Public Meeting Minute January 26, 2023; 9:13 AM – 11:55 AM

1 Public Meeting

A regular meeting of the Whidbey Island Conservation District Board of Supervisors was held at the WSU Extension meeting room (406 N. Main Street, Coupeville) 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

Jessica Aws -- Supervisor

Attendees:

Stephanie Turco – Associate Supervisor

Heather McCoy – Executive Director

Jean Fike – WSCC

Robin Buckingham - NRCS

Torrey Olsen – Associate Supervisor Candidate

Michelle Maynard – Finance & Operations Manager

Allison Rinard - Community Engagement Manager

Bob Boehm – Secretary, South Whidbey Yacht Club

3 Call to Order, Welcome

Dave Edwards called the meeting to order at 9:13 AM. Dave welcomed our visitors; everyone introduced themselves.

4 Public Input and/or Comments

Bob Boehm shared that he is a representative from the South Whidbey Yacht Club. He mentioned their concern at the present poor condition of Lone Lake. Vice Chair Mark Sytsma shared a brief overview of the HABs workgroup report. E.D. Heather McCoy will follow up by sending a copy to Mr. Boehm and connecting him via email to Mark.

5 Approval of Minutes from December 21st

Motion (1) – Gary Ketcheson moved and Jennifer Abermanis seconded the approval of the minutes from the December 21st Regular Board meeting. Motion passed.

6 Partner Updates

- Jean Fike shared updates regarding the current legislative session, noting that two bill topics from last session have returned this year, including the riparian restoration program (now HB 1215) and CD elections (HB 1567 for a cost study of switching all supervisors to Title 29A elections, among other objectives). This year's Legislative Day for WACD is February 8.
- Robin Buckingham reported that the next EQIP application deadline is next week. Approximately 100 folks applied with around 80 from our region, 35 coming from Island County including a good diversity of applications from dairy to forest to small farms. He thanked Senior Planner Kelsi Mottet for her work under the NACD grant to improve involvement. He shared that NRCS riparian program is ramping up in Skagit. NRCS's WA State Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) and Local Working Group (LWG) are good places to share feedback. Heather is chair of our region's LWG this year.

7 Financial & Operations Report and Actions

Financial Report – Michelle Maynard presented and reviewed the December 2022 Financial Report.

Motion (2) –Gary Ketcheson moved and Jennifer Abermanis seconded the approval of the December 2022 Financial Report as presented. Motion passed.

• CTD Work Agreement – Heather presented the revised work agreement for Kelsi's role on the CTD Leadership Team.

Motion (3) – Jennifer Abermanis moved and Jessica Aws seconded the approval of the CTD Work Agreement as presented. Motion passed.

8 Education & Outreach

• WICD Education & Outreach Assessment – Allison Rinard presented the report including a summary of recent (2019-2022) district programming/marketing and recommendations for future work.

9 Policy Manual Report & Actions

• Governance Policies Review – Heather presented her proposed revisions for the Governance portion of our policy manual.

Motion (4) – Gary Ketcheson moved and Jennifer Abermanis seconded the approval of the Governance policies as discussed with two edits. Motion passed.

10 Board Leadership and Development

• DEI Training Reflections - Jennifer led a discussion of impressions from the first Board DEI training workshop (January 19). The second training will take place from 9am-noon on Tuesday, January 31 at the Coupeville Library.

11 Associate Supervisor Program

• Talent Categories – Mark and Jennifer led a discussion about the types of perspectives/expertise the Board may wish to find in new associate supervisors. Heather will follow up by emailing the group's initial list to encourage further brainstorming and continued conversation at the next meeting.

12 District Staff Report

- District Staff Report Heather answered questions related to her staff report.
- WICD Elections Michelle updated the Board on the recent election. Gary Ketcheson won the election and his name has been forwarded to SCC for verification in May. Michelle will follow up with Mark to ensure his forms are submitted for reappointment.
- Plant Sale Michelle gave updates on the Annual Native Plant Sale. This year's sales will exceed last year's sales.

11 Meeting Adjourned at approximately 11:55 AM

Other, Upcoming Dates and Review of Motions

January 27 Leadership Whidbey: Ecology Whidbey Day
January 31 WICD Board DEI Training with Diana Sandoval

Review of Motions:

Motion (1) – Gary Ketcheson moved and Jennifer Abermanis seconded the approval of the minutes from the December 21st Regular Board meeting. Motion passed.

Motion (2) – Gary Ketcheson moved and Jennifer Abermanis seconded the approval of the December 2022 Financial Report as presented. Motion passed.

Motion (3) – Jennifer Abermanis moved and Jessica Aws seconded the approval of the CTD Work Agreement as presented. Motion passed.

Motion (4) – Gary Ketcheson moved and Jennifer Abermanis seconded the approval of the Governance policies as discussed with two edits. Motion passed.

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