

Clerk of the Board

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BOARD MEMBERS

Heather Christianson, Chair

Suzzi Snyder, Vice-chair

Larry Davis, Secretary-Treasurer

Alan Chapman

Valeri Wade

WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD AGENDA
FOR AUGUST 26, 2019

MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY WHO REQUIRE
SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR
MEETINGS ARE ASKED TO CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT
LEAST 96 HOURS IN ADVANCE

AS A COURTESY TO ALL MEETING ATTENDEES
CELLULAR PHONE USE IS PROHIBITED IN
THE CONFERENCE ROOM

ACCESSIBLE PARKING IS AVAILABLE NEAR
EITHER THE EAST OR WEST ENTRANCES

PLEASE VISIT US AT WWW.WHATCOMCD.ORG FOR THE FOLLOWING:
MINUTES TO PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS
ANNUAL PLANS AND LONG-RANGE PROGRAMS OF WORK
POLICIES, CONSERVATION PROGRAM INFORMATION & RESOURCES

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2019

BOARD AGENDA

REGULAR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

9:00 a.m. Monday, August 26, 2019

Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Audience members who wish to address the council during a public hearing are asked to sign up at the back of the room before the meeting begins. The district chair will ask those who have signed up to come to the front of the room. Each speaker should state his or her name for the record and will be given three minutes to address the board. Staff will keep track of time limits and inform speakers when they have thirty seconds left to conclude their comments. When a large group of individuals supports the same position on an issue, we encourage the selection of one or two representatives to speak on behalf of the entire group. (Public comment applies to the items listed below)

None

OPEN SESSION

During open session, audience members can speak to the board on any issue not scheduled for public hearing. Each speaker should state his or her name for the record and will be given three minutes to address the board. Staff will keep track of time limits and inform speakers when they have thirty seconds left to conclude their comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items under this section of the agenda may be considered in a single motion. Supervisors have received and studied background material on all items. Committee review has taken place on these items, as indicated. Any member of the public, administrative staff, or board may ask that an item be considered separately.

- 1. Request approval of Minutes from May 28, 2019 meeting of the board. [See here.](#)**
- 2. Request approval of May Financial Reports. [YTD Acct Balances](#) [Acct Transactions](#)**
- 3. Request ratification of May Accounts Paid. [Check Register.](#)**
- 4. Request authorization for the District Chair to enter into standard form CREP State Reimbursement Contracts with the following landowners: [NONE]** [Supporting information confidential under Section 1619 of the Food, Conservation, & Energy Act of 2008]
- 5. Request authorization for the District Chair to sign as approving Moderate Farm Plan or Dairy Nutrient Management Plan for [NONE].**
- 6. Request approval of FA (Financial Assistance) project ranking for Natural Resource Investments (NRI) and Shellfish funding pools.** Previously, the Board approved the ranking of a list of projects. Staff dutifully entered these into the CPDS (Conservation Practice Data System) that it uses for making funding decisions. The District received funding awards for 14 projects totaling \$725,517 from Shellfish funds and 2 projects totaling \$125,000 from NRI funds. The list of projects selected by SCC (State Conservation Commission) for shellfish funding does not reflect this Board's

previous prioritization. After consultation, SCC staff are willing to reconsider the order of awards if the Board submits a prioritized list. Staff met with Board member Chapman and confirmed the prioritization. Here is the link to the two lists.

7. **Request authorization for the District Chair to enter into agreement with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to extend the activities of the current RCPP (Resource Conservation Partnership Program) contract for five years.** In 2016 the district received a grant from NRCS in the amount of \$1,080,000 for removing fish passage barriers and installing engineered log jam. It expires in October 2021. All the (FA) financial assistance was obligated. Because of Frank's success in getting projects on the ground, this past month NRCS contributed another \$700,000 in FA to the current agreement. Most recently NRCS invited the district to resubmit the application on the same terms. It will extend for another five years. Frank confirmed with the Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife that they wanted to continue its partnership in providing designs. He is completing the re-submittal application. [Here is a link](#) to the current agreement. [Here is a link](#) to pictures of completed projects.

OTHER ITEMS

1. **Approval of Hoekstra dba Tri-County Dead Stock Clean Air project and letters of support to SCC and Whatcom County.** (5 min) This facility is important for to economic viability of livestock operations in Whatcom, Skagit and Snohomish Counties and to protect water quality. For it to continue, it needs TA and FA to install an NRCS practice to improve air quality (reduce/abate odor) lest it lose its conditional permit (hearing soon). Staff urge the Board to elevate this project to the top of the list of NRI projects, write letters of support for this operation as it adopts a higher level of conservation stewardship and its continuance will ripple benefits through the livestock industry. [Here is the link](#).
2. **Request to Support Geographic Name Change.** (5 min) At the last Board meeting Larry shared that the Nooksack Tribe of Indians proposed that Squaw Creek be renamed to its historic name "Paatstel Creek". [See link here](#). Whatcom County expressed support and asked that this District consider joining in support. Staff was directed to see if there was any opposition from Lummi. None was found.
3. **Smartsheet implementation progress report.** (5 min) Support was given for Staff to develop a web-based tools for the Board to better function and monitor the executive director's performance in achieving the results that the Board expects. To date staff created a form that automated recommendations for agenda items; and developing a Staff dashboard to facilitate the timely sharing of information, ready access to templates and guidance and organize and streamline internal processes ([see link here](#)) ; grant/contract reports are being developed and once implemented will automatically update the Board dashboard ([see link here](#)).
4. **"Policy Governance Model" Report/Discussion.** (20 min) Larry and George met with the Superintendent for the Bellingham Public Schools. It has been utilizing this method of governance for about 10 years. Larry will report on the meeting and how it is germane to the Board's exploration of a better organizational structure. Alan would like to introduce "Toward the identification of Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Timely outcomes that will support the conservation of water and soil resources as critical Ecological Goods and Services essential to the human health and welfare of the citizens of Whatcom County and a strategic approach to accomplishing them" as an activity that the Board should pursue. This will perhaps serve as a case study for comparing the models. [Here is a link](#) to Alan's proposal and background materials.

5. **Whatcom CD Area Resolutions** [Here is a link](#) to background materials.
 - a. **Supervisor Elections.** (20 min)
 - b. **WACD .** (20 min)

INTRODUCTION ITEMS

Board action will not be taken. The Board may accept these items for introduction (no action) in a single motion. Changes, in terms of committee assignment for example, may be made at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS AND BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

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