

**WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
Public Meeting Minutes  
March 21, 2007**

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

A regular meeting of the Board of Supervisor of the Whatcom Conservation District was held at the Ag Service Center, 6975 Hannegan Rd, Lynden, Washington on March 21, 2007, at 1:00 p.m.

**II. Attendance and Quorum.**

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jerry Van Dellen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dick Yoder
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sabina Gouran	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joyce Jimerson
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ed Stone		

Also in attendance were:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	George Boggs, District Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joy Hawley, NRCS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dawn Bekenyi, Admin. Assistant		

**III. Meeting Called to Order.**

Jerry Van Dellen as Chairman of the meeting called it to order at 1:00 p.m.

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

**Dick Yoder moved that the minutes of the February 14, 2007 Board meeting be approved as mailed. Sabina Gouran seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**V. Financial Report.**

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

Dawn Bekenyi, Administrative Assistant, asked if there were any questions regarding the Financial Report.

The Plant Sale was very popular this year. There were increased pre-orders due to Whatcom County sending people our way for mitigation plants.

There was discussion regarding employee leave. Chuck and Chris have bumped into the designated caps set by the Board. George reviewed the policy and who was affected at this time. We are looking into putting the leave holdings into a CD or some other interest earning account to maximize our interest earning. Sabina requested an analysis of leave accrual.

**Dick Yoder moved to approve the Financial Report. Sabina Gouran 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:

Feb 2007 - balance				
Voucher (check) numbers	<u>14801</u>	through	<u>14814</u>	and totaling <u>7,972.46</u>
Payroll check numbers:	<u>14815</u>	through	<u>14829</u>	and totaling <u>21,510.15</u>
Voucher (check) number	<u>14830</u>			and totaling <u>15.00</u>
March 2007				
Voucher (check) numbers	<u>14831</u>	through	<u>14856</u>	and totaling <u>13,667.42</u>
Payroll check numbers:	<u>14857</u>	through	<u>14871</u>	and totaling <u>20,437.74</u>
Voucher (check) numbers	<u>14872</u>	through	<u>14888</u>	and totaling <u>14,937.00</u>

**moved by Dick Yoder. Sabina Gouran seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**VI. Action Items.**

There were no action items.

**VII. Other Business.**

**A. Supervisor Activities.**

Jerry Van Dellen –

Jerry attended the Western Dairy Conference in Reno, NV. Jerry informed the Board of some of the topics of concern discussed at the conference.

**B. George Boggs.**

Internal Audit –

It's time to do the internal audit again. Jerry and Dick agreed to be on the Committee. Dawn will contact Stu Trefry, WA Conservation Commission, and set up a time to do the internal audit.

WACD Meeting –

George attended the WACD meeting in Olympia. He discussed the budget as proposed by the Governor and House of Representatives. The Senate's proposed budget had not been released yet. The WA Conservation Commission and Conservation Districts did well this biennium. George suggested that the Board send "thank you" notes to the legislators.

North Lynden Nitrate Meeting –

George attended the WA Department of Health meeting regarding high nitrates in the drinking water north of Lynden. George reported that there were representatives from Canada and the Department of Ecology present at this meeting. Canada has been doing water quality testing on 400 wells in the aquifer for the past 15 years.

Asbestos –

George received a response from EPA regarding setting up a meeting to discuss the Asbestos issue in the Sumas River watershed. Sonya Schaller has reviewed the staff and contractor time and type of work/exposure to risk involved in maintenance. There is continued interest in CREP in the effected area. George hopes to schedule a meeting with EPA in April.

Other -- Larry Stap asked George to make a presentation on Nitrogen in the Georgia Basin/Puget Sound Airshed at the Western Dairy Association Air Quality Symposium in Las Vegas on April 26 & 27.

Operating Budget –

The proposed budget looks very good. There is \$2.5 million in livestock cost-share for the 1<sup>st</sup> year. There is a request from the livestock industries for an additional \$2.5 million. This will probably be added in the supplemental budget for next year. George discussed the additional work load this amount of cost-share could generate. Bill Bonsen's contract with NRCS is

scheduled to end April 25. George suggested that the District hire Bill on a temporary basis, 3 days a week for livestock and CREP work until the end of June.

**Dick Yoder moved to authorize George to hire Bill Bensen as a part-time, temporary employee at C1 Step 1. Sabina Gouran seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

Livestock Cost-share Policy –

The livestock cost-share policy resolution was reviewed and approved.

**Dick Yoder moved to adopt Resolution 07-1 Livestock Cost-share Policy. Sabina Gouran seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

Reschedule April Board meeting –

George will be out of town at a training conference on April 11. The Board rescheduled the April Board meeting to April 18 at 1:00 pm following the FSA County Committee.

**C. Joy Hawley, NRCS.**

April 25<sup>th</sup> is Bill Bensen's last day. NRCS is looking to extend his contract. Joy reported that the NRCS has a lot of design work that needs to be done.

**D. Annual Plan of Work.**

Staff met earlier in the month to discuss the Annual Plan of Work needs. George reviewed the livestock technical assistance and cost-share needs. The District needs a Memorandum of Agreement with Whatcom County. Whatcom County needs to be proactive with landowners. The District will continue to do workshops and dispense materials like the Tips Booklet.

The Public Education Program will support the message. The District will offer services to advocate better water quality management, including coordination with Whatcom County Health to do some septic tank education.

**VIII. Record of Board Actions.**

**07-14 Dick Yoder moved that the minutes of the February 14, 2007 Board meeting be approved as mailed. Sabina Gouran seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**07-15 Dick Yoder moved to approve the Financial Report. Sabina Gouran seconded the motion. The motion passed. Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Treasurer's Report was approved.**

**07-16**

The following voucher/warrants are approved for payment:

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**moved by Dick Yoder. Sabina Gouran seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**07-17 Dick Yoder moved to authorize George to hire Bill Bensen as a part-time, temporary employee at C1 Step 1. Sabina Gouran seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**07-18 Dick Yoder moved to adopt Resolution 07-1 Livestock Cost-share Policy. Sabina Gouran seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**IX. Adjournment.**

**There being no further business before the meeting, Sabina Gouran moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:53 p.m. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

The meeting on motion duly made, seconded and carried, adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Dated: April 23, 2007

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Dawn Bekenyi, Administrative Assistant

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