

South Fork John Day Watershed Council
Meeting Minutes
September 8th, 2025
1:00 pm, Izee Schoolhouse

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 pm, by Jeff Maben.

In attendance for regular session:

Amy Stiner, SFJDWC	Jeff Maben, Chair	Phil St. Clair, Vice Chair	Richard Nelson, Director
Joanne Keerins, Director	MT Anderson, Director	*Lindsay Bullock, SFJDWC	*Adele Underwood, ODF
*Hannah Smith, NRCS	*Brandon Vos, ODF	*Katee Withee, USFS	*Scott Hess, Director
*Jim Dovenberg, Director			

**Remote attendance*

With 6 out of 7 directors in attendance, a quorum was present.

1. Public Comment
 - a. No public comment.
2. Agency Reports (5 minutes per agency)
 - a. ODF: Still waiting on OWEB grant for SFJDWC for fire recovery. Many applicants, success unsure. Fire season has ramped up and they are keeping busy.
 - b. USFS: Katee Withee is filling in for Zane Murray while on paternity leave
 - c. NRCS: RCPP signing up may not be possible this fall. Working through CSP contract documentation. Got word that CSP renewals will not be going forward, so no separate pool for renewals – they will go in the classic pool. EQIP will no longer have Inflation Reduction Act funding.

3. Action Items
 - a. Staff Time

Motioned	Seconded	Discussion?	Vote
Phil St. Clair	Joanne Keerins	No	Passed

- b. Minutes

Motioned	Seconded	Discussion?	Vote
Phil St. Clair	Joanne Keerins	No	Passed

- c. Financials

Motioned	Seconded	Discussion?	Vote
Phil St. Clair	Joanne Keerins	No	Passed

4. Schoolhouse Lease Agreement – Phil is taking over Starlink payments, so we are returning to our former rental agreement to use the schoolhouse. Joanne Keerins motioned to approve, Richard Nelson seconded, vote passed. Phil abstained from vote.
5. Staff Report
 - a. Project Updates
 - i. OWEB Fall applications: \$643,896
 1. Murderers Ck phase 2
 2. Aldrich Forestry
 3. Monitoring strategy
 4. RCPP engagement
 - ii. RCPP sign-ups: still doing site visits and soliciting applications. Will be ready when sign-ups are allowed.

- iii. Cottonwood Creek monitoring & project planning: working with new owners on Cottonwood creek, and US partners for fish and wildlife for instream and upland restoration
 - iv. Mussel Monitoring: completed scanning Murderers Creek for mussel presence absence
 - v. Utley Field Trip: USFS, ODF, SFJDWC, Firewise, IZ Ranch, Grant County Court, attended field trip to look at Private/USFS border
 - vi. Dayville School Mock interviews: Amy will work with Dayville School Seniors to perform mock interviews. Also, taking students on job shadows
 - b. Office update: settling into new office. Will have office warming BBQ and Plant giveaway
6. Coming Up
- a. 09/16: Office Warming BBQ
 - b. 09/17: John Day Basin Partnership Full group meeting
 - c. 09/24: OWEB site visits
 - d. 09/29-10/02: Plant Giveaway
 - e. 10/9 – 10/19: Amy on Leave
 - f. 10/20: Virtual fence workshop
7. Adjourn meeting, October 14th meeting Canceled, Next meeting date: Monday, November 10th, 2025