Soil and Water Conservation District

Completed by:

Section 5	Public Meetings and Records				
Element	Discussion question	Yes	No		
Public meetings and records law	 Does this district have at least one copy of the 2006 edition of <i>The Oregon</i> <i>Attorney General's Public Records and Meetings Manual</i>? Does the board review <i>The Oregon Attorney General's Public Records and</i> <i>Meetings Manual</i> and use the information in orientation for new directors and new board officers? Comments/assistance requested 				
Meeting structure and public participation	 How is public participation encouraged? How would you rate the effectiveness of the district board meetings? <i>Comments/assistance requested</i> 				
Public Notices	 Does the board provide public notice as required for: a. Regular meetings? b. Executive sessions? c. Special meetings? d. Emergency meetings? e. Public hearings? Comments/assistance requested 				
Agendas	 Are agendas available in advance of the meeting? Are copies available to public attendees? Does the board have policy regarding when agendas and meeting packets will be available? Comments/assistance requested				
Location and access	 Are district offices, meetings and programs accessible to the public? Does the board meet as required either within the district boundaries, or at its administrative headquarters? Does the meeting location meet legal requirements for purposes of non-discrimination? Does the board use "closed" or executive sessions only for the legally permissible purposes? Does the board always clearly state the statutory authority for going into executive session and record it in the public meeting minutes? Does the board allow access to executive sessions by the media and other permitted persons as required by law? 				

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Motions, resolutions, decisions	 Do all official actions of the board occur when a quorum of directors is present in open, public meetings? Does the district maintain a full and accurate record of all district business including all proceedings, motions, resolutions, and final approved minutes? Does the district maintain a summary of actions or a resolution notebook in addition to the minutes? Comments/assistance requested 				
Minutes	 Are written minutes taken for all regular, special and emergency meetings? Do district minutes include: A list of directors present? A list of partners or guests attending and their affiliation? A list of employees and volunteers present? All official actions and a record of each director's votes? A description of all declared conflicts of interest (actual or potential)? A reference to, or description of all bills paid or approved? Do the minutes describe issues in general terms with sufficient detail to allow the reader to understand the discussion without a verbatim transcript? Are district minutes filed in chronological order for ease of access? Does the district have policy regarding when minutes will be made available to the public? Are the minutes updated and filed after being corrected and approved at a subsequent board meeting? Are district minutes retained and archived in perpetuity? 				
Public Hearings	 Does the district follow legal requirements to hold public hearings related to: a. Securing a loan? b. Holding a conservation easement? c. Meeting local budget law requirements? d. Other? Comments/assistance requested 				