

**CASCADIA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR DISTRICT MEETING
Upstairs Conference Room
14 N Mission St.
Wenatchee, WA 98801
Tuesday July 17, 2018
3:30 p.m.**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Josh Koempel, Chair.

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Approve the Minutes of the June 19th Regular District Meeting; approve the Treasurer's Report, and authorize payment of bills.

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

NRCS REPORT

NRCS is presently obligating 2018 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) contracts. The House and Senate are working on the new farm bill. The House farm bill is a little more popular but the financial portion will change the EQIP and Conservation Stewardship Programs (CSP) process. The EQIP application deadline is uncertain, pending the outcome of the bill.

Interviews for the Waterville Resource Conservationist position were held yesterday. The Central Area Cultural Resources Specialist position will hopefully be filled soon. Chris noted that District staff are still needed to help with the NRCS workload.

WSCC REPORT

Mike Baden reported that the District is current with all the reporting deadlines. The Commission is reviewing different budget packages this week. Once a package is decided on, it will be finalized and sent to the Governor for consideration. The Commission will be reviewing the Engineering Program and the ability to share staff expertise between districts.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mike Cushman discussed the Fire & Forestry budget decision package he is working on with Mike Baden. He is also working with Laura Johnson on the K – 12 education decision package, and with Jon Culp on the Irrigation Efficiencies Program.

Mike will be attending meetings with the Chelan County Commissioners and Chelan City Council to give updates on District programs.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Sandy requested a three week leave later this year. Board approval is needed for vacations that are longer than two weeks.

M/S/C Jim moved and Roger seconded to approve Sandy's three week leave request. (Unanimous)

OLD BUSINESS

Conservation Commission Projects:

New Task Order: The new TSP contract is in place and started on July 5. All the other TSP contracts have been successfully closed out.

Implementation Addendum: Peggy presented the proposed addendum for the 2019 Implementation grant. She asked the Board for approval.

M/S/C Jim moved and Roger seconded to approve the 2019 Implementation addendum. (Unanimous)

Irrigation Efficiencies: The Irrigation Efficiencies grant is ongoing. It will close in June of 2019.

Natural Resource Investment (NRI) Grant: The next NRI project will be funded soon.

Entiat Watershed Projects: Mike talked briefly about a letter that was enclosed with a recent Entiat Lookout newsletter to the Entiat community. He plans to discuss the letter and the next steps with project partners, and wanted the Board to be aware.

Project F Site: A proposal for the project at Site F was sent to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB); it is in the review and ranking process.

Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) E&F Project Contract: The new E&F contract is not ready yet. BOR has extended the old E&F contract, and added funds, needing Board approval. Since Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is no longer our largest source of Federal funding, the indirect rate needs to be negotiated with the Department of Interior for BOR. Their process is different, and will take a while before we receive a new rate for the year.

M/S/C Jim moved and Rita seconded to approve the E&F contract extension and funding. (Unanimous)

Other Projects & Programs:

Education Projects – Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction Grant (OSPI):

Funds from this grant would supplement the Kids in the Forest (KITF) program, and assist with teacher training and outreach. Many local teachers are very interested in this learning opportunity.

The KITF program starts in August, and will begin with outreach and teacher training through the North Central Educational Service District (NCESD). Information for the KITF program will be

made available to neighboring school districts within the NCESD and we will reach out to those conservation districts to see if they are interested in participating in the program.

Icicle Workgroup: Mike reported that the last meeting was well attended and well organized. Updates on budgetary requests and funding availability were provided. He and the Board briefly discussed the open comment period for the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS).

Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP): The County is the lead for this program and their consultants are conducting the work. The next meeting should be in September or October.

Forestry Program & Projects: Mike discussed the progress of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) updates. He and the Board discussed the benefits of the plans in laying the groundwork for future projects with the fire districts.

Hazard Mitigation Plan: Mike is attending planning meetings and will continue to update the Board on the process.

Urban Ag Program: Sandy continues to work on the community center garden shed and partnership opportunities, including potential management of the garden at Methow Community Park. The Board is in favor of pursuing this opportunity. Updates will be given at the next meeting.

Grant Applications:

Kids in the Creek (KitC) Program: Amanda and Mike submitted an application for a small grant that would provide support for materials for the KitC program.

Urban Ag: Sandy is submitting a grant application to sustain the Urban Ag program.

The District did not receive funding from the BOR WaterSmart grant. Only one grant was funded in the state of Washington.

Joint Venture Agreement (JVA) Modification #3: The District received a modification from the US Forest Service (USFS) for continued moth and fish study work. The Board was asked to approve the agreement.

M/S/C Roger moved and Jim seconded to approve the USFS JVA Agreement Modification #3.
(Unanimous)

Open Government Training: The required training includes two parts. The “Open Public Meetings Act,” takes about 17 minutes; and “Open Government,” takes about 30 minutes. The Open Public Meetings portion will be conducted today. The longer training session will be done during the August meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Education Path Forward: Mike and Roger attended a conference call with Laura Johnson and other conservation districts to discuss educational program needs for curriculum materials and staff to write

them. The Board briefly talked about the different views of the districts involved, and available funds to move forward.

Area Meeting Resolution Proposal: The Board discussed proposing a resolution at the Area Meeting this fall regarding supervisor voting at the WACD Annual Meeting. There are other like-minded districts in support of the proposal. It will be brought back to the Board at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: The next District Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 21, at 3:30 p.m., in the Upstairs Conference Room.

The meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Summary of Official Actions:

- Approved the Consent Agenda;
- Approved Sandy's three week leave request;
- Approved the 2019 Implementation addendum;
- Approved the E&F contract extension and funding;
- Approved the USFS JVA Agreement Modification #3.

VICE CHAIR _____

OFFICE ASSISTANT _____