

Morrow SWCD
Morrow County Weed Advisory Board
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Amended: _____
Approved: _____
Recorder: _____
Secretary: _____

1/6/2026 MINUTES

Board of Directors

Miff Devin – Chair, Zone 1
Jim McElligott – At-large
Colin McElligott – Vice Chair, Zone 2
Duane Neiffer – At-large

Staff & guests

Jared Huddleston – Nat Res Project Manager
Kevin Payne – District Manager
Jared Schiller – Wildlife Habitat Tech
Shiloh Simrell – ODA Water Quality

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Miff Devin.

ACTION ITEMS:

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

Kevin discussed with the board about joining the membership with the Southern Blues Prescribed Burn Association (SBPBA) and participating on a steering committee for the association. Jim made a motion to accept Jared Huddleston as the new joining member of the steering committee for the SBPBA, Colin seconded the motion, and the motion passed all in favor, none opposed.

STAFF REPORTS/FINANCIAL REPORTS: The December financial and staff reports were reviewed by the board. Duane Neiffer asked about the district looking at purchasing a manure spreader which was listed on Jared’s staff report. Kevin replied that the district is looking to purchase a few manure spreaders that the district would own and let local producers use. As Kevin has been conducting field visits in the SIA in the north part of the county, he’s noticed that there is a demand for access to these types of spreaders, and it would be a beneficial tool to help landowners address nutrient concerns on their property.

PARTNER REPORTS: Shiloh Simrell with ODA gave an update, she mentioned that there is the upcoming Biennial review meeting for the Willow Creek Water Quality Management Plan which will be held on February 26th at 10am at the Ag service center building in Heppner. This meeting will focus on some minor rule updates and the progress that has been made the last couple of years. DEQ will also attend the meeting and have an update on water quality in the region.

Kevin mentioned that the NRCS local work group meeting will be held February 24th in Heppner at the Ag service center building.

DISTRICT CORRESPONDENCE: Kevin has been working with Gilliam SWCD on a RCPP proposal through NRCS that’s looking at utilizing stubble fields for grazing and developing efficient grazing practices with virtual fencing in dryland wheat areas throughout both counties. It’s a multifaceted proposal that is also targeting annual grass control.

Kevin had a Community Wildfire Protection Plan meeting with Andy Dwyer who is our new Oregon State Fire Marshalls office region representative. Steve Rhea and Eric Chick with the Rural fire district, and Steve Freeland who is the county Emergency Manager Coordinator also attended the meeting. The current Wildfire Protection Plan has expired and they are looking at creating a new updated plan that will help the county access funds (FEMA) when wildfire disasters take place in the county.

Kevin discussed that our district and ODA are looking to add a second Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) in the north part of the county, potentially around the Irrigon area.

OTHER BUSINESS: SDAO is having their annual meeting in Seaside this spring and Kevin mentioned we have a free registration for anyone who wants to go including board members.

There were no public comments

The next meeting will be February 10th at 6pm at the Ag Service Center in Heppner, and available via zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:21pm.

Morrow SWCD Annual Meeting – 1/6/2026

The Annual meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Miff Devin.

Kevin presented the fiscal review information for the fiscal year starting July 1st, 2024 and ending June 30th, 2025.

Beginning cash	180,190
Charges for service	75,787
Misc income	
Grants	598,129
Other	107
Interest	7,828
TOTAL	681,851
Expenses	697,490
Ending cash	167,587
Capital assets	
Land	10,000
Bld, equip	160,349
Improve	
Change in Net Position	(15,639)

Link to a copy of Morrow SWCDs Annual Report 2024-2025: <https://www.morrowswcd.org/files/29662fb25/2024-2025-MorrowSWCD-AnnualReport.pdf>

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35.