

**WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
Public Meeting Minutes  
August 8, 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 August 8, 2007, at 12:15 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joyce Jimerson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ed Stone		

Also in attendance were:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	George Boggs, District Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alex Hall, NRCS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dawn Bekenyi, Admin. Assistant		Robert Barker, Associate Supervisor
	Chuck Timblin, WCD		Sonya Schaller, WCD
	Dan Burwell, RH2		

**III. Meeting Called to Order.**

Jerry Van Dellen as Chairman of the meeting called it to order at 12:15 p.m.

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

**Sabina Gouran moved that the minutes of the July 11, 2007 Board meeting and July 23, 2007 Special Meeting be approved as mailed. Joyce Jimerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**V. Financial Report.**

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

Dawn Bekenyi, Administrative Assistant, asked if there were any questions regarding the Financial Report. There were no questions.

**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:

July 2007 - balance  
Voucher (check) numbers 15175 through 15243 and totaling 85,948.11

Payroll check numbers: 15244 through 15257 and totaling 22,193.01  
Voucher (check) numbers 15258 through 15278 and totaling 31,388.74  
Payroll check numbers: 15279 through 15292 and totaling 22,095.18  
**moved by Dick Yoder. Sabina Gouran seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

## **VI. Action Items.**

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

Two dairy nutrient management plans were submitted for Board certification.

**Ed Stone moved to certify the Dairy Nutrient Farm plans for Scott Plagerman and Snook Brook Farm (Seth Snook) reviewed by staff and recommended for Board approval. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed**

### **B. Approval of Livestock Cost-share Application.**

There is one producer that is requesting livestock cost-share. Chuck Timblin reviewed the applicant and the practices to be installed. Bill Bonsen completed the cost estimate.

**Sabina Gouran moved to approve Livestock Cost-share contract with Tim Vander Veen at 75% of actual costs not to exceed \$6,078.30 subject to availability of funds. Joyce Jimerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

### **C. Approval of Inter-local Agreement with Whatcom County.**

The District has a grant from the Department of Ecology to work with Drainage Improvement Districts regarding environmentally friendly maintenance practices. An inter-local agreement with Whatcom County was prepared to provide match for the DID grant.

**Dick Yoder moved to approve and sign the Inter-local Agreement with Whatcom County for match for the DID Education grant. Sabina Gouran seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

### **D. Whorly CREP Maintenance.**

Mr. Whorly wrote a letter requesting reimbursement for maintenance that he performed on his CREP project. Sonya reported that the District determined that the project did not now require maintenance. The tree tubes had been pulled and maintenance was stopped after three years because the native trees and shrubs had been established to NRCS specification after 3 years. A post card was sent to the landowner informing him that the CREP project did not require any more maintenance and that it had been certified as meeting specification. The observation was made that Mr. Whorly wants his land to be very tidy. There was discussion regarding documenting completion of CREP projects.

**Dick Yoder moved that a letter be written to Mr. Whorly declining to pay for any additional maintenance on his CREP project, as the project has met the Conservation District's expected outcome. Ed Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

Mr. Whorly will also be informed of his option to appeal this decision to the Washington State Conservation Commission.

### **E. WACD Dues.**

The District received a notice stating that our annual Washington Association of Conservation Districts dues for 2007 are \$3,800 with \$10 for each Associate Supervisor. This is down a little from last year.

**Sabina Gouran moved to authorize payment of the WACD annual dues in the amount of \$3,810. Joyce Jimerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**F. WWU Work Study.**

College interns through the Work Study program are available through Western Washington University. WWU does not have summer work study. It is time to do the paperwork for the upcoming year.

**Joyce Jimerson moved to complete the paperwork for a work study intern from Western Washington University. Sabina Gouran seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

George suggested hiring an intern would be based upon the District's budget.

**G. Verizon.**

Dan Burwell, RH2 engineer, discussed what Verizon did. Verizon was installing a 2 inch conduit to install phone services to the back properties. They did not survey prior to installation. The work was clearly done on District property and not in the "right-of-way." Dan explained the concern of items that were left in the ground and the potential damage to the District's service lines. The proposed remedy is to excavate the access pits to see what is going on under the blacktop. Remove the conduit from our property and restore the property.

George gave an update on the correspondence with Verizon regarding repairs and restitution. George recommended that the District bid the job and continue the conversation with Verizon. The window to do the work is narrowing and it is hoped that the repairs can be done prior to October 1, 2007. The Board directed George to get bids for the repairs.

**VII. Other Business.**

**A. Monthly Board Meeting Day and Time.**

The Board changed the Board Meeting day and time to the seconded Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

**B. Supervisor Report.**

Robert Barker –

George and Bob attended the joint meeting with the WA Conservation Commission and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). Frank Corey gave a presentation at this meeting regarding the difficulty of getting permits. There is a need to have legislative language altered to get permits through faster.

**C. George Boggs.**

Ed & Michelle Stone –

Steve Seymour, WDFW, met with George, Frank and Ed out at the Stone's property. Steve felt that lowering the water level any more than a few inches could compromise on the wetland on the Stone's property. So far, the water has been lowered about 16 inches on the Thomas property.

Steve, Frank and George next visited the Thomas property. Drainage has improved. However there are some low-lying areas that were too wet to plow. The Thomas expressed the desire that the water be lowered by another foot or two. They are also concerned about higher water flows in the winter.

The challenge is to get the two landowners to agree on the water level. It is not recommended that the District install beaver deceivers unless that agreement is reduced to writing. Jerry suggested that the water could be lower in the summer and higher in the winter. George said that would take a different structure, but may be something that could be looked at.

EQIP –

The EQIP local workgroup meeting is scheduled for August 31 in Coupeville from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Eligible practices will be chosen for the upcoming EQIP.

Meetings –

Verizon representatives asked to attend the September Board meeting.  
NW Area Meeting is scheduled for October 17, 2007 in San Juan CD.

**D. Alex Hall, NRCS.**

EQIP –

Alex has started working on finalizing the 2008 EQIP cost list. The cost list will be based on an average costs for all practices. This is a nationwide directive. NRCS is doing status reviews on EQIP projects. They are trying to bring the EQIP contracts up to date.

Conservation Planning –

Alex attended the Conservation Planning workshop. Chris, Chuck and Sonya also attended. This workshop is required to become a certified planner within the state.

Staff –

It appears that NRCS will fill a few positions in the NW team. This would make Joy's position permanent.

Alex met with John Gillies to get some history on Whatcom County.

Alex is looking at EQIP and CREP projects on the ground in Whatcom County.

**VIII. Record of Board Actions.**

**07-63 Sabina Gouran moved that the minutes of the July 11, 2007 Board meeting and July 23, 2007 Special Meeting be approved as mailed. Joyce Jimerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**07-64 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.**

**07-65**

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

**07-66 Ed Stone moved to certify the Dairy Nutrient Farm plans for Scott Plagerman and Snook Brook Farm (Seth Snook) reviewed by staff and recommended for Board approval. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed**

**07-67 Sabina Gouran moved to approve Livestock Cost-share contract with Tim Vander Veen at 75% of actual costs not to exceed \$6,078.30 subject to availability of funds. Joyce Jimerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

- 07-68 Dick Yoder moved to approve and sign the Inter-local Agreement with Whatcom County for match for the DID Education grant. Sabina Gouran seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- 07-69 Dick Yoder moved that a letter be written to Mr. Whorly declining to pay for any additional maintenance on his CREP project, as the project has met the Conservation District's expected outcome. Ed Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- 07-70 Sabina Gouran moved to authorize payment of the WACD annual dues in the amount of \$3,810. Joyce Jimerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- 07-71 Joyce Jimerson moved to complete the paperwork for a work study intern from Western Washington University. 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 2:06 p.m. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting on motion duly made, seconded and carried, adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

Dated: September 13, 2007

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

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Dawn Bekenyi, Administrative Assistant