ASH CREEK WATER CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

_____ Draft
__X__ Approved

October 1st, 2026 - 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Recording and attachments available on request

CALL BOARD MEETING TO ORDER: Chair, Tom Wilson, called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM at Indy Commons, 154 S Main St., Independence, Oregon. Introductions were then made.

DIRECTORS:	STAFF:	GUESTS:	ABSENT:
Tom Wilson	Hayley Iverson	Jordan Perez	
Christina Tisdell		Michael Miller-Zoom	
Madeline Hall-Fisher			
Molly Barbano			
Edward (Ed) Matteo-Zoom			
Lauren Zatkos-Zoom			

SECRETARY
Tom Wilson introduced Hayley Iverson to the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
No public comment.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

AUGUST 6TH BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tom Wilson stated that he accidentally didn't record the August Board Meeting. He reviewed the minutes that he was able to put together. There was discussion regarding missing information from the August minutes. Madeline Hall-Fisher gave a precipitation report. She reported 2.78 inches of precipitation in September of 2026, 1.48 inches in 2025, 0.86 inches in 2024, 2.84 inches in 2023, 0.47 in 2022, and 2.62 inches in 2021.

COMPUTER REPAIR
Tom Wilson stated that a laptop was purchased for the District Secretary two years ago. That computer has gone unused since then. He stated that there is an issue with the drivers that will cost $136.50 to repair. Madeline Hall-Fisher made a Motion to approve the repair cost. Edward Matteo Seconded. Motion Passed Unanimously. (Wilson, Tisdell, Hall-Fisher, Barbano, Matteo, and Zatko voted in favor.)

Tom Wilson stated that he met with Hayley Iverson and Kevin Porter to draft a Shared Services Contract with Polk SWCD. He reviewed the services that will be provided. He stated that this agreement is for a 6-month term and will not exceed $5,000. He noted that billing will be done quarterly. He questioned how the Board would like Hayley Iverson to track her time. He asked the Board to think about that.

Tom Wilson stated that the District has been asked to provide a letter of support for the Protect Riddle Road Flood Project. He stated that there is a plan to raise Riddle Road above the 100-year flood plain. Madeline Hall-Fisher stated that she would like to know which section of Riddle Road would be impacted and what the plan is for the sections that are still in the 100-year flood plain. Jordan Perez reviewed a riparian project that Luckiamute Watershed Council has planned in that area. stated that he has reviewed the FEMA flood map. Madeline Hall-Fisher stated that she is concerned about this project causing flooding in other areas. There was further discussion regarding potential impacts of this project.

Jordan Perez reviewed how funding provided by the District to Luckiamute Watershed Council has been used. He stated that this project was for restoration and environmental education of Ash Creek. Due to legal changes they had to conduct a cultural survey. If they hadn't done that, all the work would have been halted. The survey collected 42 lithic artifacts. The second half of the funding went to outreach and education. He reviewed the various outreach events they hosted. Part of the funding was used to translate educational material into Spanish. They also paid for a month subscription to dub their YouTube videos in Spanish. They have led two entirely Spanish language bird walks. They are really looking forward to expanding this to all their projects. They are beginning on their 26-28 storm water project. They are beginning work with a designer and Derek Godwin for a rain garden at their office with educational signs. He stated that the 10-year plan includes a bioassessment for the Ash Creek area. He questioned what would be entailed with that. Lauren Zatko stated that she has discussed this with Todd, as well. Madeline Hall-Fisher would be interested in the impact of EAB and what the plan will be if it hits. There was further discussion regarding EAB. Tom asked if wildlife would be included in the bioassessment. Lauren Zatko stated that the last 10-year plan just covered flora and fauna. She has added invertebrates. There was discussion regarding lamprey in the area. Jordan Perez reviewed what would be looked for with eDNA. He noted that their last testing was completed during summer and they would like to expand the monitoring during nontraditional times. Tom Wilson stated that the District has funding to do a more in-depth study, if needed. He noted that this is new for the District. Lauren Zatko stated that she will email Appendix B for anyone to submit any questions they might have.

REPORTS

Financial:

Tom Wilson stated that the District is doing well. The District will see about $30,000-$40,000 next month from property taxes.

Nutria:

Ed Matteo gave a nutria report. He stated that two were caught in September and two were caught in August. He noted that the property owner on the other side of the Inspiration Garden catches them.

Grants:

Tom Wilson reviewed the updated grant form on the website. He stated that this grant is open enrollment but hasn't received any applications yet. Last year there was a presentation done at the school. He stated that if there is no interest soon, there may be a need for more outreach.

Engineering:

Tom Wilson stated that Lauren Zatko has been working on Appendix B of the 10-year plan. He noted that Todd is the main point person for engineering in the 10-year plan. He reviewed the plan with the Board. The Board needs to read through the plan to address any issues with Todd at the next meeting. He would like to have something approved at the January meeting. He is hoping to make it a little simpler.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Members:

Tom stated that the District currently has six out of nine Board Directors. They must have five Directors for a quorum which can be difficult. He stated that they can increase the number of Board Directors or it can be reduced from nine to seven or five, which would reduce the quorum. He requested that the Board think about this. If the vacancies cannot be filled by 2027, he would recommend reducing the number of Board Directors. Ed Matteo stated that he would be in support of reducing it to seven. Tom Wilson requested that Hayley Iverson look into what would need to be done for that.

Bioswale at Ella Curran Maintenance:

Tom Wilson stated that the Ella Curran Food Bank is opening a new facility and they will be installing a bioswale. The Board previously discussed helping the City with a bioswale and he would like to have an informational sign installed there. The District would pay for maintenance. He thinks it would be great to support the food bank and educate the public.

There was further discussion regarding ash trees in riparian areas.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:47 PM by Tom Wilson.

Respectfully submitted,
Hayley Iverson
District Secretary