



# Whidbey Island Conservation District

P.O. Box 490 – 1 NE 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Coupeville, WA 98239 - 360.678.4708 Fax: 360.678.2271

## Public Meeting Minutes January 22, 2020; 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

### 1 Public Meeting

A regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Whidbey Island Conservation District was held at the Whidbey Island Conservation District office, 1 NE 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Coupeville, WA.

### 2 Attendance and Quorum

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

Ed Adams - Chair                      Anza Muenchow – Auditor                      Tim Keohane - Member  
Sarah Richards – Vice-Chair                      Tom Fournier – Member

#### Presenters:

Matt Zupich – WICD District Manager  
Sandy Welch – WICD Office/Fiscal Administrator  
Shannon Bly – WICD Staff  
Jared Hamman - NRCS

#### Guests:

Dave Edwards - citizen

### 3 Call to Order and Welcome

Ed Adams, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

### 4 Minutes

**Motion (1) Tim Keohane moved to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2019 board meeting as written. Motion passed.**

### 5 Financial Report and Other Business

- Sandy Welch presented the monthly Financial Report. There was a brief discussion about sales tax payments.

**Motion (2) Anza Muenchow moved to approve the Payroll, Expense, and Voucher #s 6686-6705 totaling \$27,532.87; 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr deposits to Employment Security and L&I totaling \$612.61; 2019 sales tax payment to WA Dept of Revenue totaling \$3083.74; Bank POS purchases totaling \$696.74; EFTPS monthly 941 payroll tax filing totaling \$5,341.90. Motion passed.**

- Sandy also gave an update on the current status of Plant Sale orders and upcoming dates. She reiterated her statement from last month that this year's orders are well ahead of previous years' orders.
- Sandy and Matt discussed internal preparations and activities for the upcoming supervisor election. They are keeping track of issues that have arisen during this process to help avoid the same challenges in future elections.

### 6 NRCS Report

- Jared Hamman updated the board on active EQIP contracts and applications on Whidbey indicating an apparent increase compared with last year. He also discussed collaborations between NRCS and WICD staff on a few recent site visits, Sarah Tanuvasa's expected return to her position at the Mt. Vernon Service Center, upcoming Farm Bill trainings, and NRCS's efforts to streamline their programs and services.

### 7 WACD/Legislative Days

- Sarah Richards reported on her recent trip to Olympia for WACD Legislative Days and noted King CD's current exploration of electronic voting. She encouraged her fellow board members to contact legislators to remove CDs from HB 2415 and HB 2588 due to foreseen negative impacts.

### 8 Outreach Update

- Shannon Bly updated the board on her recent outreach work including a new Instagram account for WICD and a Pollinator Pledge contest that she developed in partnership with the Xerxes Society.

### 9 District Manager Report

- Matt Zupich gave a report on behalf of Jean Fike, SCC Puget Sound Regional Manager. Josh Giuntoli, SCC Coordinator for the Office of Farmland Preservation, has been selected to take over the SW Regional Manager position once Stu Trefry retires this coming June. They will be working together over the next several months to help ease the transition.

- Matt reported on several funding opportunities that he is exploring with partners including NRCS RCPP proposals and a regional NTA with the Puget Sound CD Caucus, a Dept of Ecology Streamflow Restoration grant with Maxwellton Creek Alliance, a Beginning Farmer and Rancher grant with the Organic Farm School, a local NTA, which is funded, with Snohomish CD, WSU Extension and Sound Water Stewards.
- Matt reported that he is engaging with the Whidbey-Camano Land Trust, WSU Extension, and the Organic Farm School to better coordinate connections between farmers seeking farmland and landowners seeking farmers. They are exploring a second USDA Beginning Farmer and Rancher grant to help fund this work.
- Matt shared the concept of developing an Agriculture Resilience Plan for Whidbey based on a similar plan recently completed by Snohomish CD.

## **10 Upcoming Dates and Review of Motions**

- February 4 – WICD Elections, 2 – 6 pm, WICD office
- February 17 – Presidents’ Day Holiday, office closed
- February 19 – WICD Board meeting, 9 am – Noon, WICD office
- February 29 – WICD Plant Sale Pickup Day, Greenbank Farm
- March 18 – WICD Board meeting, 9 am – Noon, WICD office
- April 22 – WICD Board meeting, 9 am – Noon, WICD office

**Motion (1) Tim Keohane moved to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2019 board meeting as written. Motion passed. Motion (2) Anza Muenchow moved to approve the Payroll, Expense, and Voucher #s 6686-6705 totaling \$27,532.87; 4th Qtr deposits to Employment Security and L&I totaling \$612.61; 2019 sales tax payment to WA Dept of Revenue totaling \$3083.74; Bank POS purchases totaling \$696.74; EFTPS monthly 941 payroll tax filing totaling \$5,341.90. Motion passed.**

**11 Adjourned at 11:00 a.m.**