

**CASCADIA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING
Zoom Meeting ID: 987 6961 1557
Chelan County Fire District 1 Station Meeting Room
206 Easy Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801
Friday, April 22, 2022
9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Junell Wentz, Chair; Amy Bridges, Auditor; and Kurt Hosman, Member.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dillon Miller, Vice Chair; and Jim Bartelme, Member.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Baden, WSCC; and the following District staff: Ryan Williams, Valerie Hampton, Patrick Haggerty, and Nada Wentz. Other staff joined for the planning session: Mark Ingman, Joe Hill, Elizabeth Jackson, Alex Harwell, Amanda Newell, Kathleen Deason, and Kirk Beckendorf. Attendees were present in person and via Zoom.

Junell Wentz, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:24 a.m.

Consent Agenda: Approve the March 25, 2022 Special District Meeting minutes, approve the March Treasurer's Report and authorize payment of bills.

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

Review and Consider Grant Applications and Contracts:

Grant Applications:

Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) – Entiat Tributary Baseflow & Habitat Restoration – Resolution 2022-5;

Conservation Commission – End of Fiscal Year Funding;

Conservation Commission – Pollinator Plant List Assistance.

Grant Contracts:

Dept. of Ecology – Icicle Creek Watershed Assessments & Rat Creek BDAs – Executive Director to sign contract;

Washington Native Plant Society – Replanting Saddle Rock garden & mulching – Executive Director to sign contract;

WSCC/DNR/etc. – Authorize Executive Director and Financial Coordinator to request advances from applicable grants to cover large cost share payments for projects with near-term planned completions.

ILAs/MOUs/MOAs/Contracts:

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation – Update Cooperative Agreement to add Cultural Resources services.

Landowner Agreements/Cost-Share:

J Bourgas – Commission Natural Resources Investments cost-share agreement at 50% - \$9,300

Cost-Share/Contract Payments:

Kingfisher Forestry – Accept completion of contract and approve payment for DNR Thinning project

at Wenatchee River Institute (WRI) site.

Further discussion included the purchase of laptops and software, as well as a walk-behind Billy Goat mower to use for project maintenance. They also talked about the cost and benefits of desk phones compared to cell phones, and the security considerations for a potential move to cell phones for staff.

M/S/C Kurt moved and Amy seconded to approve the applications, contracts, and agreements as presented, as well as the project completion and payment for Kingfisher Forestry. (Unanimous)

Review and Consider Cascadia Conservation District Policies:

The group discussed a few of the details concerning the aerial drone use policy. They also briefly talked about the addition of Juneteenth as a paid holiday at both the State and Federal levels, and consideration of adding it for District staff. Further discussion regarding leave policies will be continued at the next meeting.

M/S/C Amy moved and Kurt seconded to approve the aerial drone use policy, and the addition of Juneteenth as a paid holiday beginning in 2022. (Unanimous)

Executive Director's Report:

Woods Investment Co. is in the process of selling the building. The group discussed office space options.

The Washington Association of District Employees (WADE) Conference will be in Leavenworth June 13 - 15. The District received two scholarships and several staff are interested in attending. Supervisors are invited.

The Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) Annual Meeting is held in late November early December each year. New supervisors are encouraged to attend.

Pete Teigen's supervisor election should be certified at the Conservation Commission's May meeting.

The District was approached by a person asking to be a summer volunteer. Ryan feels they would be helpful with summer maintenance of riparian projects and possibly with outreach programs. The volunteer is available on Fridays.

The Board Meeting adjourned at 10:03 AM. After a brief break, the Strategic Planning Session began.

10:26 AM – 3:30 PM Strategic Planning Session

Mike Baden facilitated the planning session. He discussed the agenda, long- range planning, and the resource categories and goals. He brought up items to keep in mind as the participants broke into sub-groups to update category titles and review the work items.

The group took a lunch break at 11:30.

Amy left the meeting at noon.

After lunch the Board Members and staff went back to their sub-groups to finish the categories assigned to them. The whole group reconvened to share their notes as Mike and Ryan documented the comments.

Ryan will look through the notes, make a rough draft including what was discussed, and share them at a staff meeting to review the updated descriptions. The draft will be further formalized and sent to the Board for their review early in May.

The Special District Meeting adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Summary of Official Actions:

Approved the Consent Agenda;

Approved the following:

Grant Applications: Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) – Entiat Tributary Baseflow & Habitat Restoration – Resolution 2022-5; Conservation Commission – End of Fiscal Year Funding; Conservation Commission – Pollinator Plant List Assistance;

Grant Contracts: Dept. of Ecology – Icicle Creek Watershed Assessments & Rat Creek BDAs – Executive Director to sign contract; Washington Native Plant Society – Replanting Saddle Rock garden & mulching – Executive Director to sign contract; WSCC/DNR/etc. – Authorize Executive Director and Financial Coordinator to request advances from applicable grants to cover large cost share payments for projects with near-term planned completions;

ILAs/MOUs/MOAs/Contracts: Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation – Update Cooperative Agreement to add Cultural Resources services;

Landowner Agreements/Cost-Share: J Bourgas – Commission Natural Resources Investments cost-share agreement at 50% - \$9,300;

Cost-Share/Contract Payments: Kingfisher Forestry – Accept completion of contract and approve payment for DNR Thinning project at Wenatchee River Institute (WRI) site;

Approved the aerial drone use policy, and the addition of Juneteenth as a paid holiday beginning in 2022.

CHAIR _____

OFFICE ASSISTANT _____