

**WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
Public Meeting Minutes  
July 11, 2013**

**I. Time and Place of Meeting.**

A regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Whatcom Conservation District (WCD) was held at the Ag Service Center, 6975 Hannegan Rd, Lynden, Washington on July 11, 2013, at 7:00 p.m.

**II. Attendance and Quorum.**

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

Joe Heller, Chair	Larry Davis, Treasurer
Larry Helm	Dick Yoder

Also in attendance were:

Dawn Bekenyi, Admin. Assistant

**III. Meeting Called to Order.**

Joe Heller, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**IV. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting.**

**Larry Helm moved that the minutes of the June 13, 2013 Board meeting be approved as mailed. Larry Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**V. Financial Report.**

The financial report was mailed to the Board with their draft minutes from the June meeting.

Dawn Bekenyi, Administrative Assistant, presented the financial report. There were no questions.

**Larry Davis moved to approve the Financial Report. Larry Helm seconded the motion. The motion passed. Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Treasurer's Report was approved.**

Accounts Payable –

A copy of District invoices and incurred expenses, as listed in the Accounts Payable Report, were reviewed and approved. The Board further authorizes the payment of District expenses incurred subject to their review and approval at the next Board meeting.

The following voucher/warrants are approved for payment:

June 2013 - balance				
Voucher (check) numbers	<u>20534</u>	through	<u>20544</u>	and totaling <u>4,065.92</u>
Payroll check numbers:	<u>20545</u>	through	<u>20558</u>	and totaling <u>28,334.79</u>
Voucher (check) numbers	<u>20559</u>	through	<u>20626</u>	and totaling <u>119,062.50</u>
July 2013				
Voucher (check) numbers	<u>20627</u>	through	<u>20645</u>	and totaling <u>22,132.30</u>
Payroll check numbers:	<u>20646</u>	through	<u>20660</u>	and totaling <u>29,708.79</u>

**Moved by Larry Davis. Larry Helm seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

## **VI. Action Items.**

### **A. Approval of Conservation Plans.**

#### CNMP Conservation Farm Plan Approval –

There is one Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) submitted for Board approval. Chris Clark sent the Board an outline of the CNMP written by Joy Hawley, NRCS, for Curt Lagerwey. A dairy farmer rents Mr. Lagerwey's facility and has a Dairy Nutrient Management Plan written by Nichole Embertson. Mr. Lagerwey is seeking approval of his CNMP to obtain the sales tax exemption afforded by Washington State in order to upgrade his current manure storage facility to meet NRCS standards.

**Larry Helm moved to approve the Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan for Curt Lagerwey. Larry Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

### **B. Approval of Contracts.**

#### Washington State Conservation Commission Grant Addendums –

At the June board meeting the Board approved and signed the master contract with the WA Conservation Commission for the current biennium. Grant Addendums showing the scope of work for the various grant programs were reviewed and approved by the Board. Funding allocations are to be determined by the WA Conservation Commission at their July meeting.

**Dick Yoder moved to approve the grant addendum scope of work as presented and authorize Joe Heller, Chair, to sign them. Larry Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

The Conservation Commission provides the provision to ask for an Initial Payment from each grant program. There was discussion about this process.

**Larry Davis moved to authorize the Chair and Treasurer to sign the Initial Payment Request Forms for Basic Allocation and the respective program Grant Addendums. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

## **VII. Other Business.**

### **A. Supervisor Reports.**

#### Larry Davis –

Larry has decided to run for the Western Region WACD Representative on the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) Board. He is hopeful that there is interest from more than one candidate for the position, as this shows a healthy process. If Larry were to be elected in December to the WSCC Board, he will not be able to continue as the Local Work Group Chair. He asked the other Board members if they would be interested in taking that over.

#### Larry Helm –

WA State Grange – Larry attended the Washington State Grange meeting. At the grange meeting there was discussion regarding GMO foods. GMO labeling was voted down by the Grant state-wide Ag Committee. They were overruled by the convention delegates, so that GMO labeling is going to be supported at the legislature by the Washington State Grange.

Rick Nelson (a well-known beef cattle operator) was elected to the Grange State Ag Committee. Larry said that all the local cattlemen know him.

Whatcom County Ag Committee – The Whatcom County Ag Committee recommended that the County Council okay small meat packing houses on ag land. There will be a public meeting regarding the issue with the County Council. Larry mentioned that the beef cattle infrastructure in Whatcom County is dwindling.

There was discussion about the process to put a slaughter house in place.

Washington Association of District Employees (WADE) – Larry attended the Supervisor track at WADE. He wishes that he could have gotten to other sessions that interested him. He suggested that the supervisor track could be shorter to allow for attending other sessions. Joe advised him that next time he could attend the other sessions, since he had already attended the Supervisor information.

Rates & Charges – There was a brief discussion regarding the rates and charges process and how to obtain one.

Joe Heller –

Joe sat in on the WS Conservation Commission budget meeting. He and George will attend the Commission meeting in Spokane.

**B. Other Business.**

Mt Baker FFA Achievement Award –

Mt. Baker High FFA Forestry Team won first place at the state Forestry Career Development Event. They went on to the national competition. This is the 7th time that they have won the state competition, each year with a different team. The Board asked if Todd Rightmire's group could give them a presentation.

**Larry Helm moved to award the Mt Baker FFA Forestry Team in recognition of their success at the state competition with a certificate and \$150. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

Employee Awards –

Larry Helm said that he spoke with Conservation Commission representatives. They told him that a pay increase could be provided to an employee that received a national, state or regional award.

Larry Davis advised that any proposed awards should be looked at as part of the rates and charges discussion and total salary in connection with the District's budget. There are three staff members that have received recognition.

It was decided that it would be helpful to ask staff what they would like to receive in way of recognition, a minimal pay increase or equipment, etc. It was also decided that this discussion should take place with the entire Board and George present.

Larry Helm and Larry Davis will meet with George to discuss proceeding with a Rates & Charge.

**VIII. Record of Board Actions.**

**13-53 Larry Helm moved that the minutes of the June 13, 2013 Board meeting be approved as mailed. Larry Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**13-54 Larry Davis moved to approve the Financial Report. Larry Helm seconded the motion. The motion passed. Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Treasurer's Report was approved.**

**13-55**

The following voucher/warrants are approved for payment:

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**Moved by Larry Davis. Larry Helm seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

- 13-56 Larry Helm moved to approve the Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan for Curt Lagerwey. Larry Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed.**
- 13-57 Dick Yoder moved to approve the grant addendum scope of work as presented and authorize Joe Heller, Chair, to sign them. Larry Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed.**
- 13-58 Larry Davis moved to authorize the Chair and Treasurer to sign the Initial Payment Request Forms for Basic Allocation and the respective program Grant Addendums. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.**
- 13-59 Larry Helm moved to award the Mt Baker FFA Forestry Team in recognition of their success at the state competition with a certificate and \$150. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**IX. Adjournment.**

**There being no further business before the meeting, Larry Davis moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

The meeting, on motion duly made, seconded and carried, adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Dated: September 5, 2013

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Dawn Bekenyi, Administrative Assistant

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_