

**CASCADIA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR DISTRICT MEETING
Upstairs Conference Room
14 N Mission St.
Wenatchee, WA 98801
Tuesday, November 20, 2018
3:30 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Josh Koempel, Chair; Roger Wristen, Auditor; Jim Bartelme, Member and Rita Lovett, Member.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Junell Wentz, Vice Chair.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Mackey, guest; Wendy Isenhart, City of Chelan; Chris Wright, Sarah Troutman, NRCS; and the following District staff: Peggy Entzel, Mike Cushman, Valerie Hampton, Patrick Haggerty, Sandy Letzing, John Tamngin, and Nada Wentz.

Josh Koempel, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

Peggy introduced Mike Mackey, who is interested in a supervisor position; and John Tamngin, the District's new Veterans Conservation Corps intern.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Wendy Isenhart commented on the negotiations to open the glass recycling program in Chelan.

MINUTES & TREASURER'S REPORT

The Consent Agenda was dropped because there were edits needed in the minutes and there were updates to the Treasurer's Report. Corrections to the minutes were as follows: the September 18th Regular District Meeting was listed as August and was corrected to September; Alan McBee was included in the attendance record for the October 16th Regular District Meeting Minutes. The Treasurer's Report had been updated since it was distributed to the Board for review prior to the meeting, to include bills relating to closing grants.

M/S/C Jim moved and Roger seconded to approve the September 18th Minutes date correction, the October 16th Minutes correction to include Alan McBee; the Treasurer's Report, and authorize payment of District bills and outstanding grant closing invoices. (Unanimous)

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) REPORT

The Waterville position has been filled. A selection was made for the NRCS Cultural Resources Specialist position in Ephrata. Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) deadlines were discussed. Chris and Sarah talked about the coming cultural resource tasks, biological assessments and training plans.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR & ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mike and Peggy gave updates on items as they came up in the agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

Project Updates:

Conservation Commission Projects:

Natural Resources Inventory (NRI): The last of three fuels reduction cost share projects for this grant will be completed in a few weeks.

Implementation Grant and Irrigation Efficiencies: The grant tasks are continuing as anticipated.

Entiat Watershed Projects:

Middle Entiat Projects: The bid process for Area E construction was discussed. The bid walk will be on Tuesday, November 27. Bids are due by the next Board meeting.

Mike and the Board discussed the potential for other projects in the Entiat, available funding, landowner outreach, and agency partnerships.

Other Projects & Programs:

Icicle Workgroup: The Board reviewed the handout of some of the Icicle Workgroup meeting notes, and discussed the voting alternatives and comments.

Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP): The Board discussed the three tasks of the VSP agreement and the scope of work. The tasks are not to exceed \$20,000 total. They discussed the lack of involvement with the Ag community and how to report the work that is being done to protect the critical areas on private land. The Board will review the District's involvement with the VSP program at the end of the biennium.

M/S/C Jim moved and Rita seconded to approve the VSP agreement for \$20,000. (Passed, Roger Wristen abstained)

Forestry Program & Projects: The Wenatchee Pilot program work is ongoing. Firewise community meetings and project development work continues. Patrick is heavily involved with meeting coordination, providing a link between the communities and the Forest Service. There was further discussion regarding National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) work, the signage to be placed in 2020, and urban interface work.

Urban Ag Program: The Urban Ag program grant is closing out. Sandy will begin an arborist certification training soon.

Hazard Mitigation Plan: The Board discussed the annexation process and the requirements needed for participation.

Grant Applications: Mike and the Board talked about possible grant applications.

Election Resolution 2018-4 Conservation District Board: The election date was set for January 17, 2019. Valerie is handing the election supervisor duties to Nada, but will assist her with the election process. Jim's position is up for re-election, and Josh is up for re-appointment. These positions will be advertised. The Board was asked to approve Election Resolution 2018-4.

M/S/C Jim moved and Roger seconded to approve Resolution 2018-4 Election. (Unanimous)

NEW BUSINESS

Cascadia / South Douglas CD Cooperative Ag Program: South Douglas is working on a Veteran Program and asked the District to partner with them. The project would cross district and county lines, but with the Board's approval, the work would be covered under the current interlocal agreement and benefit both districts.

M/S/C Jim moved and Rita seconded to approve the pursuit of the agricultural opportunities, beneficial to both districts, and covered under the current Cascadia / South Douglas CD Cooperative agreement. (Unanimous)

2019 Medical Dental Insurance Plans: Peggy talked about the 2019 health and dental insurance plan options with the Board. The Board recommended remaining with the current companies of Premera and Delta Dental for 2019, but to check into Confluence Health options for 2020.

M/S/C Jim moved and Rita seconded to approve remaining with the current Premera and Delta Dental insurance plans. (Unanimous)

2019 Wage & Salary Schedule: The Board discussed the Cost of Living rate increases for next year. The Board decided to go with a 3% rate increase for 2019.

M/S/C Jim moved and Rita seconded to approve the 3% Cost of Living increase for 2019. (Unanimous)

New Payment Options for Annual Plant Sale: The District has been asked to allow the use of credit card payments for the plant sales. The auditor does not approve of services that hold the funds in an unauthorized bank or account. Square is a business that the District can use to get payments processed immediately, but there are fees to use the service. Jim suggested setting up a separate account to receive payments, to provide account security. The Board agreed that was a good idea.

M/S/C Jim moved and Roger seconded to approve using Square to receive credit card payments and open a separate account to receive credit card deposits. (Unanimous)

Next Meeting: The next District Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 18, at 3:30 p.m., in the Upstairs Conference Room.

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Summary of Official Actions:

Approved the September 18th Minutes date correction, the October 16th Minutes correction to include Alan McBee; the Treasurer's Report, and authorize payment of District bills and outstanding grant closing invoices;

Approved the VSP agreement for \$20,000;

Summary of Official Actions, Continued:

Approved Resolution 2018-4 Election;

Approved the pursuit of the agricultural opportunities, beneficial to both districts, and covered under the current Cascadia / South Douglas CD Cooperative agreement;

Approved remaining with the current Premera and Delta Dental insurance plans;

Approved the 3% Cost of Living increase for 2019;

Approved using Square to receive credit card payments and open a separate account to receive credit card deposits.

CHAIR_____

OFFICE ASSISTANT_____