

**CASCADIA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR DISTRICT MEETING
Upstairs Conference Room
14 N Mission St.
Wenatchee, WA 98801
Thursday, April 19, 2018
3:30 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Hal Hawley, Vice Chair; Roger Wristen, Auditor; and Junell Wentz, Member.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Josh Koempel, Chair; and Jim Bartelme, Member.

OTHERS PRESENT: Rita Lovett; Wendy Isenhart, Chelan City Council; Chris Wright, NRCS; Dominic Bachman, NRCS; and the following District staff: Peggy Entzel, Ken Muir, and Nada Wentz.

Hal Hawley, Vice Chair, opened the meeting at 3:31 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve the Minutes of the March 23rd Special District Meeting; approve the Treasurer's Report, and authorize payment of bills.

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

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) REPORT

Chris reported that the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) application period has ended. He is currently working on plans for six applications.

Dominic Bachman is an NRCS wildlife biologist from Spokane. He discussed NRCS projects that need a biological assessment for each application. He would like to move toward a programmatic agreement for forestry. He is also interested in wildlife programs such as the use of snakes for rodent control in orchards and vineyards. He'd like to see a wildlife workshop made available to producers next year.

WASHINGTON STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION (WSCC) REPORT

Mike Baden reported that the fire and forest health meeting was well attended. The general consensus was to share the information with all the districts and continue involvement with firewise and fire recovery programs.

The two day annual policy meeting is in Ellensburg next week. Discussion topics are funding priorities and potential adjustments to the plan, voluntary water quality practices, water right permits and VSP confidentiality issues.

Mike also mentioned the Annual Plan deadline date, the appointment of board members chosen by the Commission, and the Conservation Accountability and Performance Program (CAPP) oversight rule for districts.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Rita Lovett attended the meeting to learn about the District's work and inquire about the requirements for the Supervisor position.

Ken will give the report on the Entiat projects for Mike Cushman, who is attending another meeting this afternoon.

Mike and Roger will attend the policy meeting in Ellensburg next week.

The regional district managers will meet next week to discuss their workload and the possibility of sharing staff.

NRCS and the District are discussing a task order to cover training for District staff to assist NRCS staff. District staff continue to discuss and re-prioritize the duties that need to be covered from Jason's position. They will have a better picture of what is needed after the summer season.

The Commission funding for the Implementation (IM) grant and the Task Orders will be spent before the end of June. It is currently unknown if there will be Irrigation Efficiencies (IE) money to turn back.

OLD BUSINESS

Project Updates:

Conservation Commission Projects:

Firewise Cost Share Project: Peggy asked the Board to approve a Firewise cost share project of about \$1,500. Implementation funds are available.

M/S/C Roger moved and Junell seconded to approve the Firewise cost share project with Brenda Payne. (Unanimous)

Technical Service Provider (TSP) Task Order #8: The Board approved Task Order (TO) #6 at the last March meeting. This task order turned in to two task orders because of different funding sources, one of them being EQIP. They became TO #6 & #7. The District was asked to approve TO #8. Task Orders are funded 75% from NRCS and 25 % from the Commission.

M/S/C Junell moved and Roger seconded to approve Task Order #8, the Tom Jones project. (Unanimous)

Middle Entiat Watershed Projects: The District is the sponsor of the projects at the E and F sites. Ken reported we are currently waiting on the Department of Ecology (DOE) permit for F; we should hear something after the comment period ends on May 1. The District will be required to monitor E for five years, and F for ten years. The projects are moving forward. The Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) has been approached for additional funding support for F.

Other Projects & Programs:

Icicle Workgroup: There are no updates for the Icicle Workgroup.

Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP): There are no updates for VSP. District Staff will continue to attend the meetings.

Forestry Program & Projects: The spring chipping program in the upper Wenatchee Valley and the Lake Chelan area is going strong. There are about 110 landowners signed up to participate. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) sent their new contract last week. Amanda is busy conducting firewise assessments.

Urban Ag Program: Sandy is doing an excellent job, and the work is snowballing. Many different groups have joined in support of the work. The After School program has been going strong, in addition to the community garden work.

Grant Application Submittals:

Trout Unlimited (TU) Contract Amendment: The Trout Unlimited work order needs to be amended to complete current phase of the work. A new overall work order will be written soon, but for now the Board is asked to approve the extension and budget amendment to the current work order for Icicle Creek.

M/S/C Junell moved and Roger seconded to approve the contract amendment with TU. (Unanimous)

2018 Supervisor Election / Appointment Update: Roger was the only applicant for the appointed supervisor position. Hal's elected position has been advertised in both the legal and classified sections of the newspaper.

Annual & Long Range Draft Plans Review: Peggy and the Board discussed the edits to the Annual and Long Range draft plans. The Board was asked to review the drafts and let her know of any further edits needed. She would like to have the edits finished and the final draft ready for the May Board Meeting.

Schedule 22 Internal Audit: The audit is set for Thursday, April 26. Hal will conduct the internal audit.

NEW BUSINESS

Area Meeting: Cascadia Conservation District is the host for the meeting this year. The date is October 16.

Open Government Training: The District Administrator and Board Members are required to have training every four years. The last training was held in 2014. It can be conducted during a Board meeting or on an individual basis. This is required training as part of the Open Public Meetings and Public Records Act.

District Clothing: The staff and Board discussed purchasing shirts and/or jackets with the District logo for staff to wear at events. The Board was asked to approve the cost of purchasing a shirt and a jacket or sweatshirt for each staff member.

M/S/C Junell moved and Roger seconded to approve the purchase of District logo clothing for staff to wear at events. (Unanimous)

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be a Regular District Meeting in the Upstairs Conference Room on Thursday, May 17, at 3:30 p.m.

Conservation Practice Data System (CPDS) Upgrade: The CPDS website will be offline for about a week while it is updated to the new system.

National NRCS Meeting: National NRCS and NACD folks will be gathering in Leavenworth for a national conservation planning policy meeting on May 9. One of the topics for discussion will be what is happening with conservation planning. They also want to hear how NRCS and the districts are working together.

WACD Website Assistance Request: The WACD Executive Director called and asked for the District's assistance in updating their website. Amanda and Ken were recommended to them by other districts. District staff assistance would be on a reimbursable basis. Peggy asked the Board's advice. The Board gave their approval.

The meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Summary of Official Actions:

- Approved the Consent Agenda;
- Approved the Firewise cost share project with Brenda Payne;
- Approved Task Order #8, the Tom Jones project;
- Approved the contract amendment with TU;
- Approved the purchase of District logo clothing for staff to wear at events.

VICE CHAIR _____

OFFICE ASSISTANT _____