

**CASCADIA CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
REGULAR DISTRICT MEETING  
1350 McKittrick St.  
Wenatchee, WA 98801  
Friday May 8, 2026**

MEMBERS PRESENT: In Person - Junell Wentz, Chair; Dillon Miller, Vice-Chair; Russ Truman, Auditor; Virtual - Pete Teigen, Member.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Amy Bridges, Member

OTHERS PRESENT: In Person - Scott Scroggie, NRCS; Lance Brender, Associate and the following District staff: Ryan Williams, Cindy Goodell, Isobel Woolner and Valerie Hampton. Virtual – Shane Collins, City of Chelan.

Junell Wentz, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:35 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT – none

CONSENT AGENDA - The April Regular District Meeting minutes and authorization to pay the bills were presented.

**M/S/C Dillon Miller moved and Russ Truman seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.**

CORRESPONDENCE: None requiring official action.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) REPORT –Scott Scroggie NRCS is working on getting 18 applications obligated. This is an historic high for Chelan County, as there are usually only one or two per year. New staff member Iona Rohan starts in Waterville on Monday. The Local Working Group meeting went well and produced a game plan for next year. Currently, applications are being processed first come, first served for the main programs. This allows limited staff to get to the field and work with people who have been waiting. Producers are still encouraged to apply but should be realistic about the expected timeline. Applying gets you in line for later. There are various reasons an application might not advance as fast as another, such as funding priorities, readiness to proceed, etc. Scott expects to get the backlog caught up during this year. The Memorandum Of Understanding with the District still needs to be done. There is some new language to consider. The ideal timeline is during the month of June. Ryan requested a copy of the draft to review and discuss with Board.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT – Allisa Carlson not available

STAFF REPORT – Isobel Woolner of the Forestry Team introduced the project she has been working on for the past several months: Wildfire NCW is a centralized bilingual wildfire information web site. The aim is to provide a central hub to find wildfire-related resources for the greater Chelan County community. This has been a need discussed in multiple settings and by numerous committees for many years. It is an identified action in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and was listed as a priority need in the Our Valley, Our Future (OVOF) planning

process. The team that was assembled to take action on the goal looked at more than 50 different sources of information about wildfire preparedness, risk, response, and recovery.

Isobel took the group through a visual tour of the web site and explained that, in addition to general information and descriptions of the various topics, there are sections on threat levels and air quality hazards, dozens of links to other resources such as emergency management and live wildfire information sites, and contact information for agencies and organizations. There are also suggestions for property owners such as risk assessments, home hardening and fuels reduction projects, and where to apply for assistance. There is a little work left to do on the Spanish language portions of the site. A formal launch of the site is expected next week and will include advertising and shared social media posts from the various partners.

Cascadia was recently awarded some Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant money that was applied for several years ago to help lay the groundwork for the web site. Chelan Public Utility District (PUD) committed funds to develop the site, as well as to maintain it for the next several years. Isobel noted that OVOF was critical to gathering the work group and keeping things moving, as well as securing funds for the project.

Russ commented that Patrick and Isobel did a really good job presenting at a Chumstick Community Wildfire Coalition event on Wednesday.

**GRANT APPLICATIONS, CONTRACTS, AND BUDGET REVIEW AND APPROVAL**  
(see next page)

Contracts and Grant Applications for Consideration at the May 8, 2026 Board Meeting						
<b>Grant Applications</b>						
Granting Agency	Title	Amount		Activities	Action Needed	CCD Staff
NFWF	Enhancing water stewardship practices to support salmon habitat in Chelan County, WA	\$150,000		Technical assistance for irrigation efficiencies	Approve Grant Application	Marcy
WSSC - Sustainable Farms and Fields - TA	Experimenting with biochar trials for orchards and vineyards	\$15,000		Technical assistance for biochar trials on orchards and vineyards	Approve Grant Application	Marcy
WSSC - Sustainable Farms and Fields - BMPs	Advancing soil health and crop management for livestock.	max \$30,000		Installing soil health and plant production BMPs (Pasture seeding, cover cropping, windbreak)	Approve Grant Application	Liz/Marcy
<b>Grant Contracts</b>						
Granting Agency	Contract Title	Duration	Amount	Activities	Action Needed	CCD Staff
WA DNR	Prescribed Fire Support	04/27/2026 to 06/30/2026	\$15,000.00	Adds \$15,000 to Prescribed Fire contract for CDLT additional patrols and burns	Approve Executive Director sign Amendment	Patrick
CCNRD	Community Wildfire Defense Grant - Leavenworth Landscapes	12/02/2024-12/02/2029	Amendment Reduced contract by \$33,250	Amendment reduces the contractual category by \$33,250 and reduces deliverables by 13.3 ac. Shift of funds to Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue for their crew	Approve Executive Director sign Amendment	Patrick
Grant PUD - Priest Rapid Coordinating Committee	Roaring Creek monitoring	05/15/2026-05/13/2029	\$213,725.00	Groundwater and evapotranspiration monitoring for the roaring creek project	Approved Executive Director sign Agreement	Mark
<b>ILAs/MOUs/MOAs/Contracts</b>						
Agreement Entity	Agreement Purpose	Duration	Financial Commitment	Activities	Action Needed	CCD Staff
Trout Unlimited	Work Order	May 1- Nov 15, 2026	\$ 15,000.00	field assistance- instream work	Approve Executive Director Signature	Alex
Trout Unlimited	Service Agreement	June 1- May 1 2027	\$65,000.00	field assistance- BDAs/instream work	Approve Executive Director Signature	Alex
Hinchinbrook, Inc	Purchased Services	April 15 - July 15, 2026	\$ 14,924.42	Steelhead REDD monitoring in Tillicum and Indian Creeks	Approve Executive Director Signature	Mark
Ecological FIRE Services	Amendment #1	Nov 11, 2025-June, 30 2026	\$38,842	Rx Fire implmentation and PBA support	Approve Executive Director Signature	Patrick
Ecological Services	Amendment #2	Nov 11, 2025-June, 30 2026	\$74,648	Rx Fire implmentation and PBA support	Approve Executive Director Signature	Patrick
<b>Landowner Agreements/Cost Share</b>						
Landowner Name	Project Funding Source	Cost Share Rate	Amount	Activities	Action Needed	CCD Staff
Dennis Rudolph	CCNRD-LPL	100%	\$2,000	Assesment of 400 ac for Rx opportunities and burn plan development	Approve Executive Director Signature	Patrick
<b>Landowner Cost Share/Contract Payments</b>						
Landowner Name	Project Funding Source	Cost Share Rate	Amount	Activities Completed	Action Needed	CCD Staff
Erica McConnell	WSSC NRI	75%	\$ 11,507.34	Sprinkler System (442)	Approve Cost Share Payment	Marcy
Frank Delong	CCNRD-LPL	69%	\$ 1,500.00	Land Clearing and Biochar Prep	Approve Cost Share Payment	Joe
ILAs/MOUs/MOAs/Contracts color codes						
No color is neutral cashflow						
Rust color is CCD paying somebody else						
Green color is CCD receiving money						

Ryan already signed the Hinchinbrook agreement as the work is very timing specific. The Board discussed funding sources for the various work. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) projects that are contracted and billed at a flat rate sometimes come in under budget and result in revenue that exceeds actual costs. Any extra funds are reserved for additional related work.

**M/S/C Dillon Miller moved and Pete Teigen seconded to approve the Grant Application, Contract, Landowner Agreements and Cost Share payments as presented. Russ abstained, and the motion passed.**

**OTHER BUSINESS -**

**Annual Plan of Work:** The document is not much different from last year. The photos were updated, and the budget matches the one approved by the Board in January. Previously the budgets were adjusted so that the plan and budget matched the State fiscal year beginning July 1. This was always difficult because the District's books are cash basis on the calendar year. Ryan intends to begin using the calendar year for all plan elements to keep things consistent. Russ asked if there was a particular role for the Board in this process. Ryan asked that they bring ideas for funding sources and programs to be considered for each plan year.

**M/S/C Russ Truman moved and Pete Teigen seconded to approve the 2026-27 Annual Plan of Work. The motion passed unanimously.**

**NCW Forest Health Collaborative Recommitment:** There is a two-year cycle for the group members to submit letters of commitment to working together in an effort to increase the pace and scale of US Forest Service (USFS) forest health work in the region. Members participate in planning, comment on proposals, issue letters of support, and try to get consensus up front on various projects to reduce objections later. It has been helpful in developing cross-boundary projects. The District advocates for private landowners along federal lands, especially where projects can benefit their properties as well as the public land. Okanogan CD also participates in the group. The Districts usually comment only on projects in their own areas. The county governments are also represented.

**M/S/C Russ Truman moved and Dillon Miller seconded to approve continuing to support and participate in the NCW Forest Health Collaborative. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Executive Director's Report:**

**Procurement Policy:** Ryan presented an updated Procurement Policy, Resolution 2026-01b, aligning the requirements with recent changes in the law. Amy reviewed the draft and indicated she liked it but she couldn't attend today's meeting to participate in the discussion.

**M/SC Dillon Miller moved and Pete Teigen seconded to approve Resolution 2026-01b Procurement Policy. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Camp Sagebrush:** Foster Creek CD sponsors a 3-day youth camp for natural and cultural resources focused on shrub-steppe habitat and sage grouse. They are looking for donations to support the program. There are three Chelan County students attending this year. The cost per student is about \$750. There was discussion on sponsoring the three attendees at a total cost of \$2,250 from Rates & Charges. The District has used grant funding in the past to send staff to help run the camp, although none are scheduled to assist so far this year.

**MSC Pete Teigen moved and Dillon Miller seconded to sponsor three Chelan County students to attend Camp Sagebrush through Foster Creek CD in the amount of \$2,250. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Rates & Charges:** Ryan showed the Board a table of proposed services illustrating the baseline rate and what programs could be expanded at various increased rates, plus additional services that could be added at higher levels. Some programs would be capped at lower rates due to limited capacity. The expected impacts of the programs vary by urban versus rural land uses, while some are applicable to all residents. The table does not represent set metrics, but rather examples of the volume of work that can be completed in different rate scenarios. Ryan requested two Board members to participate in one-on-one meetings with county commissioners. Russ said he will help, and Junell indicated her schedule can be somewhat flexible and she can likely attend as well. For the Community Survey the consultant aggregated 26 responses as an initial report and included landowner quotes. One of the deliverables of the survey is an analysis of what we should be focusing on: getting the community priorities and aligning our work with them. Ryan is working on a presentation of the results.

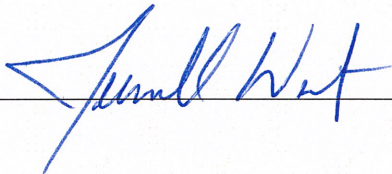
**Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) staffing:** – two of the five Regional Managers left their jobs and the remaining staff went from serving 9 districts to 15 each for now. They are hiring and training new staff and then will be back to being able to attend local meetings more often.

**Spring Legislative Session:** Ryan and Russ attended various meetings that focused on sustainable funding, the Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) resolution process, and district elections. Russ noted the resolution improvements are intended to streamline and improve the efficiency of the process and focus on things that can actually get done. Recent election legislation proposals included things that a lot of supervisors didn't like, such as requiring financial disclosure for the candidates and placement on the general ballot. They are framing a proposal that allows some new things, such as King CD going on the general ballot, but leaves options for other districts. The aim is to address some of the legislator concerns and protect district interests. They plan to find a sponsor for the compromise bill in the upcoming session. They also reviewed a study from Western WA University looking at some of the sustainable funding options for districts as a whole. Models they reviewed from other states had drawbacks such as being associated with an increase in sales tax or land conversion. Also considered were ways to get visitors that are using natural resources to contribute to funding the work and a look at how legislators might view the various proposals. General dedicated funding for districts is considered better than the current method of allocating pieces of the general fund through the WSCC. Missouri has a 1/10 of 1% sales tax dedicated to conservation. So far there has been more discussion on the source of funds rather than allocation plans. The study is also looking at potential partnerships for a funding proposal. For example, Conservation NW is teaming up with WA Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) to consider funding options. Other ideas involve establishing foundations with endowments to operate off the interest earned, or a tax on lodging like one in Oregon that supports wildlife. They also heard updates from the WACD lobbyist, who related that due to legislative member turnover, they will need to provide more education on districts and related topics.

**Next Meeting:** The next Regular Meeting will be June 12, 2026 at 1:30 pm in the District conference room. Russ indicated he will not be able to attend that day.

**The Regular Meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.**

CHAIR



RECORDER

