

Whidbey Island Conservation District

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Public Meeting Minutes DRAFT Nov. 25, 2014 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

1 Public Meeting

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

2 Attendance and Quorum

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

Wendi Hilborn - Chair

Sarah Richards – Vice-Chair

Tom Fournier – Auditor

Fran Einterz – Regular Member

Tim Keohane – Regular Member

Also in attendance:

Karen Bishop - District Manager

Sandy Welch – Office Administer, Treasurer

Shana Joy – WSCC Puget Sound Regional Manager and Policy Assistant (by phone)

Jared Hamman – NRCS (by phone)

Call to Order and Welcome

Wendi Hilborn, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

4 Minutes

Motion (1) Wendi Hilborn moved to approve the minutes of the Oct. 23, 2014 meeting. Motion passed.

5 Financials

Sandy Welch, Treasurer, presented the financial information. Sandy said that administrative travel and field work travel will now appear separated on the P & L, after revising some BARS codes. Financials include \$1,337.50 for 3 board supervisors and 1 staff to attend the WACD annual meeting. 2015 Dental premiums dropped about 25% and are under a 2 year contract at this rate. Medical rates increased about 5%. Supervisors asked that the budget to actual reports be run next month with cost share separated out but included in the board financials.

Motion (2) Tom Fournier moved to approve the Oct. 24 – Nov. 25, 14 P & L, voucher report including #5118 – 5140 (\$27,488.64) POS purchases (\$237.13), EFTPS for monthly 941 payroll tax (\$5,389.08), and a transfer of Farm Tour funds into a 6-month CD (\$6,833.33) all totaling \$39,928.18. Motion passed.

6 WICD Election for 2015

Sarah Richards is the elected supervisor whose term expires in 2015. Fran Einterz' appointed position is up for reappointment in 2015. Sarah expressed an interest in continuing to serve and Fran has decided not to seek reappointment.

Motion (3) Tim Keohane moved to set the Whidbey Island Conservation District election date for 2015 for February 3, 2:00 – 6:00 pm, with a poll site at the WICD conference room, 1 NE 4th St., Coupeville, WA. A mailin option will also be offered with a requirement that ballots are postmarked by February 3, 2014. Last day for ballots to be requested is January 26, 2015. The filing deadline for candidates is set for Jan 6, 2015. Motion passed.

7 NRCS Report

Jared Hamman reported that the November deadline sign-up for EQIP was light and that seasonal high tunnels were popular. There were no sign-ups from Whidbey Island. Sign-up deadlines for the 2016 program year will likely be in June or July of 2015.

8 WSCC Report – Shana Joy, WSCC Puget Regional Manager and Policy Assistant

Shana said there are 3 surveys out for WSCC to receive information on the mission statement of the commission, policies and procedures, and the CPDS system. Shana said that 4 of the 5 WICD board supervisors have completed the public meetings training. Sarah Richards reported on the progress of the WSCC communications committee.

9 District Manager Report – Karen Bishop

Karen said that letters of support for the FY15 – 17 budget submittal written to Governor Inslee are encouraged. **Motion (4) Supervisors directed Karen to draft a letter for signature by the board chair. Motion passed.** Karen reported that the Penn Cove grant was submitted for Centennial Clean Water funding for \$144,517, pledging \$48,173 in match. She said that she is working on 'islands' grant to address water resources education to school kids with Snohomish CD and San Juan CD.

Motion (5) Wendi Hilborn moved to accept the WICD_WCLT amendment of the Dugualla Heights project for extension to June 30, 2016. \$13,624 remains in this agreement. WCLT withdrew the project from WA State RCO funding and is seeking funding from USDA NRCS and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as is reflected in the amendment. Motion passed.

Karen encouraged the board to review the WACD resolutions to be prepared to vote on them at the WACD annual meeting.

10 Board Supervisor Ideas

Tim Keohane suggested that staff work on developing a program for small implement rental for farmers similar to the Kenai Soil and Water Conservation District's program. He also suggested looking into a class to assist farms with organic certification.

Tom Fournier suggested highlighting discounts for large orders of conifers on the website to encourage quantity ordering.

11 Upcoming Dates, Review of Motions, Adjourn

Thursday, December 18, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. (Board Meeting)

Action Items

Motion (1) Wendi Hilborn moved to approve the minutes of the Oct. 23, 2014 meeting. Motion passed. Motion (2) Tom Fournier moved to approve the Oct. 24 – Nov. 25, 14 P & L, voucher report including #5118 – 5140 (\$27,488.64) POS purchases (\$237.13), EFTPS for monthly 941 payroll tax (\$5,389.08), and a transfer of Farm Tour funds into a 6-month CD (\$6,833.33) all totaling \$39,928.18. Motion passed.

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Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.