

**CASCADIA CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
LOCATION: HYBRID: In-person AND Virtual on Zoom  
PLANNED DATE AND TIME: 6:00pm on July 23, 2026  
ACTUAL MEETING TIME: 6:00pm – 7:00pm**

**PRESENT AT BOARD MEETING:**

**Board Members**

Junell Wentz, Chair  
Dillon Miller, Vice-Chair  
Russ Truman, Auditor  
Amy Bridges, Member  
Pete Teigen, Member  
Lance Brender, Associate

**Others**

Ryan Williams – CCD Executive Director  
Cindy Goodell – CCD Staff  
Veronica Arroyo-Perez – CCD Staff  
Laura Rivera – CCD Staff  
Collin Sternagel - Cascadia PBA  
Lexi Gardener – NRCS  
James Conrad – Public

**Summary of Motions Passed**

Amy Bridges moved and Pete Teigen seconded to approve the Executive Director to sign Blue Pine Fuels agreement for up to \$20,000.00. The motion passed unanimously, (5-0).

Russ Truman moved and Pete Teigen seconded to adopt Resolution 2026-02 System of Rates and Charges for submission to the Chelan County Board of Commissioners. The motion passed unanimously, (5-0).

**Full Minutes**

Junell Wenatz, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

M/S/C Amy Bridges moved, and Pete Teigen seconded to approve the Executive Director to sign Blue Pine Fuels agreement for up to \$20,000.00. The motion passed unanimously.

**Presentation of Rate and Charges Proposal Options**

Ryan completed a presentation on four potential systems of rates and charges.

**Option 1 – Inflation Only Rate Proposal**

This proposal would include an initial increase that “catches up” to inflation based on the Consumer Price Index released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics from January 2017 to June of 2026. These inflation rates applied to our original rate of \$4.63 results in an increase to \$6.57 per parcel. Beginning in 2028, the rate will increase by 5% or the CPI published for November of each year, whatever is greater. Based on the 5% minimum increase each year. The rate will begin at \$6.57 and reach approximately \$10.19 per parcel at the end of a 10 year rate authorization (2036 calendar year).

This proposal would maintain existing services into the future including stabilization of youth education funding, a small cost share program for land managers and wildfire preparedness support for residents.

#### **Option 2 – Inflation catch up with two maximum rate tiers**

This proposal would initially increase the rate to \$6.50 per parcel and then include a \$2 per year rate increase for 2 years followed by a pause at \$10.50 for 3 years, and then another increase of \$2 per year until it caps at \$14.50 per parcel at year 7. This approach allows for quicker growth of programs than other options while allowing for pauses in rate increases.

This proposal would stabilize Youth Education funding, create an annual conservation practice cost share program for local priorities (e.g. integrated pest management, irrigation efficiencies, or soil health practices), stabilize our home hardening, free roving chipper, and free yard waste disposal day programs and expand our urban conservation programs such as urban water efficiencies, community garden, and water wise native plant gardens.

#### **Option 3 – \$10 per parcel with annual increase of \$0.50 per year**

This proposal would initially increase the rate to \$10 per parcel and then include a \$0.50 per year rate increase. This proposal begins at \$10 per parcel in 2027 and caps at \$14.50 per parcel in 2036. This approach allows us to expand our programs rapidly in 2027 with a slow increase to keep pace with potential inflation.

This proposal would stabilize Youth Education funding, create an annual conservation practice cost share program for local priorities, stabilize our home hardening, free roving chipper, and free yard waste disposal day programs and expand our urban conservation programs such as urban water efficiencies, community garden, and Heritage Garden programs. This has a similar impact as Option 3 but with different timelines when the updated programs would occur.

#### **Option 4 – Inflation catch up with a \$2 per year increase**

This proposal would initially increase the rate to \$6.50 per parcel and then include an annual \$2 increase for the duration of the rate authorization. The beginning rate in the 2027 calendar year is \$6.50 and would reach \$24.50 in the 2036 calendar year.

This proposal would allow the District to improve the reliability and scope of services such as home hardening, conservation practice cost share and youth education. These existing programs would grow over time and allow us to implement conservation practices for landowners in the queue. In addition, the increased funding each year would allow Cascadia CD to add in programs focused on urban water conservation, community gardens and food system support.

#### **Junell Wentz opened the floor for Public Comment**

Lance Brender and Colin Sternagel provided verbal comment in support of Rates and Charges.

#### **Written Comment**

Written Comment submitted by Audrey Cooper, Linda Sinnett, Dean O'Daffer, Colin Sternagel, and Teresa Bendito were reviewed by the board. All indicated support for Rates and Charges.

#### **Discussion:**

66 The board of supervisors discussed the pros and cons of each rate table option. Discussion  
67 included how the different funding structures would impact Cascadia programs, the importance  
68 of asking for a 10-year rate authorization, and the community needs. Option three was selected  
69 as a good compromise between the need for programs and taking into account impact on rate  
70 payers. The board also directed the Executive Director to highlight that the board stands behind  
71 the more aggressive option (4) because it meets community needs.

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73 **M/S/C Russ Truman moved and Pete Teigen seconded to adopt Resolution 2026-02 System**  
74 **of Rates and Charges for submission to the Chelan County Board of Commissioners. The**  
75 **motion passed unanimously, (5-0).**

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77 **The Special Meeting adjourned at 7:00p.m.**

CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

RECORDER \_\_\_\_\_