

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order Thursday, March 27, 2025, by Bob Webb, Chairman at 6:01 pm.

LIVE ATTENDEES

ZOOM ATTENDEES

ABSENTEES

Bob Webb	Bradley Stokes, NRCS	Gene Merrill (IVWC)
Rhett Nelsen	Kevin O'Brien, IVWC	Carol Crawford (IVWC)
Katherine Mechling		Patty Downing (IVWC)
Katrina Poydack		W Joerger (IVWC)
Janice Denney		
Zachary Robinson		
Matthew Robinson		
Kegan Craig, Energy Trust of OR, Guest		
Lydia Robinson, guest		
Carol Crawford, Assoc. IVWC		
John Bellville, Staff		
Arlyse DeLoyola, Staff		
Bob White, Guest		

SCRIBE

Notes were taken by Arlyse DeLoyola

- **Minutes:** The minutes of the February meeting were presented to the Board for review.
 - Janice Denney made a motion to approve the minutes for January.
 - Rhett Nelsen seconded the motion.
 - The motion passed unanimously with aye votes from directors Webb, Nelsen, Mechling, Poydack, Denney, M. Robinson, and Z. Robinson.
- **Financials:** The financial reports from February 2025 were presented to the Board for review.
 - Katrina Poydack made a motion to accept the financial reports.
 - Rhett Nelsen seconded that motion.
 - Discussion was held.
 - The motion passed unanimously with aye votes from directors Webb, Nelsen, Mechling, Poydack, Denney, M. Robinson, and Z. Robinson.

OLD BUSINESS

- **75th Anniversary**

Staff noted that with the current workload, it may be necessary to deviate from the original plan of a celebratory event and just piggy-back onto other scheduled events.

Discussion was held regarding options. Guest Bob White suggested a float in the Labor Day Parade and possible tabling there. Kevin O'Brien mentioned the watershed Council will be producing some events for the District which could incorporate some 75th Anniversary signage and/or items.

- **Rhett Nelsen made a motion to enter a float in the CJ Labor Day Parade and table at the event.**

- **Janice Denney seconded the motion.**
- **The motion passed unanimously with aye votes from directors Webb, Nelsen, Mechling, Poydack, Denney, M. Robinson, and Z. Robinson.**
- **SIA Engagement Events**

John noted that he plans to contract the IV Watershed Council to host engagement events for the project. Guests asked if a biological survey had been done for the area. Kevin O'Brien, of the IVWC replied that there had been one year ago, as well as a mushroom inventory.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Thompson Creek Hybrid Management**

John informed the board he had applied for several SIA small grants to thin and re-plant the Thompson Creek Tract. He asked for the board's blessing on a Hybrid management Plan for the tract which would include elements from the NRCS recommendations from their survey, ecological resilience and fire resilience. Also to potentially form a plan to make the tract available for recreation.

- **Kathy Mechling moved to approve a Hybrid Management Plan for the Thompson Creek Tract.**
- **Janice Denney seconded the motion.**
- **The motion passed unanimously with aye votes from directors Webb, Nelsen, Mechling, Poydack, Denney, M. Robinson, and Z. Robinson.**

- **Web Hosting:**

John told the board we have received a grant for \$17,000 from ODA to help make our website more ADA compatible. He noted that he is working with Norman Design for the Two Rivers website, and asked if the board might consider changing from Streamline to Norman Design. Price comparisons were given and discussion held. It was noted that all of the improvements must be completed by June 30. It was determined that staying with Streamline was the best financial move.

- **Rhett Nelsen made a motion to hire someone to re-vamp our current website.**
- **Matthew Robinson seconded the motion.**
- **The motion passed unanimously with aye votes from directors Webb, Nelsen, Mechling, Poydack, Denney, M. Robinson, and Z. Robinson.**

- **2025-2026 Health Insurance**

The board was directed to the health insurance inserts in the meeting packet. Insurance for John will be reduced significantly next year, so he has requested to move up to Navigator Gold, still saving the District \$122.50 per month.

- **Kathy Mechling moved to change John's insurance to Navigator Gold (Pacific Source) for 2025-2026.**
- **Rhett Nelsen seconded the motion.**
- **The motion passed unanimously with aye votes from directors Webb, Nelsen, Mechling, Poydack, Denney, M. Robinson, and Z. Robinson.**

- **House and Senate Bill Reviews**

Chairman Webb asked the board to discuss pending legislation which would affect farmers and landowners. Three bills were discussed, with input from our Veterinarian Board member, Zachary Robinson regarding the potential changes to laws relating to animal health.

Also discussed were a bill to change laws regarding Farm Stands on Exclusive Farm Use lands, and a bill adding restrictions for firing of farm workers. No official action was taken.

CONTINUING

- **Staff and partnering Agency Reports:**
John reviewed his report.

Bradley Stokes of NRCS gave a presentation regarding their activities and plans for the area. A hand-out was shared to the screen, which will be retained as part of the minutes.

Kegan Craig, of Energy Trust of Oregon was introduced and gave an overview of the programs they have available for area landowners and farmers including irrigation efficiency projects.

Arlyse reviewed her report, noting that we are still a few board members shy on our Umpqua bank signers due to them sending out docuSign forms without warning. Fraud was suspected and some were not completed. She will ask the bank to re-send those.

Kevin O'Brien of IV Watershed Council announced that the events held in March had been successful and well received by the public. All of these events will be celebrated on April 5th at the IV Library in an event hosted in part by IVFROG as part of the Post Fire project. He thanked the board for their support of these events.

Public Comment:

Dr. Robinson asked for discussion on how to preserve irrigated lands in our valley, noting that when properties change hands, new owners are often unaware of the Oregon water Laws requiring those with water rights to use them or lose them. He offered a few ideas for preservation of rights and noted that an audit of water rights was needed. Discussion was held. No action taken.

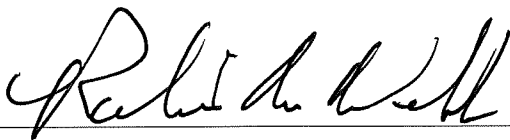
NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on April 24th at 6:00 pm at the Illinois Valley SWCD Office and via ZOOM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

APPROVED MINUTES:



DATE: 4.24.2025