

**CASCADIA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR DISTRICT MEETING
Upstairs Conference Room
14 N Mission St.
Wenatchee, WA 98801
Tuesday, February 19, 2019
3:30 p.m.**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Josh Koempel, Chair.

OTHERS PRESENT: Wendy Isenhardt, guest; Chris Wright, NRCS; and the following District staff: Peggy Entzel, Valerie Hampton, and MarySutton Carruthers.

Junell Wentz, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve the Minutes of the January 15th Regular District Meeting and February 4th Special District meeting; approve the Treasurer's Report, including detail of payments as shown below; and authorize payment of bills.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

The Conservation Commission requested that districts report funds that will be returned on any current grants.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) REPORT

Chris reported that Stan Janowicz is acting District Conservationist while Sarah Troutman is on temporary detail in Spokane. The Local Work Group meeting will be scheduled in early May after a delay for NRCS to learn about the details of the new Farm Bill. The Biological Opinion Task Order with Cascadia is ongoing. The current end date is March 31; it may need to be extended due to lost time from the federal shutdown. Peggy noted that staff are now in contact with the Forest Service about the work. Sarah Dubois is the new Cultural Resources Specialist for the Central Area, and she has already moved projects forward promptly. Chris expects NRCS will want more Task Orders, as they depend on Cascadia to help with this work.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mike Cushman is away at a training. He provided a written report for the Board. Legislative Days went well, and Mike had a good meeting with the County Commissioners.

Financial Assistance: Peggy said Okanogan CD has a relatively new accounting person who doesn't know how to do the Annual Financial Report. They would like a work order to reimburse the District for assistance on this year's report if Cascadia is willing to help.

M/S/C Jim moved and Roger seconded to approve a work order for assisting Okanogan CD with their Annual Financial Report. (Unanimous)

Banking: Peggy has been having difficulties logging in to check the bank accounts due to the recent changes in Wells Fargo procedures. As directed at the last meeting, three institutions were contacted for information on their services. Two of them have not yet responded. Numerica Credit Union sent a representative to the office to explain the various account options. Numerica is an approved depository for public funds, offers local contacts who are willing to work with us, and has a good reputation and reasonable costs.

M/S/C Jim moved and Roger seconded to move the District's accounts to Numerica Credit Union. (Unanimous)

OLD BUSINESS

Conservation Commission Projects:

Natural Resource Investments (NRI): Peggy indicated that about \$16,276 will be returned to the Commission from the Natural Resource Investments grant due to the landowner having more volunteer assistance on their project than anticipated, resulting in lower project costs.

Implementation and Irrigation Efficiencies: The Implementation grant is expected to be used in full. Irrigation Efficiencies is also ongoing.

Task Orders: There will be a new Task Order soon.

Entiat Watershed Projects:

Middle Entiat Projects: The draft revised landowner agreement is ready.

Other Projects & Programs:

Icicle Workgroup: Cascadia's present involvement in the Icicle Work Group is a technical assistance role. There is more work to do before projects can move forward with the cooperators.

Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP): A lot of the research for the Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) data entry has been completed. There is much more to do, but there are not as many projects as expected that can be entered into the system, as they don't fall into the intersection of agriculture and critical areas. Jim would like to ensure that projects such as irrigation systems and wells are giving the landowners credit for the instream water savings, to the extent it can be quantified. Jim plans to attend the next VSP meeting.

Hazard Mitigation Plan: Mike provided some Hazard Mitigation Plan documents for the Board's review and comment.

Grant Applications: MarySutton reported on an application for another round of the drinking water grant program. This one takes a whole watershed approach, and proposes to partner with Salmon Safe for outreach and benefits to agriculture. There is support from the cities of Leavenworth and Cashmere, as well as the Forest Service and a number of farmers markets. Salmon Safe has done work with growers in other areas, providing certification, marketing materials and other support. The funding would also train two local people to conduct the farm assessments for certification. It is

important to have local people involved in the project, and look for ways to overlap this with all the other requirements facing growers, to help them check off as many boxes as possible at once.

Another grant application through the Coalition for Collaboratives is due March 8. It provides funding for Community Wildfire Protection Plan work, and requires 1:1 non-federal match.

A proposal is due at the end of March for continuation of the Coordination and Monitoring work through the Bureau of Reclamation.

Other applications in progress include the Department of Ecology Terry Husseman (Coastal Protection) program for water quality projects in the Chumstick and Icicle drainages, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA), No Child Left Inside, the Icicle Fund for Team Naturaleza support and for the Salmon Festival, the Kaiser Fund for a project with soils emphasis, and a letter of interest to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board.

M/S/C Jim moved and Roger seconded to approve proposed grant applications to the Drinking Water Partnership Program, Coalition for Collaboratives, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Ecology, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, No Child Left Inside, Icicle Fund, Kaiser Fund and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. (Unanimous)

Vacant Supervisor Position: Applications for appointment to the vacant position were due February 19 at noon. No applications were received. Josh has spoken to several interested parties. The Board directed that staff advertise an extension of the application period to noon on March 12.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers: Jim nominated the current slate of officers to remain in their positions.

M/S/C Jim moved and Roger seconded to elect the following slate of officers for the Board of Supervisors: Josh Koempel, Chair; Junell Wentz, Vice Chair; Roger Wristen, Auditor. (Unanimous)

Next Meeting: A Special District Meeting and the Annual Planning Meeting will begin at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 in the Upstairs Conference Room.

Schedule 22 Internal Audit: Board members are needed to assist with the annual internal audit. Jim and Junell agreed to meet March 13 at 10 am to conduct the audit.

Wendy expressed her thanks to the District for Patrick's help with FireWise programs for Chelan.

The meeting adjourned at 4:26p.m.

Summary of Official Actions:

Approved the Consent Agenda;
Approved assisting Okanogan CD with their Annual Financial Report;
Approved moving the District's accounts to Numerica Credit Union;
Approved proposed grant applications to the Drinking Water Partnership Program, Coalition for Collaboratives, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Ecology, Washington Department of

Fish & Wildlife, No Child Left Inside, Icicle Fund, Kaiser Fund and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board;
Elected the following slate of officers for the Board of Supervisors: Josh Koempel, Chair; Junell Wentz, Vice Chair; Roger Wristen, Auditor.

VICE CHAIR_____

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT_____