



Whidbey Island Conservation District

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**Public Meeting Minutes
February 26, 2013
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 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:
Fran Einterz, Chairman
Wendi Hilborn - Vice-Chair, Auditor
Tom Fournier – Treasurer
Tim Keohane – Member
Sarah Richards - Member

Also in attendance:
Karen Bishop, District Manager
Tony Sunseri, NRCS District Conservationist
Brent Reitmeier, FSA Executive Director
Stu Trefry, WA State Conservation Commission (by phone)
Bruce Gordon – Farm Planner
Rob Hallbauer – Natural Resource Planner
- 3 Meeting Call to Order.**

Fran Einterz, board chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- 4 Minutes**

Supervisors reviewed the January 24, 2013 meeting minutes.
Motion (1) Wendi Hilborn moved to approve the January 24, 2013 regular meeting minutes. Motion passed.
- 5 Financial Report – Karen Bishop**

Karen explained that the financials are somewhat incomplete due to an emergency medical issue that came up with Sandy. Karen recommends approving the voucher report as presented so that bills can be paid. The voucher report will likely be slightly revised.
Motion (2) Tim Keohane moved to approve the voucher report dated 1/25/13 thru 2/26/13 including voucher numbers 4549 – 4572 (\$27,964.91), POS and Pay Pal (\$1320.58), EFTPS (\$5,309.26) – totaling \$34,594.75 so that the bills can be paid. Approval of the other components of the financial report will be tabled to the March meeting. Motion passed.

At the January Board meeting, electronic bill paying was discussed. Stu Trefry reported that there is legislation currently moving through the system that would allow the state auditor to prepare a process for District's to use electronic bill paying.

6 Plant Sale

Karen said the staff is dividing up duties for plant sale in Sandy's absence.

7 WSCC Report

Stu Trefry reported on the legislative session so far, particularly SB5766. Stu advised the district to pay close attention to Schedule 22 and the Good Governance checklist.

8 NRCS Report – Tony Sunseri, District Conservationist

Toni reported that there is \$300,000 in EQIP program money this year. Originally, the area allocation was \$526,000 but \$226,000 was pulled back leaving only one dairy and one forestry project funded. There were 4 applications for seasonal high tunnels and no organic initiative applications. EQIP sign-up ended Feb 15. On March 1, there will be a statewide sweep of funds. Toni said our Local Work Group meeting will be April 2 in Port Townsend.

9 FSA (Farm Service Agency) – Brent Reitmeier

Brent covers North King, Snohomish, San Juan, Skagit and Island counties. The FSA office helps landowners participate in the farm bill programs. Brent discussed the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), the DCP (Direct and Counter Cyclical Program) as well as farm storage and farm loan programs.

10 Supervisor Report – Tim Keohane

Tim said that he and Fran attended the WSCC meeting in Ellensburg which was helpful in understanding the status of the 3 Director Talk process status as well as tribal and buffer issues.

11 Staff Reports

District Manager, Karen Bishop

Karen reported on Will Stelle's (NOAA) visit to Whidbey CD which was timely in light of recent salmon habit, water quality and buffer discussions.

Karen discussed the possible PIC (Pollution Identification and Correction) funds which have come to Island County and may offer collaborative opportunities for planning and BMP implementation. Supervisors agreed that the District should explore the openness of landowners to accept conditioned money but expressed reservations in working on planning and implementation outside of the NRCS system.

Karen proposed the following schedule for the WICD annual plan development for FY2014:

April 10 – Board planning session

April 25 – Review draft budget and FY14 plan at board meeting

May 9 – WICD awards and budget presentation

May 23 – Approval of final budget and work plan/ submission to WSCC

Bruce Gordon, Farm Conservation Planner

Bruce presented a draft proposal written by Tom Slocum for a Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) project on property in the Cultus watershed.

Motion (3) Tom Fournier moved to approve submittal of the Cultus project to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. Motion passed.

Bruce presented farm conservation plan AG 2.13-5 which was written by Ken Drecksel.

Motion (4) Wendi Hilborn moved to approve farm conservation plan AG 2.13-5. Motion passed.

Rob Hallbauer, Natural Resource Planner

Rob presented three Forest Management Plans and received feedback from the Board.

Motion (5) Sarah Richards moved to approve the three Forest Management Plans including FOR 2.13-4, FOR 2.13-5, and FOR 2.13-6. Motion passed.

Rob presented the Greenbank Farm resource evaluation. The Board recommended that the solar panel complex be added as a resource. Rob will add this and release the resource evaluation to the Greenbank Farm Management Group and the Port of Coupeville.

9 Upcoming Dates and Review of motions:

March 21, 2013, 10:00 – 12:00a.m. – Board Meeting

March 27 – 28 – Legislative Days Olympia

Motions:

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Motion (2) Tim Keohane moved to approve the voucher report dated 1/25/13 thru 2/26/13 including voucher numbers 4549 – 4572 (\$27,964.91), POS and Pay Pal (\$1320.58), EFTPS (\$5,309.26) – totaling \$34,594.75 so that the bills can be paid.

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Motion (5) Sarah Richards moved to approve the three Forest Management Plans including FOR 2.13-4, FOR 2.13-5, and FOR 2.13-6. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

