



**UMPQUA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

July 8, 2025

Directors Present:

Chair Nathan Baumgartner
Director Kate Baumgartner
Director Tom Black

Staff Present:

District Manager/Conservation Planner Rhonda Black

Agencies Present:

Oregon Department of Agriculture SWCD Program Lead Karin Stutzman

Others Present:

Fiscal Provider Tanya Graham

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The Chair N. Baumgartner called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

FISCAL PROVIDER REPORT:

Fiscal Provider Graham explained the financial reports for the month ending June 30, 2025.

Fiscal Provider Graham stated the financial statement was “tentative” as the SWCD runs on an accrual basis and items could still come in into July for the month of June. If that happens, then the financial statement would have to be amended.

Page 1 - The Balance Sheet. It shows total current assets of \$31,278.80 and total liabilities & Equity of \$31,278.80.

For the year end accrued wages, you’re seeing that because the SWCD is using the accrual system. The District Manager’s timesheet for 06/16 to 06/30/2025 occurred in the 2024-2025 fiscal year, but was paid in the 2025-2026 fiscal year. Therefore, it has to actually count for the 2024-2025 fiscal year versus the 2025-2026, so it had to be pulled out of July and put it into June so these are your accrual of what the District Manager earned in June, but paid in July, therefore the SWCD’s current liability for wages came to \$15,423.90 when combined with the SWCD’s paid time off liabilities.

The SWCD had an account payable of \$101.25 combined with the equity, so the total liability and equity was \$31,278.80 to match the assets.

Page 2 - Check Register - General Checking - started the month with \$25,335.84 and ended the month with \$18,240.09. Savings with \$68.47.

Page 3 - Registers - Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable.

Accounts receivable total funds submitted for payment were \$11,969.60 and accounts payable were \$101.25. The total prepaid workers compensation balance as of June 30th was \$1.64 and the total prepaid insurance balance was \$999.00.

The Statement of Activity and Cash Flow Report – The top part of the report shows income and expenses which reflects the cash flow of funds coming in and going out of the district’s bank account. That is going to give the district a net ordinary income for each grant. In the next section will be the Admin Income and Admin Expense. That is the cash that’s not moving around physically, but transferring between the grants. It’s not moving out, it’s just moving between the grants, and that’s where “other income” happens, and when you put those together, you get your “net income”.

There are two categories:

1. General Category – Function of the district, what it does, for its primary purpose.
2. Project Program Category – Programs and projects the district is doing/working on that isn’t the district’s general function, but are added to the district. They aren’t capacity building.

Every column represents a funding source and/or grant.

Page 4 – Statement of Activity and Cash Flow Report – General Category:

So far this year the district has had \$102,062.00 of General income. So far this year the District has had \$105,478.81 of General expenses. The General net income for this year is a negative \$260.68 and the General cash balance for this year is \$29,085.06.

Page 5 through 6 – Statement of Activity and Cash Flow Report – Project Program Category:

So far this year the District has had a total income of all Project Programs is \$30,540.10. With a total of Project expenses of \$38,241.62, leaving a negative net income so far this year of \$10,857.65 and negative cash balance of \$10,776.50. You might be wondering why you would have a negative figure there? That’s because a lot of the times you can’t request the funds from the granting agency until you have completed the grant work and submitted the final report, so you sit on those negative numbers until everything in the grant is complete and you receive those final grant funds from the granting agency.

Statement of Activity and Cash Flow Report - Total combined Total Income: \$132,602.10 and total combined Expenses: \$143,720.43. Leaving a negative net income of \$11,118.33 and leaving a combined cash balance of \$18,308.56 (actual cash balance in the bank) which matches your bank balance on page 1. The negative numbers at the bottom of the page represent grants where we need to get reimbursed for those funds. Once the projects are closed, we can get those monies reimbursed to the District.

Page 7 - Monthly Comparison – As of June 30th – Income: \$0.00 and total expenses: \$12,095.81. Net income of negative \$12,095.81 and a cash balance of \$18,308.56.

Page 8 through 12 – Reports that are due, PTO balances, and beginning of Individual Grant and/or funding source details.

Fiscal Provider Graham exited the meeting at 5:37 p.m. following business item #1 which was handled immediately following the approval of the financial report.

APPROVAL OF BILLS & TREASURER’S REPORT FOR AUDIT

Chair N. Baumgartner made a motion, 2nd by Director K. Baumgartner to approve the bills and the June 2025 Treasurer’s Report. The motion **unanimously passed** (N. Baumgartner, K. Baumgartner, T. Black).

AGENCY & ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Annie Marion – District Conservationist, USDA-NRCS Waldport Field Office

June 2025:

Meetings/Site Visits:

- *June 11 – Site visit for EQIP hedgerow certification near Walton & Site visit w/ NRCS Basin easement team for HFRP annual review near Walton*
- *June 12 – Coastal Native Seed Partnership annual meeting (online)*
- *June 13 – Site visit for EQIP forestry certification near Newport*
- *June 17 – Attended 2026 CREP TA Grant Offering webinar (OWEB)*
- *June 18 – Presented on careers with NRCS for a group of ~12 Lincoln County high school students for OCCC's "Natural Resources Career Cruise" in Newport*
- *June 20 – Site visit for EQIP stream crossing/elk jump/wildlife friendly fencing project on Upper Yaquina near Eddyville*
- *June 24-25 – NRCS Programs training (virtual)*
- *June 26 – Attended Forages Field Day at PMC in Corvallis*
- *June 30 – July 9 – annual leave*
- *July 10 – Site visits w/ NRCS CR Specialist Kevin Sippel for cultural resources reviews at 3 EQIP projects (2 in the Upper Yaquina and 1 near Deadwood)*

PROGRAMS:

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)

- *FY25 EQIP applications:*
 - *8 General EQIP applications pre-approved for Waldport:*
 - *Obligations so far: 3 Forest Management Plans (Lincoln), 1 Organic Transition Initiative plan (Lane), 2 Local Foods contracts (Lincoln & Lane)*
 - *Continued planning/contracting for 2 Upper Yaquina Water Quality apps*
- *Current EQIP contracts*
 - *Completed practice certification on three contracts*
 - *Completed two contract modifications*
- *Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)*
 - *FY25 CSP Applications – eligibility/ranking deadline was June 6th*
 - *Both CSP apps (Lincoln & Lane) pre-approved for funding this year. Working on planning and contracting.*
 - *Current CSP Contracts - No activities to report*
- *Easement Programs*
 - *Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE) & Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP)*
 - *Completed HFRP annual review site visits with Basin Easement Specialist, Royce Daniels*

Karin Stutzman – SWCD Program Lead, Oregon Department of Agriculture

SWCD Program Lead Stutzman described how she emailed a letter out to the Directors and how the Directors would get a copy in the mail as well. Basically, thank you so much for working so hard over the last three years and how you increased the level of service that you're providing to the County. This whole process was about making sure that for the for the grant money that's received that the districts are providing a certain level of service to the County and stated how she appreciated and ODA appreciated all of the hard work the District has been doing and has done over the past three years to get to this point. SWCD Program Lead Stutzman described how she would be going through and stating obvious items so

that new board members would understand the basics and to make sure that everyone is on the same page in regard to the expectations of ODA and to make sure what the District staff role is and what the Board's role is moving forward.

For starters, the District is off of corrective action as of July 31, 2025 as long as the tasks are completed for this last quarter. The two sets of minutes from 2022 have been transcribed and SWCD Program Manager Stutzman stated she would let ODA Grants Administrative Officer Hiatt know that they have been transcribed. ODA will upload those into the Ag Management System because they keep track of everything that were asking from the SWCDs including Umpqua.

Keep up on the great performance to fill these obligations and for the purpose of the funding.

Either the SWCD Program or OWEB noticed that the District be aware of the meetings that the District Manager attends to ensure they are in alignment with the Board's priorities and the District's priorities.

Try to fill the remaining Board vacancies and we know that is difficult, and it's on your agenda for this meeting as well. It looks like you've got a good process going this. As you're trying to find those Board members think about the skill sets that the Board doesn't have and might want to have.

One of the questions from OWEB was to make sure soil sampling tests charged to the District Capacity Grant are mainly used for agriculture water quality project assessment and implementation and not on backyard garden soil sampling.

The District Manager stated how the garden sampling was always done under "other" for task 7 in the scope of work and that's why it was done that way for a garden, not a farm or ranch that might have potential runoff.

SWCD Program Manager Stutzman described how OWEB is concerned about the funding getting reviewed by the Oregon Department of Justice and how OWEB is cautious about the use of the funding because they don't want to get dinged by the Oregon DOJ.

The District Manager described how this is different from in the past with soil testing and the Scope of Work and that's why soil testing is on the agenda for this meeting, because in the past if any landowner came to us requesting a soil sample test, we could do that for free under the SOW. Now, if it's not for agriculture, we can't do that.

Chair Baumgartner stated how that jumped out at him too when he was reading the letter. So, any kind of assistance that we could get, or tips from ODA would be welcome.

ODA SWCD Program Lead Stutzman stated she did notice that the letter doesn't say you can't do any backyard soil sampling it only says "most" or the soil sampling could apply to a small plot and offer some advice/technical assistance together with it when on a site visit offering technical assistance about soil health. Add more objectives of the AgWQ grant and a description in the reporting.

The District Manager stated how that was already being done at the District, but maybe it needs additional clarification in the reporting.

ODA SWCD Program Lead Stutzman stated how it was already in the District's reporting because you sent us your report with all that in there. Also, it's not the size of the agricultural operation. It's about

teaching and delivering information and so probably word it to that effect. Maybe use the term crop versus garden such as annual crop, orchard, and pest management. Tell how you are helping that smaller operation learn about soil health and agriculture water quality with soil health, and with the soil sample. Put that in there too like you did this soil sample test because you were really concerned about whatever is going on at the farm, and then be clear to maintain where you were with the level of service that the District is at now.

It is still going to be required that you have to meet the items that were laid out in the Scope of Work for quarter zero, which is attached because those are the things that ODA Agriculture Water Quality Specialist Beth Pietrzak and the District Manager decided together are things that are accomplishable by a one-person band and so that's why it was designed that way.

You completed the minutes from 2022, and that was actually an OWEB request.

Let's just say all you did was what you've laid out in your work plan in the scope of work and that's all you have to do. So, we don't want the District to think that all-of-a-sudden the District has to become this big powerhouse district.

If you want to set more goals or you're excited and you want to grow the District, that's up to you all. So, I don't want you to feel like we're putting a lot of pressure on you to grow into some big thing. We're not saying that but we are saying don't go less than this. Basically, that's the letter and I don't know if you all looked over the Scope of Work, or if you leave that up to the District Manager to turn those in on time and things like that to meet those objectives.

The District Manager stated how she normally completes the Scope of Work reporting and submit it, but then send the report out to the Directors as well, and also go over it with ODA Water Quality Specialist Pietrzak ahead of time. That way everyone's on the same page.

ODA SWCD Program Lead Stutzman described how the SOW R1 is available on the ODA Hub as of now and how ODA is encouraging Districts to go there as often as possible to input the information as they go along with their tasks.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair N. Baumgartner made a motion, 2nd by Director K. Baumgartner to approve the March 3, 2022 Special Meeting minutes. The motion **unanimously passed** (N. Baumgartner, K. Baumgartner, T. Black).

Chair N. Baumgartner made a motion, 2nd by Director K. Baumgartner to approve the June 12, 2025 Business Meeting minutes. The motion **unanimously passed** (N. Baumgartner, K. Baumgartner, T. Black).

STAFF REPORT:

Conservation Technician/District Manager Rhonda Black:

July 8, 2025

- *OWEB:*
 - *2023-2025 District Operations Capacity Grant –*
 - *8th quarter Capacity Grant reporting due August 15th.*
 - *OWEB Small Grants Program:*
 - *OWEB Small Grants Status:*

- *Otter-Baumgartner Ranch Livestock Exclusion – Completion report submitted to OWEB on July 7th.*
- *Providence Creek Runoff Management – Monitoring reporting due April 2027.*
- *Parent Ranch Livestock Exclusion Phase 1 – The final step is the heavy use areas at the gates and elk jumps. The landowner had knee surgery at the end of August 2024; therefore, the project will be completed Summer 2025.*
- *Elk Creek Riparian OWEB Small Grant – 60% of the funds have been received from OWEB. Summer 2025 will be for blackberry regrowth management and control, along with watering. Reporting will be done this summer.*
- *Costa Ranch Runoff Management – Grant approved by OWEB on November 22, 2024 with \$15,000 for gutters, downspouts, drainage line, geotextile fabric, and gravel for the heavy use protection area. In contact with both Mr. Costa and the gravel hauler in an effort to prepare for stockpiling 18 ten-yard loads of gravel for the heavy use area at the barn. Once everything is determined, we can request the 60% OWEB advance to cover the cost of the gravel for this project with implementation to start occurring this summer. Currently, the area is too wet to stockpile the gravel. Landowner will prepare the site by grading for the heavy use area, trenching and installing the downspout drain lines, installing gutters and downspouts on the barn, and installing the piping for the livestock watering system.*
- *Small Grants Project Tour –*
 - *Tour scheduled for Friday, August 15th at 2:00 p.m. at the Baumgartner Ranch to tour the OWEB Small Grant work that has been done, for a barbeque and goat cheese tasting. More details to come.*
- *Workshops/Classes –*
 - *A Workshop/class is scheduled for Saturday, September 13th beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Winchester Bay Community Center with OSU Small Farms Program Coordinator Logan Bennett for a “Berry Growing and Plant Nutrient” program. More details to come.*
- *Outreach Events – Informational booth at the Blooms & Butterflies Festival on Saturday, June 21st in Elkton at the ECEC.*
- *OWEB TA Grant:*
 - *Updates for this grant application for resubmission of this grant by the August 4th deadline.*
 - *History:*
 - *Application submitted to OWEB on 04/26/2024. Contractor and District Manager working on this for 3-farm bridges, 2 other bridges/culverts, and a tidegate structure. This will be for the design, engineering, and permits.*
 - *Matching grant from ODFW for \$2,500 will need to be obtained.*
 - *Geotechnical site visit has been completed.*
 - *Lots of meetings with engineer.*
 - *Unfortunately, the OWEB review team recommendation for this grant was, “Do Not Fund”. The OWEB review team recommendation is available from the OWEB Grant Management website. We’ll review the evaluation and apply recommendations and then go from there to reapply to the program.*
 - *Additionally, Mr. Costa has been in contact with the owner of the Thornton-Oar tidegate and the owner would like to have the tidegate repaired. Mr. Costa’s other neighbor is affected by this tidegate as well and the tidegate is causing*

excessive flooding in that neighbor's field, and the overflow is going into some of Mr. Costa's fields. The tidegate has the potential to undermine Thornton-Oar Lane. This winter the tidegate has become plugged and is causing heavy flooding in Mr. Costa's neighbor's field. We are paying attention to this and are hopeful that the OWEB TA grant will be funded this Fall. Will be getting letters of support from Mr. Costa and other landowners, ODA and other organizations.

- *Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Technical Assistance Grant:*
 - *Attended webinar to learn about how to apply for this grant on June 17th.*
 - *Tried to set up a consultation meeting, but was told to wait until after the webinar and told to contact the local NRCS office to find out what their views were on the grant.*
 - *Contacted District Conservationist Bradley Stokes and found out that he's not sure if there would be enough work to justify a full time CREP person in Douglas County.*
- *BLM:*
 - *BLM Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination grant, "Umpqua Noxious Weed Control" for both contractor and myself. Matt Ruwaldt Consulting and Umpqua SWCD worked with BLM after project was approved by the BLM RAC for \$24,000 to provide requested updates to the BLM. BLM was going through DOGE lay-offs while we were making the adjustments.*
 - *Working with Courtney Casavan who is the grant management specialist with the Roseburg BLM to get everything ready to move this grant agreement forward in the process as of March 24th.*
 - *Enrollment form for ASAP – Updated SWCD's information (we have an ASAP account already) on March 28th.*
 - *Created a Grant Solutions account as per Courtney's instructions on March 28th.*
 - *Was able to login to the new Grant Solutions account as of April 1st.*
 - *Waiting to hear back from Courtney.*
 - *This should not be affected by the Federal Funding freeze as the funds come from O&C BLM lands (Oregon and California Railroad Revested Lands) Title II funding. But, we shall find out. We have yet to receive an agreement.*
- *PARTNERSHIPS:*
 - *Umpqua 7, Coos 4, Mid-Coast 3 OWEB Small Grant Teams –*
 - *Umpqua 7 –*
 - *Working with Lee Russell with Elk Creek Watershed Coalition.*
 - *Attended OWEB Small Grant Program webinar to learn about the \$20,000 grant that is going to be available to OWEB Small Grant Team Leaders.*
 - *As Lee Russell and myself have been co-team leaders for a number of years I felt it was necessary to contact Lee prior to Umpqua SWCD applying for the grant. Lee would like for the Elk Creek Watershed Coalition to apply for the grant and will write Umpqua SWCD in on the Contracted Services line item on the grant budget as the co-team leader role. The funds are being offered as additional outreach requirements are now in place for the small grant teams. Umpqua would create brochures/fact sheets and possibly put on a presentation to an organization(s) so that other groups could learn about the OWEB Small Grant Team.*

- Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers –
 - *PUR meeting – was unable to attend the in-person PUR meeting in June. Next meeting is July 15th.*
 - *Not sure when tour of Glover site will occur.*
 - *Glover Lands Estuary Enhancement Project –*
 - *Gravel has been delivered to the site for the livestock watering systems heavy use areas.*
- Providence Creek Area Updates:
 - Providence Creek Tide Gates –
 - *In a holding pattern as the Port Commission decided they didn't want the Port's tidegate replaced with an updated, side-opening, properly sized, fish-friendlier tidegate.*
 - *Contacted Business Oregon on 12/23/2024 and found that it is now possible for SWCDs to apply to the Business Oregon Levy Program.*
 - *Don Porior Engineering looked over the title documents regarding the tidegates and found that the Port of Umpqua can work on the tidegates at Providence Creek and are the party responsible for those according to two deeds dating back to the October 1947 Easement Deed and the 1950 Easement Deed to work on the drainages between Hubbard and the US Army Corps of Engineers. Either the SWCD or the Port need to ask the title company to complete the report as we need to find out if there is an easement to access the portion of the property (depending on what the title report indicates) owned by Roseburg Resources. 01/02.*
 - *The Port's lock on the gate to Leeds Island has been removed from the interlocking lock system, early May by the unofficial land manager. The landowner does not have a key to the lock that is on the gate.*
 - Leeds Island Park and Restoration Project –
 - *City Council approved Council Letter 024-036 at the 05/06/2024 meeting, 4 out of 5 Council members. One member of the public spoke up highly in favor of the project. No members of the public spoke up against the project. The letter authorizes Umpqua Soil Water Conservation District, working with Matt Ruwaldt Environmental Consulting and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department on a local Government Grant Program, to move forward planning a Leeds Island project.*
 - *Matt Ruwaldt Consulting has tried to contact Mark Holliday to find out if Mr. Holliday is still interested in selling this property for conservation. If so, we will write up an agreement to this effect so we can secure acquisition grants for this project. Unfortunately, Mr. Holliday is difficult to get a hold of.*
- Douglas Weed Management Area – *No new news.*
- DEQ Umpqua TMDL Implementation – *No new news.*
- Elk Creek Watershed Coalition – *Next meeting July 8th.*
- Forest Service –
 - Tsalila –
 - *Diane Novak with the Umpqua Discovery Center has scheduled both the Third and Fourth Grade event.*
 - *The Third-Grade event is planned for September 23rd through 25th. Stations: Water Bugs (Bug Zone) – Umpqua SWCD, Fish & Wildlife*

station, Watershed – Forest Service, Bird Adaptation – Forest Service, Soil Health – NRCS Soil Health Trailer.

- *The Fourth-Grade event is planned for September 30th through October 2nd. Stations: Every Kid Outdoor – Forest Service, Coos-Lower Umpqua-Siuslaw Band of Indians will have three stations, Tide & Time with the Umpqua Discovery Center.*
 - *Oregon Central Coast Forest Collaborative –*
 - *On hiatus until September 12th.*
 - *Hydro Breakfast Meeting – Was unable to attend the July meeting.*
 - *Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) –*
 - *Receiving updates from NACD on the Federal Government layoffs and grant funding situation. Forwarding that information onto the SWCD Directors.*
 - *Oregon Conservation Education Association Network (OCEAN) – Updated District information with OCEAN as requested by OCEAN leadership.*
 - *Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association –*
 - *Attended Annual Meeting at 11:00 a.m. at the Port of Newport on June 23rd.*
 - *Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network –*
 - *The Soil Health Network Regional Hub MOU signed.*
 - *Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative –*
 - *Scotch Broom pull in Winchester Bay will be held in September or later.*
 - *Smith/Umpqua/Dunes Stewardship Group – No new news.*
 - *SW Chapter of the Professional Engineers of Oregon –*
 - *Umpqua Oaks Partnership – No new news. I think this group may only meet quarterly now.*
 - *Umpqua Native Plant Partnership –*
 - *Planning a meeting with Morgan Fay regarding Glover Project Planting Plan.*
 - *USDA/NRCS –*
 - *Conservation Planner Level 3 Re-Certification complete as of May 5th thanks to a lot of help from Wallace Jennings with NRCS. He was able to get it to go through without accessing AgLearn. According to NRCS, during the current Presidential Administration, I will not be able to gain access to AgLearn or be able to renew my Federal Government ID/LincPass.*
 - **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:**
 - *Will be making a site visit to another Elkton/Azaila Drive Vineyard in summer 2025 to obtain soil samples.*
 - *Assisted landowner with information about willow plantings for erosion in June & July.*
 - *Possible in-stream work, riparian buffer and grant for project at Wild Azalea Vineyards.*
 - *Site visit completed on May 25th with SWCD Consultant.*
 - *Meeting with ODFW complete as of May 2nd.*
 - *Will follow-up with site visit with ODFW and landowner in hopes of having the pre-project consultation complete prior to Consultant's return in mid-September.*
- Ongoing TA:
- *Elk Creek Riparian Restoration Projects:*
 - *5 properties involved with this project, one of which is already being worked on through a small grant. Hoping to work with the City of Elkton on these projects, which will fit into their DEQ TMDL plan. This is a stretch of Elk Creek within the City limits of Elkton where there is little to no shade on the creek, and the riparian has been invaded by Armenian Blackberry and at least two different kinds of ivy, along with Reed Canary Grass.*

- *South Side Smith River. Will be following up with water quality plan and OWEB Small Grant on a small heritage pig operation.*
- *Providence Creek – Landowner called about fill and removal, levy repair, fencing, etc. Will follow up in fall of 2025 when Consultant is available.*
- *Will be writing an AgWQ plan with South Side Smith River landowner to use for the small grant program application to provide assistance for fiber goat operation to assist with heavy use areas and barn water runoff at various locations on the ranch. Will write small grant in next small grant biennium.*
- **ADMINISTRATION:**
 - *Financial documents, statements, timesheets, etc. recorded, filed, and loaded into Google Drive for Fiscal Provider.*
 - *Meeting information provided to Directors, and ODA WQ Specialist & Program Lead.*
 - *Business Meeting notice provided to media, electronic notice list, website.*

DIRECTOR REPORTS:

None.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget – Action Item:

Fiscal Provider Graham explained the budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, clarifying that the Directors had seen this budget as a draft in May. It is the same budget, but with the actual carry forward numbers to match the year-end. The \$18,308 cash in the bank on the financial statement is the carry forward number on the first page of the budget. The SWCD general class, project, and your secured total, and then you're pending and combined. So, for your secured total it's projected the SWCD will have \$277,509 secured in grant funding of which \$126,265 is reserved for future years, because some the SWCD grants are two years, so that funding has to last for multiple years. Under the project class those are what are in the grant agreements and we don't have the ability to change any of those numbers. Then in the general class some of that is flexible and is shown on the next page of the general fund. Again, each column represents a funding source or grant. The numbers across the top of the page carry forward balance that's the actual cash in the bank on June 30th and then it goes through what incomes we're going to be able to pull on these grants what we need to hold for future years, and then the budgets based upon the grant agreements and what's remaining in those grant agreements, and so going through all of this I found there were enough funds to write in a \$1.00 per hour raise for the District Manager, if you all choose do that sometime during the year, because we want to make sure that there's money enough in there if the Board chose to do that. Also, in the general fund you'll notice that in order to meet the District Manager's full salary and also there was health insurance question if you could afford to offer health insurance, We did have to pull funds out of the general fund to meet the District Manager's full salary and potential health insurance. This is your budget with the actual carry forward numbers revised on July 3rd.

The Fiscal Provider asked the District Manager if there was any news on the ODA Ag Water Quality Proposal that had been submitted and the District Manager stated that the District did not get the grant. It was recommended for funding, but there wasn't enough funding to fund all of the grants that were approved for funding. The Fiscal Provider stated that not many of the SWCDs that she worked for had received funds through the program. ODA SWCD Program Lead Stutzman stated how there were over twenty applications this year and there were only enough funds for a couple of applications.

Chair N. Baumgartner made a motion, 2nd by Director T. Black to approve the 2025-2026 Annual Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District Budget. The motion **unanimously passed** (N. Baumgartner, K. Baumgartner, T. Black).

2. Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Work Plan – Action Item:

The Directors reviewed the Annual Work Plan.

Chair N. Baumgartner made a motion, 2nd by Director K. Baumgartner to approve the 2025-2026 Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Work Plan. The motion **unanimously passed** (N. Baumgartner, K. Baumgartner, T. Black).

3. Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Report – Action Item:

The District Manager presented the 2024-2025 Annual Report.

Chair N. Baumgartner made a motion, 2nd by Director K. Baumgartner to approve the 2024-2025 Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Report. The motion **unanimously passed** (N. Baumgartner, K. Baumgartner, T. Black).

4. Soil Testing Program – Discussion:

The District Manager stated that from the earlier discussion with ODA SWCD Program Lead Stutzman it seems that we might not have to worry about creating a soil testing program, but it might be something we want to discuss for the future. Upper Willamette SWCD has a for fee soil testing program and we might want to get in touch with their District Manager. One thing we don't want happening is to create a situation where people don't want to use the program because we charge for the program. We want to keep the program available to everyone.

5. Director Recruitment – Discussion:

Chair Baumgartner described how he had sent a meeting invitation to the person we are trying to recruit for in Zone 3. This person seems very interested in the Zone 3 position and he thinks it's just a matter of getting in touch with her. She's working on putting together a local foods party, but she's probably working hard in the vineyard right now. We need to talk more about becoming a director and it might just be a little bit more slow going, and she's a really good lead that, at the least, she could give us some recommendations because she seems very involved and trusted in the community.

Discussion commenced about a possible Director lead in Zone 2 up North Fork Smith River.

FUNDING COMMITTEE

Reports and follow up to items.

No new news.

The District Manager reminded the Board of Directors that she would be taking some time off at the end of July as she has to take care of a family member out of town who is having surgery and during this person's recovery. The District Manager will have the District cellular phone with her in order to take phone calls for work during that time period.

Chair Baumgartner adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next business meeting for the Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District is scheduled for August 14, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. by Go-To-Meeting teleconference and/or by computer, tablet or smartphone.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhonda Black
District Manager/Conservation Planner
Recorder