

**Sutherlin Water Control District
Board of Directors
Wednesday, January 28, 2026
District Office – 7 pm**

Flag Salute:

President's Statement: Vice President Terrel asked for conflicts of interest w/agenda items. (None Presented).

Roll Call: Present: Directors Robin Braun, Jess Terrel, Jim Allen, Carol Swesso, Arika Tenbrook, Frank Egbert, Adam Sarnoski, and Richard Vander Velden.

Staff: Manager Robert Rippy and Recording Secretary Laci Smith.

Audience: Auditor Jeff Cooley.

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION by Director Egbert, second by Director Allen to approve the minutes of November 19, 2025, Board Meeting as submitted.

Discussion: None

In Favor: Directors Braun, Terrel, Allen, Swesso, Tenbrook, Egbert, Sarnoski, and Vander Velden.

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Business From Manager:

Audit: Auditor, Jeff Cooley, of Neuner Davidson & Co, presented the Agreed Upon Procedures Financial Report ending June 30, 2025, stating the books are very clean and there are no concerns that the Board needs to worry about. He reviewed and explained pertinent sections of the report with the Board. His recommendation for this fiscal year is to not over deplete the general fund by transferring too much money out of the general fund.

MOTION by Director Sarnoski, second by Director Vander Swesso to accept the Agreed Upon Procedures Financial Report ending June 30, 2025.

Discussion: None

In Favor: Directors Braun, Terrel, Allen, Swesso, Tenbrook, Egbert, Sarnoski, and Vander Velden.

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried unanimously.

NRCS: Our contracts with McMillen and NRCS have expired. We will switch to Adapt Environmental from McMillen, still staying with Greg Allington, as our project manager, and re-sign with NRCS. They are currently working on new contracts. All work has stopped currently.

Plat I: Manager has submitted our annual water use reports to OWRD. The fish screen has come to the end of its lifecycle. We are working with ODFW to replace it. ODFW will pay 60%, and the District will be responsible for the remaining 40% of the costs. It would cost the District approximately \$2,000 for our part of the replacement screen, plus the hardware.

Worker's Compensation: Dave was injured in the process of working on the intake at Plat I. We have started a worker's compensation case. He is still working on light duty and still getting his full pay. We have not heard anything back on the case.

Security Grant: We received the safety grant for the security cameras at Plat I. The cameras have been installed and are very nice.

Cooper Creek Update: We have a contract with the Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services, at no cost to the District, for our beaver removal. They have set traps out in Copper Creek. The piezometer readings were being read wrong, and were only being turned 90 degrees, instead of 180 degrees.

City of Sutherlin: We have received our Urban Renewal Reimbursement for \$17,707.00

Insurance: We received our renewal packet from the insurance company. Last year our bill was \$12,743. This year the bill is \$13,905.

MOTION by Director Sarnoksi, second by Director Egbert to authorize the Manager to renew the District's Insurance Policy for 2026 with Special Districts Insurance Services and Zolezzi Insurance.

Discussion: None

In Favor: Directors Braun, Terrel, Allen, Swesso, Tenbrook, Egbert, Sarnoksi, and Vander Velden.

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Labor Committee Meeting: We need a Labor Committee to recommend wages for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. Directors Patoine, Swesso, and Vander Velden have volunteered to be on the committee. The committee will meet half an hour before the February meeting.

Dinner Meeting: We will have our annual dinner meeting in March. GPS Grill, Creekside, Abby's, Yummy House, and Si Casa, were recommended.

Trainings: Manager will be attending the SDAO Annual Conference in Seaside February 5-8th. Manager has also volunteered to be on the Oregon Water Resource Congress Board of Directors for another year.

Financial Statement: The financial statement will be reviewed at our next meeting.

Business from Audience: None.

Next Meeting:

Board Meeting – February 25, 2026 – 7PM

Business from Directors: Director Vander Velden asked if the gate to Plat I can be shut early due to a dry year. By law, the gate cannot be shut until the 15th of February. Director Sarnoksi mentioned that the Jet Ski races will be held June 20-21st at Plat I.

Adjournment: There being no further business meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Approved:

Robert Rippy, District Manager

Tom Patoine, Board President

Respectfully submitted,

Laci Smith, Recording Secretary