



# 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

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**Public Meeting Minutes**  
**June 26, 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 – (briefly by phone from work in Alaska)

**Also in attendance:**

Karen Bishop - District Manager

Sandy Welch – Office Administer, Treasurer

Bruce Gordon – WICD Farm Planner

Jared Hamman – NRCS Soil Conservationist

**3 Call to Order and Welcome**

Wendi Hilborn, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**4 Minutes**

**Motion (1) Tom Fournier moved to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2014 meeting. Motion passed.**

**5 Financials**

Karen Bishop and Sandy Welch reported on the year end funding status. No year-end funding opportunities came forth from WSCC at the end of the fiscal year.

**Motion (2) Sarah Richards moved for the WICD Board Supervisors to express their concern about the lack of transparency by WSCC regarding the use of WSCC's total funding allocation, including those to Districts.**

**Motion (3) Tom Fournier moved to approve the May 23 – June 26, 2014 P & L, voucher report including #4985 – 5011 (32,944.55), POS purchases (\$1,793.07), EFTPS (\$5,151.22), EFTPS for 941 payroll tax totaling \$39,888.84. Motion passed.**

**Motion (4) Tom Fournier moved to accept the donation from Daryl and Claudia VanderPol for \$2,500 to be restricted, as defined by the donors," For support for use in further supporting the efforts of WICD in working with landowners and farmers in the Maxwellton Valley, as those landowners and farmers seek to comply with and respond to present and proposed regulation". Motion passed.**

**6 Office Server**

Karen explained that Richard Doyle, Island Networks, is recommending that we replace the current office server that is 5 years old and under sized for our current use.

**Motion (5) Wendi moved to support the purchase of a new served for the office, not to exceed \$1,800. Motion passed.**

**7 WSCC FY15 Grant Contracts**

**Motion (6) Fran Einterz moved to approve the WSCC Form 2 signature form for FY15, defining authorized Conservation District Signatories for WSCC documents. Motion passed.**

**8 NRCS Report – Jared Hamman**

Jared said that EQIP contracts were being prepared for signature. Under the new Farm Bill, non-profits that qualify as agricultural producers will still qualify for EQIP. Practice life spans and Technical Service Provider and Task Order opportunities were discussed.

**9 WSCC FY16/FY17 Budget Request**

Karen updated the board on the FY16/FY17 budget process whereby all of the districts will be allowed to submit their needs for funding beyond their current level of funding. Districts that are “underfunded” by WSCC as compared to other districts in the state are allowed to justify and increase up to 25%. Other districts, including WICD, can submit justification for an increase of up to 15%. In addition, districts may submit requests for additional funding based on individual district needs. Karen gave an overview of the content, based on the district’s annual and long range plans. Submittals are due to WSCC on July 10. Karen would like to assemble these and send them to the board for review and comments prior to submitting them to WSCC.

**Motion (7) Tom Fournier moved to accept the WICD FY16/FY17 WSCC funding request, with concurrence by the WICD board via E mail, prior to their submission to WSCC. Motion passed.**

**10 Cost Share Policy**

Karen asked the board to review the current cost share policy, stating that this will need to be updated and renewed for FY15. Supervisors asked Karen to integrate reference to the WSCC cost share policy and bring draft back for approval on July 24.

**11 Landowner Cost Share (Wendi Hilborn recused herself from the following discussion due to possible conflict of interest)**

**Motion (8) Sarah Richards moved to approve the Landowner Cost Share Agreement, funded by WSCC, with Diana Jordon for a waste storage facility. Motion passed.**

Karen said that Penn Cove Farms recently approached the District with concerns about the cost of a waste storage pond they will be installing as part of implementation of their farm plan. This project rated #4 in the district project ranking on Sept. 5, 2013. The Board directed Karen to check with WSCC on cost share funding availability.

**12 WACD Dues**

**Sarah Richards moved to approve the 2014 WACD Dues for payment in the amount of \$3,120. Motion passed.**

**13 Ebey’s Prairie Watershed Stormwater Pre-Design Project Agreement**

**Motion (10) Tom Fournier moved to approve the Ebey’s Prairie Watershed Stormwater Pre-Design Project Agreement with the Department of Ecology in the amount of \$53,385, effective June 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2105. Motion passed.**

**13 District Manager Report – Karen Bishop**

**Karen reported on the following items:**

- WADE – Karen and Sandy attended. Excellent training. Sandy presented “Plant Sales Online”. Karen ran administrative and financial track. Karen is Vice-President of WADE for FY15 and explained to board that her involvement will be increasing.
- Is. Co. Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas Update – Island County did not accept WICD’s public comments for the June 10 Planning Commission meeting due to their decision not to re-open the public comment period in the continued public hearing. District will be working with the Island County Commissioner’s to try and get comments integrated into the new code.
- Legislative tour in collaboration with NABC, Skagit CD and Snohomish CD – August 15
- Karen discussed Wheat Week and proposed how the district might support this program. The Board feels like district needs to engage along with Wheat Week to bring in our local farming crops, including the importance of specialty crops, for students to understand. Karen will work with the state coordinator and bring this back in July.
- Karen presented WSU’s request for financial support for installation and maintenance of a South Whidbey AgWeather Net station similar to the one in Ebey’s Prairie, which is heavily relied on by farmers and others. The proposal came to WICD from Barbara Bennett, WSU Beach Watcher Coordinator. Supervisors suggested that Karen engage Extension Director Tim Lawrence in the discussion as well as to continue to gauge the level of support from South Whidbey farmers.

**14 Upcoming Dates, Review of Motions, Adjourn**

### **Action Items**

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**Next Board meeting – Thursday, July 24, 2014 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.**

**Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.**