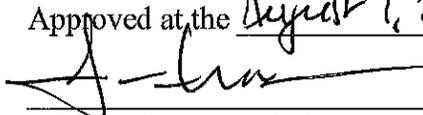
**Summary of Actions Taken:**

- ✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the consent agenda.
- ✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the Draft 25/26 Budget and Work Plan

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Rice, Conservation Technician

Approved at the August 7, 2025 meeting of the Hood River SWCD.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Nakamura, Chair



**Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District  
Minutes from August 7th, 2025, District Board Meeting**

Present: Directors: Brian Nakamura, Pete Siragusa, Annie Alsheimer (online) and Ben Saur (online)

Associate Directors: Richard Larson and Chuck Gehling

District Staff: Jed Arnold and Cheryl Rice; Carly Heron (NRCS)

Visitors: Karen Heinemann (Uplift Local), Andrea Kreiner (OACD), Lissa Biehn (online USDA-FSA) David Gruen (online-OR DEQ), Kathrn Rifenburg (online-ODA).

- Lissa (USDA-FSA) reported that the Supplemental Disaster Relief Program (SDRP) money is being dispersed. She reminded the board about acreage reporting. Hood River has been in severe drought for the past 2 weeks. If this continues for the next 6 weeks, the SDRP will be available to growers.
- David Gruen (OR DEQ) presented on the 2024 PSP Water Quality Monitoring from 4 sampling sites in Hood River County. Based on data from 2022-2024, there have been 0 Pesticides of High Concern. There were 3 pesticides of moderate concern which include: 2,6 Dichlorobenzamide (herbicide), Deisopropylatrazine (herbicide), and Imidaclorpid (insecticide). There has been a downward trend of pesticide detections in the Hood River PSP. In 2024, Lenz Creek had 37 detections, Indian Creek had 30, Neal Creek had 14 and Odell Creek had 13.
  - The board discussed 2,6 Dichlorobenzamide is not heavily used in the orchards due to the high cost. This compound is getting into the water through other avenues (roadside spreading, homeowner usage, etc).
- Andrea Kreiner (OACD) reported that the OACD Board Position for the Columbia Plateau region is up for election this year. This position is open to board members, district managers and managers within the SWCD and she encourages people to apply. More information can be found in the OACD newsletter. If you are not receiving the newsletter, please let Jed know. The annual OACD Conference in October will be in Pendleton. At the conference there will be a District Managers Round Table as well as the Board of Directors Round Table. Early pricing is now available as well as scholarship money to attend.

**Consent agenda** – Pete moved, and Ben seconded. Annie and Brian voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

- To approve the minutes of June 3rd, 2025, as revised.
- To accept the July 2025 Profit & Loss statement and Balance Sheet as distributed. As of July 31st, the balance in the bank accounts (including the CD) was \$278,881.00. Income of \$135,718.87 included from the PSP sampling grant for \$41,163.00, ODA Ag WQ Support grant for \$47,594.44 and ODF Defensible Space grant for \$46,961.43.
- Expenses were those authorized at the June meeting.
- To approve payment of bills #5649-5664 and bank transfers to Lease Direct, ADP, and Ascensus as follows:

Check No.	Payee	Account	Amount
DD/EP	staff	staff wages and liabilities (not SIMPLE IRA)	\$19,261.60
5649	MCAREC	office rent (May 1, 2024 rate increase)	\$1,164.20
5650	US Bank (Jed Arnold)	Clicktime and zoom monthly fees, Quickbooks and Canva Annual fees	\$1,110.19
5651	US Bank (Kris Schaedel)	Trainer hotel fees, LAC lunch, USB drives	\$1,576.94
5663	Century Link	Office phone service	\$142.21
5653	Kris Schaedel	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$10.64
5652	Cheryl Rice	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$310.62
5662	Gorge Interpreting & Translating	Translating services	\$810.00
5660	WACD Nursery	Deposit for plant sale 26 plants	\$507.60
5659	Number Gurus	June & July Bookkeeping services	\$272.50
5658	Watershed Professionals	GIS Work on Ag WQ grant	\$136.00
5657	AFS Forestry	Garlic Mustard Pulling	\$7,072.00
5656	Mt Adams Resource Stewards	ODF Defensible space grant chipping	\$17,500.00
5655	Western Edge Services	ODF Defensible space grant chipping	\$2,500.00
5654	Amazon.com	Computer Mouse	\$24.99
5661	Pacific Office Automation	Copies/Printing	\$31.79
5664	OACD	Annual Dues	\$2,000.00
EP	ADP	payroll services	\$61.46
EP	Lease Direct	copier lease	\$73.44
EP	Ascensus SIMPLE IRA	Simple IRA	\$1,071.26
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$55,427.33</b>

### Old Business:

Jed passed around a contact information sheet for board members to update.

### New Business:

Jed discussed the ODA Irrigation Upgrade Mapping & Project Development grant and the ODA 25/27 Operational grant. A brief discussion occurred regarding the clarification of signatures on contracts. There is a new OWEB Small Grant Administrative Services Grant available that SWCD will apply for.

### Project Updates

Jed reported the Ag Trainings are being finalized. The next part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of the Ag Water Quality/Efficiency Mapping grant will analyze and refine the data to determine prioritization areas for water conservation. The board discussed.

### Informational Reports –

**Carly** reported she met with Jaime Gonzelez from ODF and completed the 2025 Forest Management Plans. She attended an NRCS employee meeting with the chief to discuss reorganization plans. Public comments are open for the USDA Reorganization Plans through August 26<sup>th</sup>. She made site visits to local irrigation projects. She also reported fill dirt being placed in stream to both ODA and Hood River County.

**Cheryl** reported she conducted 2 PSP samplings and collected data on the groundwater well levels throughout the county. She assisted CTWS with fin clipping at Moving Falls for 5 days. She coordinated the county fair tabling, set up and breakdown along with daily check-ins.

**Kris** was unable to attend the board meeting. Andrea commended Kris on the coalition she put together for the Spanish Pesticide Education Bill and all the incredible work she put forth. Kris along with Lesley Tamura and Ashley Thompson, were interviewed by the Columbia Gorge News regarding the bill. The article ended up on the front page of this week's newspaper.

**Jed** reported the audit was being finalized and the report from the auditors will be soon. He presented at the Hood River Board of Commissioners meeting. He attended the Hood River Saddle Club 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and discussed SWCDs services. He met with the manager of the MFID and wrote a letter of support for the dam remediation project.

## Directors' reports –

**Chuck** reported the Hood River Watershed Group Bear Creek culvert remediation project is going on. He helped with a fish salvage for the project. On the Lower East Fork logs are being positioned in the stream. These logs were flown in a few weeks ago. The HRWG's Open House at their new office was well attended. He has also helped with the watering of the HRWG plantings. The survival rate of the plants has increased dramatically due to the hiring of Bernadette.

**Pete** reiterated that there is a severe drought, and he is unsure how much water FID we will have at the end of the season. There will be an FID Community Outreach Meeting on August 21<sup>st</sup>. On the farm, pear season is almost here.

**Richard** reported he continues to be a part of 4 forest collaboratives where he has participated in field trips looking at forest thinning. He also participated in a Clackamas River field trip and visited the area where the Warner Fire occurred last year.

**Ben** reported he continues to be busy on the farm. He attended the Clear Branch Dam Remediation at the Town Hall. It seems like the most realistic approach would be to rehabilitate the dam.

**Annie** reported she has been orienting herself with projects and updating policies since she has been the Hood River City Engineer for a little over a month.

**Brian** reported the cherry season is over. Bartlett Pears Psylla has been a problem this season and has been washing the pears off to decrease the Psylla stickiness. The East Fork Irrigation upgrades for the side lateral are ongoing, pipe deliveries will be in the next couple of weeks and the contractor will begin welding pipe in early September.

## Permits –

The board reviewed the Neufedlt lot division permit which subdivides the acreage into 3 lots, next to Baldwin Creek. The existing access road will need to be retrofitted for more traffic. Jed will make a comment to ensure they observe all the rules and regulations with in-stream work.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, September 4th at 4 p.m. in the OSU extension office conference room.

## Other business

Jed reported he contacted ODA regarding the Strategic Plan.

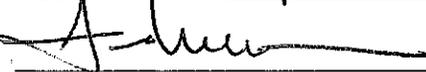
## Summary of Actions Taken:

✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the consent agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Rice, Conservation Technician

Approved at the September 4 2005 meeting of the Hood River SWCD.



Brian Nakamura, Chair



**Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District  
Minutes from September 4th, 2025, District Board Meeting**

Present: Directors: Brian Nakamura, Andrew Halliday, Annie Robinson and Ben Saur (online)

Associate Directors: Chuck Gehling

District Staff: Jed Arnold, Kris Schaedel and Cheryl Rice

Visitors: Michelle Nijhuis (Uplift Local)

**Consent agenda** – Andrew moved, and Annie seconded. Ben and Brian voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

- To approve the minutes of August 7th, 2025.
- To accept the August 2025 Profit & Loss statement and Balance Sheet as distributed. As of August 31st, the balance in the bank accounts (including the CDs) was \$253,178.80.
- Expenses were authorized at the August meeting.
- To approve payment of bills #5666-5681 and bank transfers to Lease Direct, ADP, and Ascensus as follows:

Bills to be Paid		Sept. 3 2025	
Check No.	Payee	Account	Amount
DD/EP	staff	staff wages and liabilities (not SIMPLE IRA)	\$18,842.52
5672	MCAREC	office rent (May 1, 2024 rate increase)	\$1,164.20
5677	US Bank (Jed Arnold)	Clicktime and zoom monthly fees, laptop charger	\$80.88
5676	US Bank (Kris Schaedel)	USB drives, spanish language training materials	\$250.92
5666	Century Link	Office phone service	\$141.12
5668	Kris Schaedel	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$173.60
5667	Cheryl Rice	misc. expenses reimbursement	\$277.96
5679	Gorge Interpreting & Translating	Translating services	\$213.00
5681	SAIF	Annual Workers Compensation insurance payment	\$367.36
5674	Number Gurus	August '25 bookkeeping services	\$35.00
5673	Watershed Professionals	GIS Work on Ag WQ grant	\$272.00
5678	Weatherly Printing	Print of flyers for wildflyer awareness	\$140.00
5671	Rancho Paz	FIP Irrigation upgrade reimbursement	\$297.50
5669	Jonathan Packer	FIP Irrigation upgrade reimbursement	\$12,914.45
5676	Amazon.com	Purchase of printer toner and poster frames	\$87.78
5680	Pacific Office Automation	Copies/Printing	\$10.83
5670	Tom Ewald	FIP Irrigation upgrade reimbursement	\$19,350.49
EP	ADP	payroll services	\$61.46
EP	Lease Direct	copier lease	\$73.44
EP	Ascensus SIMPLE IRA	Simple IRA	\$1,028.40
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$55,782.91</b>

**Old Business:**

Jed spoke with Cindy from HRWG regarding the OWEB Small Grant Administrative Services Grant and they decided the HRSWCD will apply and funnel money through for administration and outreach.

**New Business:**

Jed and Kris spoke about the draft Letter of Support for the Hood River County Parks grant application. This letter supports the Hood River County Strategic Master Plan of county park system. The board discussed and Jed will sign it and send it out.

In August, Kris attended a day-long WSDA stakeholder engagement meeting in Yakima. From this meeting a discussion of potential Safety and Privacy policies needs to be in place for future HRSWCD-led training events for trainers and participants. Kris will reach out to partner organizations to see what is in existence and will have a conversation with an immigration lawyer. The board discussed.

Jed brought up a discussion regarding a compensation review for HRSWCD employees. Jed has been in talks with Andrea from OACD and other SWCDs that are very similar to HRSWCD. The board discussed and determined to hold a virtual meeting of the Ad Hoc Compensation Review Committee on Friday, September 12th at 4pm.

#### **Informational Reports –**

**Cheryl** reported she has begun reading the Pesticide Applicators Core Manual and working through the Pesticide Pre-Certification Training online modules to obtain a Public Applicators Pesticide License. She tabled and spoke at the Upper Valley Wildfire Night at Solera on 8/14. She has researched and Backyard Habitat Programs to help her prepare an application for a small incubator grant to create a Microhabitat Technical Assistance program. She began assisting with Spawning Surveys with CTWS.

**Kris** reported she continues to work on logistics for the Fall/Winter Ag Training Season. She met with OSU, ODA and WSDA on the upcoming Train the Trainer event in October. Irrigation improvements projects are being implemented, and completion reporting is happening. She is looking for potential farmers for the 2026 FIP irrigation upgrade applications. Please help spread the word.

**Jed** reported he wrote up ODA Operational Support Grant and closed out ODA funding from PSP grants. He is researching additional funding sources for the chipping program due to high demand. The final audit report will be available at the next board meeting. He met with SDAO to discuss workers compensation insurance.

#### **Directors' reports –**

**Ben** reported he attended the Bear Creek Project Tour from the HRWG. Farming is at full speed.

**Annie** reported she is focusing on Hood River Stormwater Management Master Plan and looking to include potential collaborations with HRSWCD and HRWG. The city continues to work on capital improvement projects.

**Andrew** finished picking Bartletts and is getting ready to pick Anjous. There have been sunburnt pears throughout the valley however the trees on the side of the road seem to be the most affected. The CGFG has a handful of solid candidates for the Executive Director position in which they hope to hire someone by the new year.

**Chuck** reported the HRWG Bear Creek culvert remediation project continues to be worked on, and the Lower East Fork Project has just started. They will begin collecting willow stakes next week for restoration projects. He helped to taxi up adult fish up the river.

**Brian** reported he will start picking pears on Sunday, which is the earliest day ever. The East Fork East Side Lateral project is bringing in truckloads of pipe every day. The pipe is currently being staged in several areas, and they will begin to fuse the pipe. The EFID is working with the HRWG to upgrade to have a fish screen screens at the diversion. A review meeting will be held tomorrow. FID has asked their patrons to cut back their water usage by 25% due to the severe drought.

#### **Permits –**

N/A

The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 2nd at 4 p.m. in the OSU extension office conference room.

**Other business**

Jed reported there is a minor budget adjustment for ODA grant.

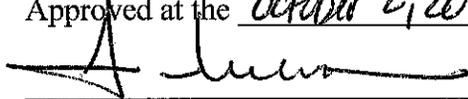
**Summary of Actions Taken:**

✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the consent agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Rice, Conservation Technician

Approved at the October 2, 2025 meeting of the Hood River SWCD.



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Brian Nakamura, Chair



**Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District  
Minutes from October 4th, 2025, District Board Meeting**

Present: Directors: Brian Nakamura, Annie Robinson and Ben Saur (online)

Associate Directors: Chuck Gehling and Chal Oates

District Staff: Jed Arnold and Cheryl Rice

Visitors: N/A

**Consent agenda** – Annie moved, and Ben seconded. Brian voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

- To approve the Board Meeting minutes of September 4th, 2025, and the Compensation Committee Meeting minutes of September 12, 2025.
- To accept the September 2025 Profit & Loss statement and Balance Sheet as distributed. As of September 30th, the balance in the bank accounts (including the CDs) was \$313,969.25. Income of \$120,300.19 included from the PSP Sampling for \$87,664.50, OWEB FIP Restoration Grant for \$15,581.34 and OSWB Garlic Mustard Grant for \$16,764.00 and \$170.00 for Workshop Trainings.
- Expenses were authorized at the September meeting.
- To approve payment of bills #5682-5693 and bank transfers to Lease Direct, ADP, and Ascensus as follows:

Bills to be Paid		Oct, 2 2025	
Check No.	Payee	Account	Amount
DD/EP	staff	staff wages and liabilities (not SIMPLE IRA)	\$19,046.30
5689	MCAREC	office rent (May 1, 2024 rate increase)	\$1,164.20
5682	Ag Farms	OWEB FIP Irrigation improvement grant reimbursement	\$25,555.26
5683	Centurylink	Monthly phone bill	\$154.84
5684	US Bank (Jed Arnold)	Zoom and Clicktime subscription fees	\$59.99
5685	US Bank (Kris Schaedel)	Outreach materials, training registrations, SWCD nameplates, training materials	\$1,741.47
5686	Weatherly Printing	WPS Training book printing	\$774.40
5687	Jed Arnold Expense Reimburse	Paper goods for SWCD office	\$50.48
5693	Kris Schaedel Reimburse	Mileage and office supplies	\$32.47
5691	Cheryl Rice Reimbursement	CTWS, PSP, and FIP Engagement mileage	\$433.09
5688	Amazon Capital Services	USB peripherals, desk phone handset	\$26.67
EP	ADP	payroll services	\$61.46
EP	Lease Direct	copier lease	\$73.44
EP	Ascensus SIMPLE IRA	Simple IRA	\$1,049.82
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$50,223.89</b>

**Old Business:**

Jed discussed the adjusted 25/26 budget. Annie motioned and Brian seconded to accept the adjusted 25/26 budget. Ben voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

Annie motioned and Brian seconded to accept the update of the Conservation Program Manager job description and compensation. Ben voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

Jed discussed the 24/25 Financial Report from the Auditor. The Auditor had no suggested changes.

### **Informational Reports –**

**Cheryl** reported she submitted the Microhabitat Program Incubator Grant and has an interview in 2 weeks to review our application. She assisted CTWS with 9 spawning surveys and helped the HRWG and CTWS in gathering willow cuttings for a project. She tabled at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Front Yard Garden Tour. She attended Clackamas Tree School.

**Kris** was unable to attend the board meeting. Jed discussed Kris continued working on logistics for the training season. She has been working with lawyers to develop a plan and protocol if immigration enforcement shows up at a training. She developed an application for the next round of FIP applications. She is working with OWEB on cultural resource survey requirements for the next round of projects.

**Jed** reported he met with Oregon Coalition of Land Trusts to discuss the possibility of applying for a RCPP for the Parkdale area. He will be meeting with ODF tomorrow to discuss the Western States Grant and fall mobile chipping.

### **Directors' reports –**

**Chuck** reported the HRWG Bear Creek culvert remediation project is finished and the Lower East Fork Project is nearing completion. The HRWG Annual celebration date has been moved due to a catering glitch. He participated in the FID fish salvage yesterday and the EFID fish salvage is on Monday.

**Annie** reported about the stormwater project at the waterfront. She discussed the erosion issues on the north side of Indian Creek Trail. A geotechnical engineer conducted a slope stability test to determine the reasons why erosion was occurring.

**Chal** reported harvest is finished with an abundance of fruit harvested however not a lot of bins were available.

**Ben** reported that the Saturday Market is going strong and he continues to harvest. 10 Speed Coffee Shop had its 20<sup>th</sup> year anniversary.

**Brian** reported EFID started the East Side Lateral project, and the crews continue to fuse pipe. He discussed the effect of Pear Psylla on the pears industry this year.

### **Permits –**

N/A

The next meeting will be on Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. in the OSU extension office conference room.

### **Other business**

Jed discussed the OACD Board of Directors ballot and the OACD Position Statements.

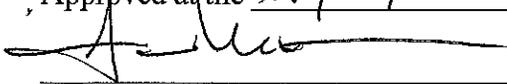
### **Summary of Actions Taken:**

- ✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the consent agenda.
- ✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the update of the Conservation Program Manager job description and compensation.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Rice, Conservation Technician

Approved at the 11/6/25 meeting of the Hood River SWCD.



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Brian Nakamura, Chair



**Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District  
Minutes from November 6th, 2025, District Board Meeting**

Present: Directors: Brian Nakamura, Andrew Halliday, Ben Saur, and Annie Robinson

Associate Directors: Chuck Gehling and Chal Oates

District Staff: Jed Arnold, Kris Schaedel and Cheryl Rice

Visitors: Eric Neusbaum (ODA) reported he is a consultant for the SWCD. He mentioned there have been public meeting law updates and rewritten rules. He recommended the board take a Public Meeting Law class that he can teach. He said Kevin Fenn, the Water Quality Program Manager, will be reaching out and connecting with the SWCDs around the state. He also stated the filing deadline for the re-election of incumbent board members must be filed 7 days before new applications are due. A notetaker from Columbia Gorge Documenters was also present.

**Consent agenda** – Andrew moved, and Annie seconded. Brian and Ben voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

- To approve the Board Meeting minutes of October 2nd, 2025.
- To accept the October 2025 Profit & Loss statement and Balance Sheet as distributed. As of October 31st, the balance in the bank accounts (including the CDs) was \$367,065.98. Income of \$74,264.17 included from PSP Sampling for \$47,186.14 and \$997.72 for Workshop Trainings.
- Expenses were authorized at the October meeting.
- To approve payment of bills #5694-5704 and bank transfers to Lease Direct, ADP, and Ascensus as follows:

Bills to be Paid		Nov. 6 2025	
Check No.	Payee	Account	Amount
DD/EP	staff	staff wages and liabilities (not SIMPLE IRA)	\$20,915.22
5694	MCAREC	office rent (May 1, 2024 rate increase)	\$1,164.20
5695	US Bank (Jed Arnold)	Zoom and Clicktime subscription fees	\$70.99
5696	US Bank (Kris Schaedel)	Workshop refreshments, trainer hotel fees, Bluehost subscription	\$2,353.46
5697	Centurylink	Monthly phone bill	\$153.58
5698	Kris Schaedel Reimburse	Workshop expenses and mileage	\$2,021.27
5705	Cheryl Rice Reimbursement	Mileage and meeting supplies	\$1,184.34
5700	NACD	Annual membership dues	\$50.00
5701	Pine Grove Grange	Facility rental fees	\$300.00
5699	Watershed Professionals Network	Final Ag Wq round 2 invoice	\$3,449.00
5704	A Life With Trees LLC	ODF Contract chipping	\$7,134.00
5703	Sensiba	Annual audit professional fee	\$7,800.00
5702	Number Gurus	September & October Bookkeeping	\$175.00
EP	ADP	payroll services	\$61.46
EP	Lease Direct	copier lease	\$73.44
EP	Ascensus SIMPLE IRA	Simple IRA	\$1,049.82
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$47,955.78</b>

**Old Business:**

The board discussed the OACD Board of Directors ballot.

**New Business:**

Jed and Kris discussed the training program safety procedures that were worked on with an immigration lawyer. The board discussed and were supportive.

Jed discussed the current SWCD Holiday policy which aligns with the Federal Government and suggested to the board the SWCD aligns with the State of Oregon Holiday schedule. Jed will draft up the policy. In the meantime, Jed asked the board if the staff could have the day after Thanksgiving off. Andrew moved and Annie seconded. Ben and Brian voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

Jed discussed the SWCD electronic communication device policy and would like to purchase work phones for each staff member.

Jed discussed the Hood River County CWDG grant partnership. The grant will be written for \$6.2 million grant over 5 years by the SWCD and the Hood River County Emergency Manager. If the grant was awarded to Hood River County, the SWCD would be the fiscal sponsor. The board discussed and were supportive.

**Informational Reports –**

**Cheryl** reported the prep work (scheduling, emailing and site visits) for the 3 fall days of mobile chipping was completed and the local chipping crew chipped wood for 20 participants. She was interviewed and received the Strategic Plan Award for the Microhabitat Program Incubator grant. She began working on the Strategic Plan Summary for the Startup Award. She participated in the East Fork Fish Salvage, helped out with the CTWS Salmon Days, and assisted the HRWG in seeding the Lower East Fork Restoration Site.

**Kris** reported the Train the Trainer event for Worker Protection Standards in English and in Spanish was held. The Leadership Class just wrapped up today. She continues to work on logistics and preparations for the 2025-26 training season. She has been working on the FIP since it is due next week. She presented at the annual OACD meeting in Pendleton. She mentioned on November 17<sup>th</sup> there will be Conservation Lobby Days in Salem.

**Jed** reported he met with ODF and received authorization to conduct chipping work this fall. The SWCD application to received funding was approved by OWEB. He participated in the Hood River County CWDG grant application planning meeting. He submitted an application to serve a two-year term on the Oregon Invasive Species Council. He attended the East Cascade Oaks Partnership partner meeting.

**Directors' reports –**

**Annie** reported the furlough has affected the implementation of city projects however the design aspect continues.

**Chal** had nothing to report.

**Ben** reported there are 3 more Saturday markets until the season is over. He attended the HRWG Lower East Fork Project Restoration tour.

**Chuck** reported he participated in the East Fork Fish Salvage. The Lower East Fork Project was completed 2 weeks ago. He discussed the HRWG Powerdale Project where they will work with the county and the Columbia Land Trust. The HRWG Annual Celebration will be held at the Ruins on Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. The HRWG has two positions currently open a Program Manager and an Office Manager/Bookkeeper.

**Andrew** reported that he is taking out some cherry trees. The CGFG hired a new Executive Director and they will start in January.

**Brian** reported the East Fork Fish Salvage went well. The East Side Lateral project currently has 5 crews working over 5 miles of pipeline. He mentioned there is a huge winter pear crop in the Northwest.

**Permits –**

N/A

The next meeting will be on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. in the OSU extension office conference room.

**Other business**

Jed discussed the CWMA email Roundleaf bittersweet.

Jed mentioned he is in talks with a health insurance broker.

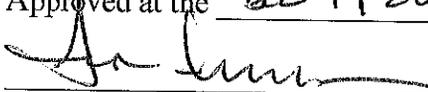
**Summary of Actions Taken:**

- ✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the consent agenda.
- ✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the SWCD staff to have the day after Thanksgiving off.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Rice, Conservation Technician

Approved at the Dec 4, 2025 meeting of the Hood River SWCD.



Brian Nakamura, Chair

**Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District  
Minutes from December 4th, 2025, District Board Meeting**

**Present Directors:** Brian Nakamura, Ben Saur, Annie Robinson (online), Pete Siragusa (online), and Andrew Halliday (online)

**Associate Directors:** Chuck Gehling, Richard Lawson and Chal Oates (online)

**District Staff:** Jed Arnold, Kris Schaedel, Cheryl Rice and Carly Heron (NRCS)

**Visitors:** Lesley Tamura, Board Chair of Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers and a notetaker from Columbia Gorge Documenters was also present.

Lissa Biehn was unable to attend however she emailed Jed the following information:

- The new Stage 2 of Supplemental Disaster Relief Program (SDRP) that all Hood River growers have been anticipating is here! Please contact FSA to make an appointment for this 2023-2024 disaster relief program.
- 2026 Acreage Reporting is underway. The deadline for tree fruit has been extended to February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Producers can schedule their acreage reporting with their SDRP-Stage 2 appointments together.
- Hood River is eligible for 2025 Drought Relief for Livestock on non-irrigated pastures and rangeland. Deadline to apply is March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Consent agenda** – Andrew moved, and Ben seconded. Brian, Annie and Pete voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

- To approve the Board Meeting minutes of November 6th, 2025.
- To accept the November 2025 Profit & Loss statement and Balance Sheet as distributed. As of November 30th, the balance in the bank accounts (including the CDs) was \$323,955.97. Income of \$3,739.05 included \$2,214.23 from Workshop Trainings, \$1,000.00 from the Backyard Habitat Incubator grant, \$500 in reimbursed funds and \$24.82 in dividends and refunds.
- Expenses were authorized at the November meeting.
- To approve payment of bills #5707-5718 and bank transfers to Lease Direct, ADP, and Ascensus as follows:

Bills to be Paid		Dec. 4th 2025	
Check No.	Payee	Account	Amount
DD/EP	staff	staff wages and liabilities (not SIMPLE IRA)	\$25,494.64
5718	MCAREC	office rent (May 1, 2024 rate increase)	\$1,164.20
5712	US Bank (Jed Arnold)		\$616.98
5711	US Bank (Kris Schaedel)	Training refreshments and test fees	\$4,436.80
5713	Centurylink	Monthly phone bill	\$143.57
5717	Kris Schaedel Reimburse	PSP and FIP Expenses	\$970.54
5718	Cheryl Rice Reimbursement	FIP mileage and meals	\$260.86
5715	Jed Arnold Reimbursement	Mileage	\$102.20
5706	Gorge Interpreting & Translating	Translation Services	\$4,057.50
5707	David Spink	Pesticide Certification Class presentation	\$4,000.00
5708	The Next Step (Leo Garcia)	Leadership & Supervisory presentation	\$7,500.00
5709	SDAO	Annual Dues	\$248.00
5710	Oregon Employment Dept	Unemployment tax assessment	\$0.39
5714	Number Gurus	Monthly bookkeeping serviceds	\$70.00
EP	ADP	payroll services	\$61.46
EP	Lease Direct	copier lease	\$73.44
EP	Ascensus SIMPLE IRA	Simple IRA	\$1,048.30
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$50,246.88</b>

**Old Business:**

Jed reported he was appointed as a voting member for a 2-year term on Oregon Invasives Species Council.

**New Business:**

Kris reported the Spanish Pre-license Pesticide Class that was supposed to be held next week was canceled due to low enrollment. There is potential to reschedule the class in mid-February.

**Informational Reports –**

**Carly** reported changes to programming for the CSP and EQIP and the deadline has been extended to January 26<sup>th</sup>. She will be hosting an open house next week to assist people with the filling out of applications. The CSP enhanced payments have increased to \$4000/year for 5 years. There is \$35 million in funding for EQIP and \$17 million for CSP. NRCS still has WaterSMART funds available for East Fork and Middle Fork Irrigation Districts. The other Hood River County irrigation districts will be competing with other counties within the Deschutes Basin for funds. Since being back in the office, she is making payments for completed practices. Due to Carly's retirement, Emily Huth will be acting District Conservationist for Hood River County until the hiring freeze ceases.

**Cheryl** reported she participated in the Pesticide Applicator License Exam Preparation class and passed the Public Noxious Weed Pesticide Applicator Exams. She submitted an application for the Spring 2026 OSU Master Gardener Program. She worked on the Microhabitat Program Strategic Plan Summary. She also prepared and submitted the Friends of the NACD District Grant to create a pollinator garden on the front and side yards of the office.

**Kris** reported she facilitated the Leadership and Supervisory skills and English Pre-license Pesticide class and exam. She continued to work with Lisa LeSage to finalize the immigration training protocols if immigration. The CGFG will cover half the cost of the immigration training protocols. She is putting together a team for the respiratory fit testing. Kris did not go to the Conservation Lobby Days in Salem however she did attend the Board of Ag meeting will be added to the agenda at their next quarterly board meeting. She worked on completion reporting for irrigation improvement projects and the NACD Urban Ag grant. She submitted another FIP which contains 100 acres of irrigation improvements. She mentioned we are wrapping up Annual Report will submit OR State Weed Board grant next week.

**Jed** reported he has had a lot of partner conversations and meetings. He met with Karin Stutzman who is a SWCD program Lead at ODA. He discussed a potential partnership with the Columbia Land Trust. There will be another CWDG meeting coming up. He sent in the immigration protocols to SDAO. The board discussed.

**Directors' reports –**

**Ben** reported he is wrapping up things on the farm, and the last deliveries will be made to restaurants tomorrow. He has hired someone to do fuels reduction work on the farm. He attended the HRWG annual celebration.

**Richard** reported he attended forest service projects over the summer.

**Chuck** reported the HRWG annual celebration sold out and went well. They received 46 applications for the Restoration Project Manager position and will be conducting interviews for the narrowed list of applicants. He continued to work on the Indian Creek Trail.

**Pete** reported FID received the final approvals for the fish screens. He started pruning and cleaning up things up on the orchard.

**Annie** reported she is attending the Hood River Bridge Walking and Biking Network Open House this evening as a representative of the city.

**Andrew** reported he started pruning in the orchard.

**Chal** reported they also started pruning and hauling empty bins.

**Brian** reported the East Side Lateral project has 4 out of the 5 miles put together. There are 4 different fusing crews, 2 turnout crews, and 1 drainage crew. Potentially within 3 years, the lower basin will all be piped. He attended the HRWG annual celebration and the OR Water Resources Conference. He was interviewed by a PhD student for her dissertation regarding the effect of glacial retreat in the PNW on local agencies.

**Permits –**  
N/A

The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. in the OSU extension office conference room.

**Other business**

Kris reported the OWEB Small Grants are open. The board discussed.

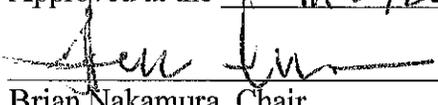
**Summary of Actions Taken:**

- ✓ Moved, seconded and unanimously approved the consent agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Rice, Conservation Technician

Approved at the Jan 5, 2026 meeting of the Hood River SWCD.

  
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Brian Nakamura, Chair