



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

June 12, 2025

Directors Present:

Chair Nathan Baumgartner
Director Kate Baumgartner
Director Tom Black

Staff Present:

District Manager/Conservation Planner Rhonda Black

Agencies Present:

None.

Others Present:

Fiscal Provider Tanya Graham

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The Chair N. Baumgartner called the meeting to order at 5:16 p.m. due to technical issues.

FISCAL PROVIDER REPORT:

Fiscal Provider Graham explained the financial reports for the month ending May 31, 2025.

Page 1 - The Balance Sheet. It shows total current assets of \$39,169.41 and total liabilities & Equity of \$39,169.41.

Page 2 - Check Register - General Checking - started the month with \$44,490.20 and ended the month with \$25,335.84.

Page 3 - Registers - Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable.

Accounts receivable total funds submitted for payment were \$11,969.60 and accounts payable were \$0. The total prepaid workers compensation balance as of May 31st was \$630.00 and the total prepaid insurance balance was \$1,165.50.

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 \$93,692.73 of General expenses. The General net income for this year is \$11,525.40 and the General cash balance for this year is \$35,871.08.

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 \$37,931.89, leaving a negative net income so far this year of \$10,547.92 and negative cash balance of \$10,466.77. 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: \$131,624.62. Leaving a net income of \$977.48 and leaving a combined cash balance of \$ 25,404.31 (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 May 31st – Income: \$5,970.40 and total expenses: \$16,104.82. Net income of negative \$10,134.42 and a cash balance of \$25,404.31.

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 5:24 p.m.

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 May 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

Announcements/Updates:

- *Still awaiting announcement of USDA's reorganization plan*

Meetings/Site Visits:

- *May 5-9 – Waldport Field Office Quality Assurance Review*
- *May 16 – Site visit for Cultural Resources survey w/ Kevin Sippel (NRCS Archeologist) for High Tunnel EQIP application near Alsea*
- *May 19 – “Egg to Fry” outreach event organized by ODFW; taught riparian ecology/plant ID station for ~90 3rd grade students at Knight Park in Otis*
- *May 20 – Check-in meeting on HFRP easement near Florence*
- *May 21 – Site visit w/ LSWCD staff and Kelly Albers (NRCS Basin Engineer) for engineering survey on pasture/riparian restoration EQIP application on the Upper Yaquina near Eddyville*

- *May 22 - Site visits with Royce Daniels, Sol Ziegert, & Keira Cameron (NRCS Basin easement team) for WRP annual easement reviews at Site 59 (N Fork Siuslaw) and Duncan Island (lower Siuslaw) near Florence*
- *May 27-30 – Astor Boozer (NRCS Western Regional Conservationist) visiting Waldport Field Office*
- *May 28 – Site visit w/ NRCS Basin easement team for HFRP annual review near Deadwood*
- *May 29 – Mtg w/ Tyler Clouse, LSWCD, and Astor Boozer regarding NRCS partnerships and barriers to assistance*
- *June 2 – Site visit w/ NRCS Basin easement team for HFRP annual review near Florence*
- *June 4 – NRCS Basin Team meeting, Roseburg*
- *June 5 – Site visit for EQIP hedgerow certification near Walton (Lane County)*
- *June 11 – Site visit w/ NRCS Basin easement team for HFRP annual review near Walton*
- *June 12 – Coastal Native Seed Partnership annual meeting (online)*

PROGRAMS:

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)

- *FY25 EQIP applications:*
 - *8 General EQIP applications pre-approved for Waldport:*
 - *3 Forest Management Plan contracts obligated so far*
 - *Continued planning/contracting for 2 Local Foods apps (Lincoln & Lane), 2 Upper Yaquina Water Quality apps, and 1 Organic Transition Initiative application (Lane)*
- *Current EQIP contracts*
 - *Worked with Celeste Lebo, USFWS Partners Biologist, to complete Section 7 ESA consultation on potential effects to marbled murrelet and northern spotted owl habitat for 6 FY24 EQIP forestry projects*
 - *Completed practice certification on two contracts*
 - *Completed two contract modifications*
 - *Reviewed two Forest Management Plans*

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

- *FY25 CSP Applications – eligibility/ranking deadline is June 6th*
 - *Completed inventory, assessment, & planning for 2 CSP apps (Lincoln & Lane)*
- *Current CSP Contracts - No activities to report*

Easement Programs

- [*Agricultural Conservation Easement Program \(ACEP\)*](#) & [*Healthy Forests Reserve Program \(HFRP\)*](#)
 - *Working with Basin Easement Specialist, Royce Daniels, on planning visits for annual reviews of HFRP and WRP easements*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The March 3rd Special Meeting minutes for 2022 were not yet completely transcribed due to the lengthy meeting, but will be available at future meetings.

Chair N. Baumgartner made a motion, 2nd by Director T. Black to approve the February 10, 2022 Business Meeting minutes. The motion **unanimously passed** (N. Baumgartner, K. Baumgartner, T. Black).

Chair N. Baumgartner made a motion, 2nd by Director T. Black to approve the May 8, 2025 Business Meeting minutes. The motion **unanimously passed** (N. Baumgartner, K. Baumgartner, T. Black).

STAFF REPORT:

Conservation Technician/District Manager Rhonda Black:

June 12, 2025

- OWEB:
 - 2023-2025 District Operations Capacity Grant –
 - *8th quarter Capacity Grant reporting due August 15th.*
 - *2025-2027 District Capacity Grant updated and resubmitted on May 22nd.*
 - *Answered questions about soil testing “program” and created an Excel spreadsheet for the 2023-2025 biennium with information about number of soil tests, where, when, etc. on May 22nd.*
 - *Attended “Successful Grant Writing” webinar on June 9th.*
 - *2025-2027 ODA AgWQ Support Grant update:*
 - *We received the evaluation for this grant on June 9th. The grant was recommended for funding, but it didn’t rank out high enough to be funded with the limited amount of grant funds that were available through this program. The evaluation contained helpful information and we were invited to apply again for the 2027-2029 biennium.*
 - *OWEB Small Grants Program:*
 - *OWEB Small Grants Status:*
 - *Otter-Baumgartner Ranch Livestock Exclusion – 100% of the funds have been used with the majority going to materials and supplies. The landowner has scheduled the gutter and downspout installation is complete. Livestock exclusion fencing is in-process.*
 - *Providence Creek Runoff Management – Project is complete. Completion reporting is considered complete. Monitoring reporting due April 2027.*
 - *Parent Ranch Livestock Exclusion Phase 1 – 90% of the funds have been used with the majority going to materials and supplies. All of the supplies have been purchased for this project and the fencing is 100% complete. 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. Project work has been completed by SWCD contractor, Ruwaldt Consulting. This project is technically complete. Summer 2025 will be for blackberry regrowth management and control, along with watering. We will make sure we have proper match then complete the OWEB reporting. 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 Pre-Project Tours –*

- *Should plan on another tour late this summer or late fall.*
 - *OWEB TA Grant:*
 - *Matt Ruwaldt Consulting is beginning the updates for this grant application for resubmission of this grant in this Summer.*
 - *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.*
 - *Will be resubmitting this grant in early August.*
 - *Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Technical Assistance Grant:*
 - *Will be attending 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.*
- *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.*
 - *Small Grant Team:*
 - *We have used all of the funds for the 2023-2025 biennium after the last small grant submission window.*
 - *Heard that there might be funding of \$20,000 available from OWEB for the leaders of each team? (heard at District Manager’s meeting at CONNECT).*
 - *Mid-Coast 3:*
 - *All grant funds have been used.*
 - *Coos: No new news.*
 - *Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers –*
 - *Attended the May 13th PUR meeting. Next meeting on June 17th in-person in Roseburg.*
 - *Not sure when tour of Glover site will occur.*
 - *Glover Lands Estuary Enhancement Project –*
 - *Working with Mr. Glover on his livestock watering system.*
 - *Invoices from suppliers for watering system have been submitted to PUR.*
 - *South Coast Tide Gate Collaborative – No new news.*
 - *Tide Gate Affinity Group – No new news.*
 - *Providence Creek Area Updates:*
 - *Port of Umpqua – Missed the last meeting on May 14th as it conflicted with another meeting where Umpqua SWCD was presenting information on tidegates.*
 - *Providence Creek Tide Gates –*
 - *What has occurred:*
 - *The Providence Creek Study Grant to Business Oregon has been awarded in the amount of \$160,000.*
 - *Grant for \$40,000 match will need to be written and our consultant will do that this winter.*
 - *Port of Umpqua approved contracting with Ruwaldt Consulting at their October 16th Port meeting.*
 - *Don Porior will be doing the design and engineering for the project.*
 - *Don Porior created a project timeline 12/11/2024.*
 - *Meeting at the Port with Port Manager Scott Kent, Matt Ruwaldt Consulting, and Don Porior joined us by telephone 12/12/2024.*
 - *At the 12/18/2024 meeting the Port of Umpqua Commission made a motion to not be involved in tidegate work as they feel that working on the Providence Creek tidegates will make them responsible for all of the tidegates in their entire*

- District. While they had seed funding and we were going to get grants to cover 100% of the project, they backed out.*
- *Meeting between SWCD, Port of Umpqua, and Matt Ruwaldt Consulting on 12/23/2024 to figure out what to do at this point.*
 - *Contacted Business Oregon on 12/23/2024 and found that it is now possible for SWCDs to apply to the Business Oregon Levy Program. We can potentially either transfer the grant from the Port of Umpqua to the SWCD or, according to Becky Bryant with Business Oregon, since the grant was already successful, we can reapply to the program through the SWCD and it will be easy for the new grant to go through, that way we can start over with a clean, new grant. We will be meeting soon to discuss options on how to save this grant one way or another.*
 - *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.*
 - *Port Manager requested Mark Holiday's telephone number. Provided him with telephone number that I have for Mr. Holiday. Port Manager stated he was trying to get ahold of Mr. Holiday to let him know that the Port won't be working on the tidegates. Port Manager said the telephone number he has doesn't work (01/15).*
 - *Matt Ruwaldt Consulting sent an email to Business Oregon requesting information about the awarded Levy Grant as follow-up to Umpqua SWCD's request in December (02/12).*
 - *Met with the Port Manager on March 26th to discuss the tidegates.*
 - *Found out for Providence Creek landowner Gerald Parent that Mr. Holiday wants the tidegates replaced. He discussed this with him in early May.*
 - *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 Leed's Island project.

- *Grant in the amount of \$40,000 will be written for TA.*
- *A grant to the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department Grant will need to be written for acquisition. Written by Contractor and submitted by City of Reedsport as this grant must be submitted by a city.*
- *It is time to follow-up on this as the cattle are no longer at Leeds Island and it is time to move forward.*
- *Met with Matt Ruwaldt Consulting and he will contact Mark Holliday to find out if Mr. Holiday 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 (02/11).*
 - *Additional Information:*
 - *Bimonthly meetings with Engineer.*
- *Douglas County –*
 - *Attended the Douglas County Weed Board meeting on May 22nd.*
- *Douglas Weed Management Area – No new news.*
- *DEQ Umpqua TMDL Implementation – No new news.*
- *Elk Creek Watershed Coalition – Attended meeting on May 13th in Drain. Next meeting July 8th.*
- *Elkton Community Education Center –*
 - *Will have a table at the Blooms & Butterflies Celebration on Saturday, June 21st in Elkton at the ECEC.*
- *Forest Service –*
 - *Tsalila –*
 - *Planning on have the NRCS Soil Health Trailer at the event this year. Waiting to hear back from Natalie Edward from NRCS to find out if she has approval to attend the 3-day event. Hopefully, all staff will still be available with the whole DOGE thing going on.*
 - *On April 7th, Julia Johanos, Interpretive Specialist with the Forest Service and our contact for the Tsalila Agreement has informed us that our agreement is active and funded through 2027.*
 - *Diane Novak with the Umpqua Discovery Center is beginning to schedule 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 –*
 - *Attended meeting on May 9th. Next meeting will be July 11th.*
- *Hydro Breakfast Meeting – Attended meeting on June 5th.*
- *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) – No new news.*
 - *Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association –*
 - *Attended Executive Meeting to plan the annual meeting on May 15th.*
 - *Annual Meeting at 11:00 a.m. at the Port of Newport on June 23rd. Virtual option also available.*
 - *Oregon State University Extension Service – No new news.*
 - *Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network –*
 - *The Soil Health Network process is moving forward. They are trying to find funding to support the Soil Health Regional Hubs. Working with Sage Fairman and had a meeting on April 17th to discuss the possibility of Umpqua SWCD being the lead for this regions HUB.*
 - *Received MOU.*
 - *Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative –*
 - *Scotch Broom pull in Winchester Bay will be held at a later date, to be determined.*
 - *Smith/Umpqua/Dunes Stewardship Group – No new news.*
 - *SW Chapter of the Professional Engineers of Oregon –*
 - *Gave an in-depth presentation about the Glover Estuary Restoration Project on May 21st with Susanna Nordhoff at their annual dinner meeting in Coos Bay. Susanna is the Engineer who oversaw some of the project management for the Glover Project when the tidegates were installed by Leo Kuntz with Nahalem Marine.*
 - *Umpqua Oaks Partnership – No new news.*
 - *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 spring 2025 to obtain soil samples.*
 - *Soil sample results provided to the 3 Ash Valley landowners where their soil was sampled on March 20th.*
 - *Butler Creek. Provided information to ranch regarding CSP and for FSA Emergency Funding due to March flooding.*
 - *Working with the Reedsport Community Garden, Reedsport School District, First Interstate Bank, and Chair Baumgartner to revitalize the Community Garden. Provided funding possibility options to the group and soil test results from soil tests taken earlier this year.*
 - *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.*
- *Contact made with Smith River ranch owner who is interested in bridges, livestock exclusion fencing, off-stream watering, tide gate replacement, etc. Follow-up in process. Will visit ranch this summer to begin AgWQ planning, mapping, etc. Will follow up in summer or fall of 2025.*
- *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. MOU Between Umpqua SWCD and the Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network for the Statewide Soil Health Network – Action Item

The District Manager described the Memorandum of Understanding between the Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network for the Statewide Soil Health Network for Umpqua SWCD taking on the Regional Hub role to the Directors. The MOU's time period is from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026. The Regional Hubs are in the pilot phase in order to assist the Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network (OrCAN) with convening an inclusive, collaborative statewide Soil Health Network to promote soil health for climate resilience.

Region served: South Willamette Valley, specifically district boundaries of Umpqua SWCD
Core Responsibilities and Deliverables

1. Participate in Network capacity building, connection, and evaluation
 - a. Attend the Soil Health Network orientation, annual convenings, and the Regional Hub Lead training series*
 - b. Participate in quarterly check-ins with OrCAN's network coordinator
 - c. Complete feedback surveys and reporting for the Soil Health Network
 - d. Optional: Distribute and collect an annual network participant evaluation survey

2. Conduct regional outreach to engage producers interested in maintaining or improving their soil health
 - a. Document outreach activities to producers and farm service providers around soil health
 - b. Track participant details (name, org/farm, acreage, crop type, other demographics if known) of those receiving or providing services and resources for soil health, as capacity allows
3. Provide resources and technical assistance and refer to other support services and resources
 - a. Record technical assistance provided, including hours and examples of assistance provided, as capacity allows
 - b. Document resources shared and referrals made
4. Support soil testing by providing referrals to labs, interpretation of results, and recommended actions
 - a. Track referrals to soil testing labs
 - b. If offering soil testing and interpretation, track number of soil tests conducted and interpreted with recommended actions
5. Identify regional needs, barriers, and success stories and share with OrCAN
 - a. Share any barriers to accessing resources or needs identified by producers and/or farm service providers, and collaborate with OrCAN to advocate for and/or provide requested resources
 - b. Identify and recommend success stories to the Network Coordinator for promotion, including examples of producers implementing soil health practices as a result of technical assistance and resources

*Training series may cover topics including soil health science, existing resources for soil health, communicating about soil health with producers, and inclusive producer outreach.

As Capacity Allows

6. Support access to financial incentives for soil health
 - a. Help producers access financial support or grant writing assistance, and document instances of grant writing support
 - b. If offering financial incentives, share the opportunities available and number of producers receiving financial support
7. Host and/or support in-person regional gatherings, including producer-to-producer field days, events, and communities of practice
 - a. Document soil health events supported and/or hosted, including attendance and evaluations

Chair N. Baumgartner made a motion, 2nd by Director K. Baumgartner to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District and Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network. The motion **unanimously passed** (N. Baumgartner, K. Baumgartner, T. Black).

2. Director Recruitment – Discussion:

The District Manager/Conservation Planner described how the Board of Directors need to actively recruit Directors from Zone 2 and Zone 3 in the District.

Zone 2 takes in the Ash Valley/Loon Lake Area, Scottsburg, Wells Creek, Lutsinger Creek areas, and portions of the Lower and Upper Smith River. Discussed potential Directors. The District Manager pulled up the ODA SWCD ARC GIS map online to help the Directors find potential Directors for this area by location. The District Manager pulled up the Douglas County ARC GIS online to find out more

information about potential Directors and if these individuals had at least ten-acres to fulfill the ten-acre acreage requirement for a Zone Director.

Zone 3 takes in Sawyers Rapids, the Elkton area, Riverside, Kellogg, 5-miles beyond the Elk Creek Tunnel, and portions of Upper Smith River. Actively have made contact with a potential Director and Chair Baumgartner will follow-up. If this person doesn't want to join the Umpqua SWCD Board of Directors, then maybe this person will have someone in mind that might want to serve on the Board.

3. July 2025 Umpqua SWCD Meeting Date Change – Action Item:

Two of the Umpqua SWCD Directors will not be available for the normal meeting date on the second Thursday of the month in July and proposed rescheduling the meeting for the second Tuesday in July.

Chair N. Baumgartner made a motion, 2nd by Director K. Baumgartner to approve moving the date of the July Umpqua SWCD meeting from Thursday, July 10th to Tuesday, July 8th due to lacking a quorum on July 10th. The motion **unanimously passed** (N. Baumgartner, K. Baumgartner, T. Black).

FUNDING COMMITTEE

Reports and follow up to items.

No new news.

Chair Baumgartner adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next business meeting for the Umpqua Soil and Water Conservation District is scheduled for June 8, 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