

Morrow SWCD
Morrow County Weed Advisory Board
430 W Linden Way
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Heppner OR 97386
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Amended: _____
Approved: _____
Recorder: _____
Secretary: _____

2/10/2026 MINUTES

Board of Directors

Duane Neiffer – At-large
Jim McElligott – At-large
Colin McElligott – Vice Chair, Zone 2

Staff & guests

Jared Huddleston – Nat Res Project Manager
Kevin Payne – District Manager
Corey Sweeney – Morrow County Weed Dept.
Larry Lutcher – OSU Extension

The meeting was called to order at 6:09pm by Colin McElligott.

ACTION ITEMS:

Jim made a motion to adopt the current slate of officers for the Morrow SWCD Board, Duane seconded the motion, and the motion passed all in favor, none opposed.

The minutes from the January meeting were reviewed and approved by the board.

The 24-25 annual meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by the board.

STAFF REPORTS/FINANCIAL REPORTS: The January financial and staff reports were reviewed by the board.

PARTNER REPORTS: Corey Sweeney gave an update on some of his recent activities with the county weed department. They are working on enhancing their drone program for the county. Corey mentioned they’ve been busy with some contract spraying in the county.

Larry Lutcher gave an update on some of his programs which included 4-H. He talked about current conditions for wheat farmers in the county and that he has seen some wheat rust. He talked about more and more producers are converting to spray smart technology and the benefits it can provide. He also discussed the declining ph. trend in soils in our area.

NRCS shared a YouTube video at our meeting about the new Regenerative Ag program:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FhuHrYrPXfM>

DISTRICT CORRESPONDENCE: Kevin brought up the districts upcoming meeting with ODA to have a light review of the Willow Creek Ag Water Quality Management Plan on February 26th at the Heppner office. Kevin went over some administrative tasks that need to happen with the upcoming general elections in 2026. Kevin informed the board that the districts application for an ODF small forestland grant was unsuccessful.

OTHER BUSINESS: Jared Schiller submitted an OWEB large grant for annual grass control; this would be a phase 2 project. NRCS is having their local work group meeting on February 17th in Heppner. Kevin is continuing his work on developing a community wildfire protection plan, working with the rural fire department, Oregon State Fire Marshalls office, and the Morrow County Planning Department. Kevin also mentioned he submitted an Amazon ChangeX grant application for a few manure spreaders to purchase for the district.

There were no public comments
The next meeting will be March 3rd at 6pm at the Ag Service Center in Heppner, and available via zoom.
The meeting was adjourned at 6:39pm