

Approved

**Union Soil and Water Conservation District**

**Regular April Board Meeting**

**Minutes**

**April 8, 2026, at 12:00 PM**

**OSU Extension Office Conference Room  
10507 N McAlister Rd, Island City, OR 97850**

Remote access was available by TEAMS

**Directors**

Jarod Teeter, Chair  
Paul Boehne, Vice-Chair  
Curt Ricker, Treasurer

**Staff**

Jim Webster  
Aaron Bliesner  
Renée Coxen

**Partners and Visitors**

Justin Faulhaber, FSA  
Peter Donovan, Contractor  
Jake Seavert, County Comm.  
Jesse Steele, GRMW  
Michael (online)

**I. Call to Order**

- A. Introductions:** Chairman Teeter called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM. All attendees introduced themselves.
- B. Agenda review:** Chairman Teeter asked for any additions or corrections to the agenda. A motion was made by Director Ricker to approve the Meeting Agenda as presented. Director Boehne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

**II. Public Forum and Announcements:** No comments were made.

**III. Administrative**

- A. February 11, 2026, Annual and Regular Meeting Minutes Review:** Director Ricker made a motion to approve the meeting as presented. Director Boehne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
- B. January 2026 and February 2026 Financial Statements Review:** Director Boehne made a motion to approve both the January and February 2026 financial statements as presented. Director Ricker seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

**IV. Agency Reports**

- A. FSA-Justin Faulhaber:** The current general CRP sign-up ends April 17. Possible grassland CRP sign-up in the future. Farmer bridge assistance program is closing April 17, 2026. Disaster relief ends April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Approved**

- B. GRMW-Jesse Steele:** A competitive funding cycle is expected this year with the fall cycle using all available funds. GRMW Board is meeting with the BPA and Bonneville Power Council May 11, 2026, to discuss the funding withdrawal that occurred with the Buffalo Flats project and process in the future. The Atlas is being updated, and new data shows outmigration and over-winter rearing are the two key limiting factors that are being incorporated into the new Atlas version.

**V. Staff Reports, Project Updates**

- A. Renée Coxen:** Renée provided an update on the OWEB Small Grant program, attending the Connect Conference, and onboarding for the CREP Tech position.
- B. Aaron Bliesner:** Aaron provided project updates, the Elmer Dam project is mostly complete with a few remaining pieces to finish. The Willow Creek Royce Dam Fish Passage project is still waiting on comments from the ODFW on the final 80% design, construction is expected in 2027. Design work for Little Creek fish passage improvements began on LC2, LC3 and LC4 through a contract with BPA.
- C. Jim Webster:** Jim provided partner updates including the Atlas IT Group, Place-Based Planning Group, Soil Health Hub, and NRCS. Two Board member positions are up for reelection in 2026. Active grant agreements were reviewed. The SIA water quality monitoring starts in May and will go through the year.

**VI. Old Business**

- A.** Firewise Community and Restoration Coordinator position

**VII. New Business**

- A.** None

**VIII. Announcements**

- A. Director Boehne:** Paul shared that an Aquatic Vegetation Rake demonstration will be held Saturday, April 18 at Ladd Marsh.
- B. Peter Donovan:** Peter shared that he will be giving a presentation on open ET and how it can help with water management on April 14 at the PNW Forest and Range Sciences Lab.

**Director Boehne made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting and Director Ricker seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:41 PM.**

**The next Board Meeting is Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 7:00PM, OSU Extension Conference Room.**