

**CASCADIA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR DISTRICT MEETING
Upstairs Conference Room
14 N Mission St.
Wenatchee, WA 98801
Tuesday, July 16, 2019
3:30 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Josh Koempel, Chair; Junell Wentz, Vice Chair; Roger Wristen, Auditor; and Jim Bartelme, Member.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dillon Miller, Member.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Baden, WSCC; Chris Wright, NRCS; and the following District staff: Peggy Entzel, Valerie Hampton, Mike Cushman, and Nada Wentz.

Josh Koempel, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve the Minutes of the June 25th Special District meeting; approve the Treasurer's Report, and authorize payment of bills.

M/S/C Jim moved and Junell seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. (Unanimous)

WASHINGTON STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION (WSCC) REPORT

A Commission meeting will be held in Ellensburg on August 21 to discuss potential changes to the supervisor election process.

The District's Annual Report of Accomplishments is to be completed and submitted by August 26.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) REPORT

Chelan County has asked to partner with NRCS on fish passage and stream stabilization projects. Matching funds would be needed before they could go forward.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mike gave the County Commissioners an overview of the District budget for 2018. Good questions and discussion followed the presentation.

Mike will be meeting with the Department of Ecology (DOE) regarding an alternative for handling the material from fuels reduction. The Board discussed some of the key points to make during the meeting with DOE.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Peggy requested approval for a week of vacation in August. The August Regular Meeting date needs to be moved due to multiple staff vacations during that week.

The District received notice that the new Department of Ecology (DOE) grant was funded. Staff will begin work as soon as the contract is in place. Staff also applied for the No Child Left Inside grant. The application ranked 17th out of 93 applications, and the District was offered \$4,200 in funding.

OLD BUSINESS

Conservation Commission Projects:

2020 Commission Grants: The Implementation (IM) and Irrigation Efficiencies (IE) grants ended on June 30. The new IM and IE grants began July 1. Two fuels reduction projects under the Natural Resources Investments (NRI) grant are ready to implement and a third project is gearing up. Not a lot is going on with the IE grant yet. There is a potential exclusion fencing project to be completed with the Orca recovery funds in the IM grant. More information is needed regarding cost share rates for this practice. An update will be brought to the next meeting.

Drought Projects: Area streams are well below normal levels. Various articles on drought information and resources are being gathered for a newsletter to go out to all of Chelan County within the next month.

Task Orders: Two task orders were submitted for approval. One is for Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation with Amy Hendershot for projects in her area; the other is for cultural resources work.

Project Updates by Region:

Lake Chelan Basin: Mike briefly reported on the Salmon-Safe program and landowner interest to become Salmon-Safe certified.

Entiat Watershed: Bonnie is conducting barrier assessments and maintenance in the Entiat. Ken is overseeing the construction work at the Middle Entiat project site. The County and the Yakama Nation want to have a listening session with the public to discuss the projects that are planned for the Entiat.

Wenatchee Watershed: Work continues with the Joint Chiefs project at Lake Wenatchee, as well as the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) grants and the Drinking Water Project in Leavenworth.

Southern Chelan County (WRIA 40) & Stemilt Partnership: The Board encouraged support for the fire districts and their discussions with the Land Trust about establishing a permanent fire line around Wenatchee.

Other Updates:

Icicle Workgroup: The District has committed to meeting attendance and support for the workgroup. Some meetings may be in the Seattle area. The Board agreed that meeting attendance should be continued in the local area, but further travel is not needed at this time.

Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP): Mike and the Board discussed the District's future involvement with VSP. The Board advised that a letter be drafted, reviewed, and sent to the County Commissioners, and to the workgroup. Further discussion followed regarding the information to be included in the letter.

Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Plan: The Commissioners adopted the CWPP plan and directed staff to explore the feasibility of a defensible space program. It is not known who the lead will be for the County. The District will remain proactive with the CWPP plan and continue to work with the fire districts and DNR.

Staffing: Amanda and Sandy will be out on maternity leave soon. John has completed his veteran intern term, and will be leaving the District soon. The District will continue working with the Veteran program and hope to have a new person in January.

NEW BUSINESS

Fall 2019 Area Meeting: The Area Meeting will be Thursday, October 17. Resolutions to be presented at that meeting should be ready for approval at the District meeting in September. A potential topic is the air curtain burner.

Next Meeting: Due to scheduling conflicts for vacations, the next Regular District Meeting is cancelled, and a Special Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 13, 2019, at 3:30 p.m., in the Upstairs Conference Room. Roger will not be able to attend the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Summary of Official Actions:

Approved the Consent Agenda.

CHAIR _____

OFFICE ASSISTANT _____