

**WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Public Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2004**

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 October 14, 2004, at 12:00 p.m.

II. Attendance and Quorum.

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Barker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jerry Van Dellen
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rod Visser	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cornelius Timmermans
<input type="checkbox"/>	Randy Kinley		

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		

III. Meeting Called to Order.

Robert Barker as Chairman of the meeting called it to order at 12:30 p.m.

IV. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting.

Cornie Timmermans moved that the minutes of the September 9, 2004 Board meeting be approved as mailed. Jerry Van Dellen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

V. Financial Report.

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

Dawn Bekenyi, Administrative Assistant, asked if there were any questions regarding the Financial Report. There were none.

Jerry Van Dellen moved to approve the Financial Report. Cornie Timmermans 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:

Sept 2004 - balance					
Voucher (check) numbers	<u>12527</u>	through	<u>12541</u>	and totaling	<u>12,477.20</u>
Payroll check numbers:	<u>12542</u>	through	<u>12555</u>	and totaling	<u>18,341.19</u>
October 2004					
Voucher (check) numbers	<u>12556</u>	through	<u>12576</u>	and totaling	<u>5,225.95</u>

Payroll check numbers: 12577 through 12591 and totaling 18,536.06
 Voucher (check) numbers 12592 through 12594 and totaling 660.38
moved by Jerry Van Dellen. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

VI. Action Items.

A. Dairy.

Jerry Van Dellen moved to approve the Drew Dickinson Dairy Nutrient Farm plan reviewed and submitted for Board approval. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. Approval of CREP Contracts.

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) is the administrative lead on the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) joint program. The FSA County Committee approves all contracts. The current policy is that once FSA approves the Federal Contract and CREP Plan, George can sign for the District. The contract is then brought to the Board meeting for ratification. As a matter of course, the District has several CREP contracts to approve.

Cornie Timmermans moved to ratify the list of CREP contracts. Jerry Van Dellen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Contract No.	First Name	Last Name
02-04-CR02:03-124	Rick	Faber
04-04-CR02:04-08	Dennis & Karen	Espeland
04-04-CR02:04-10	Ken	Van Rooyen
04-04-CR02:04-15	Paul and Sue	Brass
04-04-CR02:04-16	Mike and Linda	Swanson
04-04-CR02:04-18	Steve Shropshire	Sticky Hooks LLC
04-04-CR02:04-24	Lynn	Van Wieringen (Purchased Bert Wight Project)

VII. Other Business.

A. Jerry Van Dellen.

Jerry reported on the Surface Mining Advisory Committee meetings. The committee may be ready to present their gravel reserves report to the County Council next month. Jerry reported that progress was slow in this process. The committee is trying to figure out the gravel reserves in Whatcom County. This is a difficult task. There appears to be enough gravel, just not enough gravel pits.

B. Shellfish Stakeholders WQ Meeting.

John attended the Shellfish Stakeholders meeting. The meeting focused on water quality issues. The numbers were high in the upper watershed (Deming) and Fishtrap Creek. Fishtrap Creek has numbers persistently near or above TMDL goals. The Board reviewed a graph showing the geometric mean in Fishtrap Creek showing this. There was discussion regarding water quality and how rainfall events should be captured. Again it was pointed out that ag and all of the other water quality factors should be looked at. There is also a need to look at flow data and how that affects the concentration.

The Board wished to write a letter to Merle Jefferson, Lummi Nation, supporting the continuation of water quality testing in the County. The letter will also encourage the Tribe to seek funding to make additional investigation to determine potential pollution sources. The letter will encourage Merle to consider that other water quality data indicates that other sources must be addressed to achieve success.

C. George Boggs.

WACD Convention –

George informed that Board that the Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) annual convention was scheduled for November 28 – December 1, 2004 in Tacoma. Harlan Kredit was nominated for state Teacher of the Year and won. He will be presented with an award at Monday's award luncheon. The Board decided to pay for Harlan's expenses to attend the meeting.

Jerry Van Dellen moved that the District send Harlan Kredit to the WACD Convention paying for his mileage, substitute and other expenses to enable Mr. Kredit to attend. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

George also mentioned that WACD was seeking sponsors for the head tables at the convention this year. The Board agreed to sponsor the head table at the Awards luncheon for \$100.

Livestock –

George suggested that the District may wish to convene a meeting of all the agencies regarding potential manure application outside of plans due to extraordinary weather events.

The District received additional funds from the Commission for AFO/CAFO. The District has been invited to participate on the team to formulate the AFO/CAFO Education and Outreach program. Chuck is our lead on the committee.

George reported on the two non-point conventions at which he gave presentations in Maryland and Idaho.

CREP –

Wayne Chaudiere printed out a document showing the CREP maintenance cap comparison for all of the CREP projects in Whatcom County. George reported that Whatcom County has the most contracts approved in the state (35%) for this fiscal year.

Financials –

Staff are currently writing three Department of Ecology Centennial Clean Water Fund grant proposals.

George suggested that the Board form a committee of two to review the salary scale, benefits and employee policy. Bob agreed to be on the committee. The other supervisors were going to check their schedules before determining who was going to be the other participant.

CRM Tour –

The Coordinated Resource Management Tour went well. There was a good turn out. We received a great deal of positive feedback from those in attendance.

CAO –

George attended the Critical Areas Ordinance public meeting in Lynden. The County did not have a draft to be reviewed and the document is supposed to be adopted in December. The farmers in attendance felt they should see a draft prior to commenting on the adoption of the CAO.

Ag Innovations Center –

The last farm bill funded 10 Ag Innovations Centers. All were located on the Eastern part of the Nation. Craig McConnell and Henry Bierlink were working to bring one to Western Washington. Ideally, it would be located at the Mt. Vernon WSU Research Station. It would help farmers develop new markets for their products.

Ag Forestry –

George suggested that the Board may wish to consider Chris Clark for the program. Henry Bierlink went through the program when he was employed by the District. The Board asked to see the cost benefits of sending an employee through the program. Dawn and George will review the terms the District agreed to for Henry and report back to the Board.

District Election –

Jerry Van Dellen’s position is up for reelection in March 2005. Bob Barker’s appointed position will also expire in March 2005. It is time to set the District Supervisor election for 2005.

Jerry Van Dellen moved to schedule the District Supervisor Election on March 8, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Long Range Plan –

The long range planning forms were passed out for review.

D. John Gillies.

EQIP – John reviewed the cost list for this year’s EQIP program. The Board concurred with the list.

Jerry Van Dellen moved to approve the EQIP cost list. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

WC Watershed Plan – John and Bill Bonsen provided some information on drainage depths to Utah State University for the WRIA 1 planning process.

Ostroms Mushrooms – There was an odor complaint against Ostrom’s. NRCS developed a constructed wetland to address their wash water runoff.

VIII. Record of Board Actions.

04-64 Cornie Timmermans moved that the minutes of the September 9, 2004 Board meeting be approved as mailed. Jerry Van Dellen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

04-65 Jerry Van Dellen moved to approve the Financial Report. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed. Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Treasurer’s Report was approved.

04-66

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Voucher (check) numbers	<u>12592</u>	through	<u>12594</u>	and totaling	<u>660.38</u>

moved by Jerry Van Dellen. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

04-67 Jerry Van Dellen moved to approve the Drew Dickinson Dairy Nutrient Farm plan reviewed and submitted for Board approval. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

04-68 Cornie Timmermans moved to ratify the list of CREP contracts. Jerry Van Dellen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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04-69 Jerry Van Dellen moved that the District send Harlan Kredit to the WACD Convention paying for his mileage, substitute and other expenses to enable Mr. Kredit to attend. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

04-70 Jerry Van Dellen moved to schedule the District Supervisor Election on March 8, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

04-71 Jerry Van Dellen moved to approve the EQIP cost list. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

IX. Adjournment.

There being no further business before the meeting, Jerry Van Dellen moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:08 p.m. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting on motion duly made, seconded and carried, adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

Dated: November 19, 2004

Dawn Bekenyi, Administrative Assistant