

**WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Public Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2005**

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 November, 10, 2006, at 12:00 p.m.

II. Attendance and Quorum.

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	Jerry Van Dellen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cornelius Timmermans
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rod Visser	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joyce Jimerson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dick Yoder		

Also in attendance were:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	George Boggs, District Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Gillies, NRCS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dawn Bekenyi, Admin. Assistant		Robert Barker, Associate Supervisor
	Bas Scholten, Associate Supervisor		Chris Clark, Resource Specialist
	Chuck Timblin, Resource Specialist		

III. Meeting Called to Order.

Rod Visser acting as Chairman of the meeting called it to order at 12:08 p.m.

IV. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting.

Joyce Jimerson moved that the minutes of the October 13, 2005 Board meeting be approved as mailed. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.

V. Financial Report.

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

Dawn Bekenyi, Administrative Assistant, briefly reviewed the financial report.

Dick Yoder moved to approve the Financial Report. Joyce Jimerson 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:

Oct 2005 - balance					
Voucher (check) numbers	<u>13567</u>	through	<u>13617</u>	and totaling	<u>77,262.96</u>
Payroll check numbers:	<u>13618</u>	through	<u>13631</u>	and totaling	<u>19,162.50</u>
November 2005					

Voucher (check) numbers 13632 through 13640 and totaling 4,333.97
Payroll check numbers: 13641 through 13654 and totaling 19,250.01
moved by Joyce Jimerson. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.

NACD Dues –

NACD annual dues were discussed. NACD suggests the dues structure based on your District budget not to exceed \$1,200. The District paid \$1,000 for dues in 2005 based on our budget.

Joyce Jimerson moved to pay \$1,000 for 2006 NACD Annual Dues. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.

VI. Action Items.

A. Approval of Contracts.

CREP Cultural Resources Assessments –

There is one CREP applicant that needs to have cultural resource assessments done on their proposed project. The District sends out requests for bids to a list of certified archeologists. From those that respond the District selects the lowest bidder. The District enters into an agreement for the cultural resource assessment with the contractor. One contract for the project was presented to the Board for approval.

Dick Yoder moved to approve the Cultural Resource Assessment contract with Drayton Archeological Research LLC (Garth Baldwin) for the Oliver Schantz CREP project in the amount of \$3,795.53. Joyce Jimerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Livestock Cost-share –

There is one application for Livestock Cost-share this month. Lenssen Dairy is applying for cost-share funds to help install a storage pond. Chris reviewed the application. The current cost-share limit for dairies is \$10,000. Dick Yoder expressed disagreement regarding such a low cost-share limit for such a costly practice (\$75,000) with such valuable environmental benefit.

Joyce Jimerson moved to approve the Livestock cost-share application for Lenssen Dairy in the amount of \$10,000. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. District Supervisor Election.

The District received notice from the WA Conservation Commission that Rod Visser's elected position and Cornie Timmermans' appointed position are expiring in March 2006. Under the election guidelines set out in RCW 89.08, an election resolution setting the date of the election needs to be completed by December 31. The 2006 District Election is scheduled for Tuesday, March 7, 2006 from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm at the District office, 6975 Hannegan Road, Lynden, WA.

Joyce Jimerson moved approve Resolution 05-1 (Notice of Election Date) to schedule the District Supervisor Election on March 7, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the District office. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.

VII. Other Business.

A. Supervisor Activities.

WACD Convention –

There was discussion regarding the WACD resolutions to be handled at the annual convention. Bob Barker was concerned that Resolution #25 would be very restrictive to the resolution process.

Dick Yoder moved to give Bob Barker, Associate Supervisor, a proxy vote from the Whatcom Conservation District Board at the WACD Annual Convention. Joyce Jimerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

There was discussion regarding the resolutions. The Board will review resolutions and give input to Joyce and Bob on voting at the WACD Convention.

B. George Boggs.

Lagoon levels –

The Department of Ag was checking on lagoon levels during their farm inspections. They inspected 118 farms and found several of lagoons were not where they should be before onset of winter rains. Subsequent status reviews by district staff suggested that the problem had not been resolved appropriately. George reviewed the District's current policy with regards to referrals. Specifically, district staff is not to make a referral to WSDA or WDOE if the observation of a discharge was made when on the farm at the invitation of the operator or for the purpose of conducting a status review. Non-compliance with a state cost share agreement would be brought to the attention of the District Board for action. NRCS would similarly act on its own contracts. He suggested the District apprise the Dairy Federation of potential problems.

District Email –

George explained that NRCS has done some network changes. They will no longer let the District have an independent port on their system. George presented two alternatives to the Board regarding District email, networking and internet access. 1. The District could remain independent by installing cable by Comcast. 2. Surrender control of District computers and network and join NRCS. This would require purchasing several computers to be compatible with the NRCS system. Some of the Districts older computers would not work on the NRCS network.

Cornie Timmermans moved to authorize the George purchase equipment to maintain an effective network. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Beaver –

Due to changes in trapping laws and lower market for pelts there are more beaver which impacts our riparian projects. George drafted a letter to the WA Conservation Commission Chair, Salmon Recovery Board Chair and the Shared Strategy for Puget Sound President seeking their attention to the beaver problem and the beaver impact on riparian rehabilitation efforts.

Cornie Timmermans moved to send the letter regarding the beaver problem to the Agency Chairs. Joyce Jimerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Livestock Funding proposal –

George discussed the potential Livestock Grant funding proposal and the changes in dividing up the money. He suggested that the District write a letter to producers and stakeholders regarding the limited funds and the apparent shift in program funding. There is concern regarding the mistaken impression by legislators that the problems with the Dairy industry are solved. The issues have changed and evolved. The District needs to look at the future of programs.

Avian Flu –

There is a tabletop meeting scheduled for November 30, 2005 at Semiahmoo at 8:00 am. George will be flying back from the WACD Convention to attend the Avian Flu tabletop meeting. Cornie Timmermans and Dick Yoder expressed a desire to attend.

C. John Gillies.

Bill Bosen is retiring from NRCS at the end of the month. The retirement dinner is scheduled for December 8th at the Lynden Community Center.

EQIP –

Bob Barker and John attended the EQIP local work group. There are not many changes from last year's ranking form. The group gave a few more points to people that needs liquid storage this year. 20% of the funding will go to Forestry and a percentage of the funds will go to Island County. The remaining funds will be for projects in all the Counties in the work cluster.

D. George Boggs.

Pioneers in Conservation Grant –

The District received a \$29,000 Pioneers in Conservation grant from Shared Strategy for the California Creek Riparian Rehabilitation Project. The Nooksack Recovery Team (NRT) will give the District recognition for receiving this grant at the Salmon Summit.

North County –

George went to Victoria, BC to attend a meeting to connect on the North County drainage issues with our Canadian partners. He had breakfast with the minister and discussed this issue. There was also a North County drainage landowner meeting. Fourteen miles of ditches were cleaned this summer. The group will meet again to discuss hydrology.

Other meetings –

George also attended the Air Quality Subcommittee meeting in Canada. Diesel fuel is a big problem, especially cruise ships that use cheap diesel high in sulfur.

George also attended training on employee manuals and wetlands. There was discussion regarding mitigation banking of wetlands.

VIII. Record of Board Actions.

05-83 Joyce Jimerson moved that the minutes of the October 13, 2005 Board meeting be approved as mailed. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.

05-84 Dick Yoder moved to approve the Financial Report. Joyce Jimerson seconded the motion. The motion passed. Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Treasurer's Report was approved.

05-85

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05-86 Joyce Jimerson moved to pay \$1,000 for 2006 NACD Annual Dues. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.

05-87 Dick Yoder moved to approve the Cultural Resource Assessment contract with Drayton Archeological Research LLC (Garth Baldwin) for the Oliver Schantz CREP project in the amount of \$3,795.53. Joyce Jimerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

05-88 Joyce Jimerson moved to approve the Livestock cost-share application for Lenssen Dairy in the amount of \$10,000. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- 05-89 Joyce Jimerson moved approve Resolution 05-1 (Notice of Election Date) to schedule the District Supervisor Election on March 7, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the District office. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.**
- 05-90 Dick Yoder moved to give Bob Barker, Associate Supervisor, a proxy vote from the Whatcom Conservation District Board at the WACD Annual Convention. Joyce Jimerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.**
- 05-91 Cornie Timmermans moved to authorize the George purchase equipment to maintain an effective network. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.**
- 05-92 Cornie Timmermans moved to send the letter regarding the beaver problem to the Agency Chairs. Joyce Jimerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

IX. Adjournment.

There being no further business before the meeting, Cornie Timmermans moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:39 p.m. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting on motion duly made, seconded and carried, adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

Dated: January 18, 2006

Dawn Bekenyi, Administrative Assistant