



Whidbey Island Conservation District

P.O. Box 490 – 1 NE 4th St - Coupeville, WA 98239 - 360.678.4708 – www.whidbeycd.org

Public Meeting Minutes- DRAFT February 27, 2025; 5:51 PM – 7:42 PM

1 Public Meeting

A regular meeting of the Whidbey Island Conservation District Board of Supervisors was held in person at the Coupeville Library (788 NW Alexander Street) and via Zoom.

2 Attendance and Quorum

The following Supervisors, being a quorum of the Board, were present:

David Edwards – Chair

Mark Sytsma – Vice Chair

Gary Ketcheson – Auditor

Jennifer Abermanis – Board Learning & Development Officer

Teri Jo Summer-Reiger - Supervisor

Attendees:

Heather McCoy – Executive Director

Michelle Maynard – Finance & Operations Manager

Stephanie Turco – Associate Supervisor

Penny Livingston – Candidate for WICD Supervisor

Jean Fike – WSCC

Ryan Baye – WACD

Kelsi Mottet – WICD Senior Planner

3 Call to Order, Welcome

Dave Edwards called the meeting to order at 5:51 PM. He asked the Board and guests to introduce themselves. Jennifer Abermanis led the “5 Minutes of Governance” on “Accountability: Budgeting; Long-Range Planning; Contract Approval.” Dave volunteered to lead the March topic (“State/Commission Audits”) and Stephanie Turco volunteered to lead the April topic (“Transparency: Open Public Meetings Act compliance”).

4 Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5 Minutes

- Dave presented the January 23, 2025 Board meeting minutes for approval.

Motion (1) – Jennifer Abermanis moved and Teri Jo Summer-Reiger seconded the approval of the January 2025 Board Meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed.

6 Partner Update

- Heather McCoy and Ryan Baye presented the 2024 WACD awards to Kelsi Mottet (“Professional Service Award”) and Jennifer Abermanis (“Wayne Reid ‘Young Tiger’ Award”)
- Ryan shared updates from WACD, including (1) the Shared Resource committee has helped create several new WACD resources for CDs, such as options for legal, IT and HR support; and (2) there will be a Spring Legislative Workshop in Ellensburg in April or May.
- Jean Fike shared updates from the Commission, including (1) she will be in touch soon to ask if we will need to return any SCC funds; (2) there will be no year-end funds available this year; (3) the upcoming Commission meeting will be hosted by Grays Harbor; the July (7/16-7/17) will take place in Port Townsend; (4) she will be in touch about our CAPP status throughout the spring as deadlines approach; and (5) Governor Ferguson’s latest budget recommendations were released today; the Commission continued to track the changes impacting their budget items, to date, as much as possible, they have avoided proposing cuts that would directly impact CDs.

7 Financial & Operations Report and Actions

- Financial Report – Michelle Maynard presented the January 2025 reports.

Motion (2) – Gary Ketcheson moved and Jennifer Abermanis seconded the approval of the January 2025 financial reports as presented. Motion passed.

8 Board Business & Actions

- Status of Relevant Bills: Ryan summarized key bills in review by the state legislature and their status; See WACD’s [Watch List](#) online bill tracker for details; he shared that the Rates & Charges bill (originating from a WACD Resolution) is still alive in the House
- Teri Jo gave an overview of the Floodplain by Design materials she shared with the Board, as well as some key information she learned
- Heather asked the Board for possible dates for a board mixer with directors from the Organic Farm School Board; she will recommend Friday, May 30 or Friday, June 6 for the event
- Heather requested vacation time from March 18-26.

Motion (3) – Jennifer Abermanis moved and Gary Ketcheson seconded the approval of Heather’s proposed vacation. Motion passed.

9 District Staff Report

- Status of Natural Resource Planner hiring process – Heather has narrowed the applications to a short list for interviews but will wait until April to better understand the FY2026 funding landscape before taking next steps (the applicants have been notified).
- District Staff Report – Heather answered questions related to the staff report.
- Mission in Uncertain Times – Dave revisited WICD’s mission statement and asked the Board to consider how to best fulfill our mission as we look ahead to new funding challenges

10 Meeting Adjourned at approximately 7:42 PM

11 Other, Upcoming Dates and Review of Motions

March 3-8	Plant Sale Volunteer Packing & Sale Day
March 11	Deadline to vote in our supervisor election (by 4pm)
March 18-26	Proposed vacation for Heather
March 27	WICD Regular Board Meeting

Review of Motions:

Motion (1) – Jennifer Abermanis moved and Teri Jo Summer-Reiger seconded the approval of the January 2025 Board Meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Motion (2) – Gary Ketcheson moved and Jennifer Abermanis seconded the approval of the January 2025 financial reports as presented. Motion passed.

Motion (3) – Jennifer Abermanis moved and Gary Ketcheson seconded the approval of Heather’s proposed vacation. Motion passed.