



**UPPER WILLAMETTE**  
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Draft**

Wednesday, March 22, 2022, 5:30 pm; Meeting held via Zoom and in person.

Committee Members Present: Austin Meeks, Karen Wildish, Rochelle Desser, Janelle McCoy, Craig Gibbons, Nancy Cameron, Al Hrynshyn, Mary Durfee, Ralph Perkins, and Karl Morgenstern. (10/14)  
Others Present: Dave Downing, Clarissa Berndt, Lily Leitermann, Abel Kloster, Andy Burke, and Leslie Owens.

1. Mr. Hrynshyn called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm and led the group in roll call. It was verified that there was a quorum, in which at least 7 members are present and a majority, in which at least 8 members are present.
2. Mr. Hrynshyn opened it to the group to offer nominations for the appointment of the Presiding Officer of the Budget Committee. Ms. Durfee motioned to nominate Mr. Gibbons, pointing to his experience in the previous years, and Director Perkins gave the second, the motion passed with a vote of 10-0. Mr. Hrynshyn then turned the meeting over to the Presiding office, Mr. Gibbons. *[Austin Meeks, Karen Wildish, Rochelle Desser, Janelle McCoy, Craig Gibbons, Nancy Cameron, Al Hrynshyn, Mary Durfee, Ralph Perkins, and Karl Morgenstern all votes in favor]*
3. Mr. Gibbons then turned the meeting over to Mrs. Berndt, the Budget Officer, to present the Proposed Budget Message. Mrs. Berndt summarized the documents that had been emailed in advance to all in attendance, presented the FY23-24 Proposed Budget Presentation Slide Show, and accepted questions from the group regarding the document. She then handed the meeting back over to Mr. Gibbons.
4. Mr. Gibbons mentioned that the best place to start is with any questions regarding line items within the budget. Ms. Cameron mentioned that the presentation was well put together and explained. She went on to commend Mrs. Berndt on her work. Mrs. Wildish proposed through a letter that she wrote prior to the meeting so that she would be better able to communicate her recommendations more clearly. She proposed that the District should consider investing in a specialist in the field of Soil Restoration, which the committee will reassess at the next meeting. Discussions on the budget continued. *[Ms. McCoy left the meeting at 6:13 pm, the committee still had a quorum and majority in her absence.]* Ms. Desser wanted to know what feedback is needed from the committee. She wanted feedback as to whether it is big picture, or project/program oriented. Mrs. Berndt went on to explain that all feedback is wanted, including perspectives from all committee members on the Budget. Mr. Downing went on to say that the projects in place work well with the goals outlined in our strategic plan and are based on the needs and gaps in the community that have been highlighted through partner collaborations and outreach. He went on to say that they would like to hear about any needs and gaps that the committee members see, hear, and feel are important to highlight. The more perspectives shared, the better the District can serve the community. Mrs. Berndt also mentioned that she is available to adjust the proposed budget based on any ideas proposed for a more visual look at proposed changes within the budget. After some more discussion, Mr. Gibbons suggested that any members of the committee who have further questions, to send them to Mrs. Berndt, who will compile them, answer them, and distribute back to the committee on, or before, the next meeting.
5. At approximately 7:35, Mr. Gibbons did a time check and asked the committee if they wished to continue with the meeting or adjourn. The committee wished to adjourn. Mr. Morgenstern motioned to adjourn the meeting with Ms. Cameron giving the second. The motion passed with a vote of 9-0. *[Austin Meeks, Karen Wildish, Rochelle Desser, Craig Gibbons, Nancy Cameron, Al Hrynshyn, Mary Durfee, Ralph Perkins, and Karl Morgenstern all votes in favor]*

6. A reminder of the time/date of the next meeting was given by Mrs. Berndt (April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 5:30 pm) and then Mr. Gibons adjourned the meeting at 7:37 pm.

*Documents presented and discussed: FY23-24 Proposed Budget Message, FY23-24 Proposed Budget Message Summary, FY23-24 Proposed Budget, FY23-24 Proposed Budget Presentation Slide Show, Letter from Ms. Wildish.*

*All supporting documents mentioned in the minutes are a part of the official record and are available upon request. Please contact the office at [admin@uwsxcd.org](mailto:admin@uwsxcd.org) to request copies.*

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