

**CASCADIA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR DISTRICT MEETING
Zoom Meeting ID: 987 6961 1557
1350 McKittrick St.
Wenatchee, WA 98801
Friday December 15, 2023
1:30 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Junell Wentz, Chair (Zoom); Amy Bridges, Auditor (Zoom); Dillon Miller, Vice-Chair (In-Person); Pete Teigen (In-Person), Member.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kurt Hosman, Member

OTHERS PRESENT: Frank Curtin, NRCS (In-Person); Mike Baden, WSCC (Zoom); and the following District Staff were present in-person: Ryan Williams, Val Hampton, and Liz Jackson.

Junell Wentz, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Consent Agenda: Approve the November 17, 2023 Regular District Meeting Minutes, approve November Treasurer's Report and authorize paying bills.

M/S/C Pete Teigen moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Dillon Miller Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: Cascadia CD received the District of the Year award at the WACD meeting.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) REPORT: Frank Curtin

Frank provided an update on NRCS programs in Chelan County. The Local Working Group meeting is scheduled for February 21st with a planning meeting on January 24th. The eligibility deadline for EQIP was extended allowing for Farm Service Agency eligibility to be completed by the end of January. NRCS received 32 applications for Chelan County.

WASHINGTON STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION (WSCC) REPORT: Mike Baden

There are several changes in staff at WSCC. The new Executive Director started on December 1st and the interim policy director left the Commission. The new Executive Director will handle the short legislative session that begins in January. The Governor released his supplemental budget which included \$3.5 million for Conservation Technical Assistance in the capital budget. WSCC will work to have it moved to the operating budget to allow for more flexibility. The draft Riparian Grant Program Guidelines are out for comments, due January 2nd. Comments on the WSCC's Community Engagement Plan are needed by February 1st. Mike reminded the Board and staff of the deadlines for election notices after an election resolution is passed.

GRANT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACT REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Contracts and Grant Applications for Consideration at the December 15, 2023 board meeting

Grant Applications					
Granting Agency	Title	Amount		Activities	Action Needed
Grant Contracts					
Granting Agency	Contract Title	Duration	Amount	Activities	Action Needed
Recreation and Conservation Office	Creating Connections to Conservation	January 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025	\$56,250	Kids in the Creek, Kids in the Forest, Kids in the Snow	Approve Executive Director Signature of Grant Agreement
ILAs/MOUs/MOAs/Contracts					
Agreement Entity	Agreement Purpose	Duration	Financial Commitment	Activities	Action Needed
Landowner Agreements/Cost Share					
Landowner Name	Project Funding Source	Cost Share Rate	Amount	Activities	Action Needed
Tricia Coley	WSCC NRI		\$6,000	Sprinkler System, Micro Irrigation, Pasture and Hay Seeding	Approve cost share agreement
Landowner Cost Share/Contract Payments					
Landowner Name	Project Funding Source	Cost Share Rate	Amount	Activities Completed	Action Needed

M/S/C Dillon Miller moved to approve the grants and contracts list. Amy Bridges seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dairy Nutrient Plan:

Elizabeth Jackson presented the Green Valley Dairy LLC Dairy Nutrient Management Plan.

M/S/C Amy Bridges moved to approve the dairy nutrient management plan for Green Valley Dairy LLC. Pete Teigen seconded. Motion Passed unanimously.

Discussion occurred regarding the eligibility of a manure spreader for cost share. The Board members requested additional information on the costs of manure spreaders.

Frank Curtin left the meeting at 2:46 PM

Election Resolution: Valerie Hampton presented the proposed election resolution for the 2024 election.

M/S/C Pete Teigen moved to approve Resolution 2023-5, 2024 Supervisor Election. Dillon Miller seconded. Motion Passed unanimously.

Health Insurance Plan Options: Cascadia CD staff informed the board of the health plan that was selected. Staff have begun completing paperwork.

2024 Budget: Ryan Williams presented the 2024 Budget and 2024 Wage Schedule to the Board. Discussion of the budget occurred.

M/S/C Amy Bridges moved to approve the 2024 Budget and 2024 Wage Schedule. Pete Teigen Seconded. Motion Passed unanimously.

Executive Director's report: Ryan Williams presented his monthly report of activities.

Out of State Travel Request: Approval is requested for several staff to attend out of state conferences.

M/S/C Dillon Miller moved to approve out of state travel for Ryan Williams, Elizabeth Jackson, and Kirk Beckendorf to the NACD annual conference in San Diego, California, and Joe Hill and Isobel Woolner to the Family Foresters Round Table in Hayden, Idaho. Amy Bridges Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Staffing Needs: Ryan discussed staffing needs for 2024 with the Board and requested creation of two new positions: Resource Specialist 1 and Program Director.

M/S/C Pete Teigen moved to approve creation of two new positions: Resource Specialist 1 and Program Director. Dillon Miller Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Unused Vacation rollover: Due to administrative requirements at the end of 2023, Ryan Williams and Valerie Hampton are requesting approval to roll over vacation leave that exceeds the cap set in the policy manual into 2024.

M/S/C Pete Teigen moved to approve rolling over up to 40 hours of vacation for Valerie Hampton and Ryan Williams to be used by March 31, 2024. Dillon Miller seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Amy Bridges left the meeting at 3:46 p.m.

Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board Science Conference Sponsorship: Ryan presented a request from the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board for Cascadia to sponsor their Science Conference at the Silver level (\$500).

M/S/C Pete Teigen moved to approve for Cascadia CD to Sponsor the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board Science Conference at the Silver level. Dillon Miller seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

January Meeting Date, Location and Time: The next Regular meeting is January 19, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. at the District office.

The meeting adjourned at 4:14 PM

Summary of Official Actions:

Approved the Consent Agenda;

Grant Contracts:

RCO – Creating connections to Conservation contract that supports Kids in the – Creek, Forest and Snow;

Landowner Agreements/Cost Share:

Tricia Coley – WSCC NRI cost share for sprinkler system, micro-irrigation, pasture and hay seeding;

Approved dairy nutrient management plan for Green Valley Dairy LLC;

Approved Resolution 2023-5, 2024 Supervisor Election;

Approved the 2024 Budget and 2024 Wage Schedule;

Approved out of state travel for Ryan Williams, Elizabeth Jackson, and Kirk Beckendorf to the NACD annual conference in San Diego, California, and Joe Hill and Isobel Woolner to the Family Foresters Round Table in Hayden, Idaho;

Approved creation of two new positions: Resource Specialist 1 and Program Director;

Approved rolling over up to 40 hours of vacation for Valerie Hampton and Ryan Williams to be used by March 31, 2024;

Approved for Cascadia CD to Sponsor the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board Science Conference at the Silver level.

CHAIR _____

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR _____