

**WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Board of Supervisor Regular Meeting**

1:00 PM
March 7, 2019

MINUTES

Conference Room
6975 Hannegan Rd

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT

Board Members

Larry Davis, Chair
Heather Christianson, Vice-Chair
Suzzi Snyder, Treasurer
Theresa Sygitowicz
Alan Chapman

Administrative Staff

George Boggs, Executive Director
Dawn Bekenyi, District Auditor

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 1. **Public Comment at Board Meetings Policy.** No comments from the public. Discussion regarding limiting public comments beyond the public hearings session of the meeting. Public Hearing and Open Session two sections of the public meeting.

LD Question if there is a need for the public comment policy.

Theresa Sygitowicz moved to approve the Public Comment at Board Meetings Policy. No second. Motion fails for lack of a second.

- 2. **Presentation from Lynden FFA Ag Issues Team.** Topic - Will Farming Survive.
- 3. **Consent Agenda Policy.**

TS wants to make sure that no contracts are not approved by the Board, CREP maintenance contracts or contract extensions. They should be approved by name by the Board. Not in a group approval.

The items in the consent agenda would be included in the packet. Could be pulled out for discussion, if necessary.

LD CREP maintenance contracts are purely ministerial. FSA approves the contracts. If Board doesn't approve, it would go to the Commission for approval. Nothing to decide.

All new programs/contracts would not be on the consent agenda.

Alan Chapman moves to approve Consent Agenda Policy were 6 is 4, renumber. Motion seconded by Heather Christianson. Passed. (4-1) TS

OPEN SESSION (In person or written)

CONSENT AGENDA

It WAS MOVED BY CHAPMAN AND SECONDED BY CHRISTIANSON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 1, 2, 3, MOTION PASSED (5-0).

1. Request approval of Minutes from January 17, 2019 meeting of the board.
2. Request approval of January 17, 2019 Financial Report.
3. Request ratification of January 2019 Accounts Paid as within FY2019 Budget.

REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA

Other Items

1. Request approval of CREP Cost-share Maintenance Contracts
This agenda item was introduced by Executive Director Boggs. Staff recommend adoption as it meets all County Critical Areas requirements and landowner goals. Following discussion,

It WAS MOVED BY SYGITOWICZ, SECONDED BY SNYDAR TO:

Approve the Edward & Anna Marie Ross CREP maintenance contract without modification.
MOTION CARRIED (5-0)

It WAS MOVED BY SYGITOWICZ, SECONDED BY CHRISTIANSON TO:

Approve the Mark Koster CREP maintenance contract without modification.
MOTION CARRIED (5-0)

It WAS MOVED BY SYGITOWICZ, SECONDED BY DAVIS TO:

Approve the Francis Swierkowski CREP maintenance contract without modification.
MOTION CARRIED (5-0)

2. Request Approval of Farm Plans.

This agenda item was introduced by Executive Director Boggs. Staff recommend adoption as it meets all County Critical Areas requirements and landowner goals. Following discussion,

It WAS MOVED BY SIGITOWITZ, SECONDED BY SYNDAR TO:

Approve the Badger Acres LLC (Fred Polinder) farm plan without modification.
MOTION CARRIED (5-0)

3. Request ratification of the District's Chair's execution of the Inter Local Agreement with Whatcom County to provide technical assistance to landowners through the Homeowners Incentive Program (HIP) in the amount of \$216,888.

It WAS MOVED BY CHRISTIANSON, SECONDED BY CHAPMAN TO:

Ratify the Chair's execution of and approve the contract for the Homeowners Incentive Program with Whatcom County (HIP contract) for \$216,883,
MOTION CARRIED (5-0)

TS asked about a presentation to show status of the program participation.

4. Request ratification of the District's Chair's execution of an agreement with the Whatcom Community Foundation in the amount of \$40,000.

It WAS MOVED BY SYGITOWICZ, SECONDED BY CHAPMAN TO:

Ratify the Chair's execution of and approve the contract with Whatcom Community Foundation for \$40,000,
MOTION CARRIED (5-0)

5. Request approval for staff to work with the City of Lynden to request State funding in amount of \$257,500 to assist landowners with eroding banks along Fishtrap Creek. CD would be a conduit to landowners of funding to help them create a solution. Not CD project.

It WAS MOVED BY SYGITOWICZ, SECONDED BY SNYDAR TO:

Approve the proposal for funding to provide technical assistance to the City of Lynden for assistance with landowners with eroding banks along Fishtrap Creek.

MOTION CARRIED (5-0)

6. Review 2018-2019 Budget Performance

George reviewed the budget. Analysis was given for July 1, 2018 – Dec 31, 2018.

**Waiver of the cap for Chris Clark to not suspend the leave accrual give him 6 months to – of annual leave. Add cap waiver for Clark and hire part-time admin assistance to agenda for next meeting.

7. Resolution instructing the Election Supervisor for the District's 2019 election on how to handle mail-in ballots where signature cannot be verified by the County Auditor.

Verify signature for purpose of disqualifying or counting the questionable signatures.

It WAS MOVED BY CHAPMAN, SECONDED BY DAVIS TO:

For mail-in ballots, the Whatcom Conservation District directs the Election Supervisor to count only the mail-in ballots where a signature has been verified by the WC Auditor Election Office and refer all unverified mail-in ballots to the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC).

MOTION CARRIED (5-0)

INTRODUCTION ITEMS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS AND BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

Email Alex Hall's NRCS report.

Record of Board Actions.

19-09 Theresa Sygitowicz moved to approve the Public Comment at Board Meetings Policy. No second. Motion fails for lack of a second.

19-10 Alan Chapman moves to approve Consent Agenda Policy were 6 is 4, renumber. Motion seconded by Heather Christianson. Passed. (4-1) TS

19-11 It WAS MOVED BY CHAPMAN AND SECONDED BY CHRISTIANSON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 1, 2, 3, MOTION PASSED (5-0).

19-12 It WAS MOVED BY SYGITOWICZ, SECONDED BY SNYDAR TO:
Approve the Edward & Anna Marie Ross CREP maintenance contract without modification.
MOTION CARRIED (5-0)

19-13 It WAS MOVED BY SYGITOWICZ, SECONDED BY CHRISTIANSON TO:
Approve the Mark Kosted CREP maintenance contract without modification.
MOTION CARRIED (5-0)

19-14 It WAS MOVED BY SYGITOWICZ, SECONDED BY DAVIS TO:
Approve the Francis Swierkowski CREP maintenance contract without modification.
MOTION CARRIED (5-0)

19-15 It WAS MOVED BY SIGITOWITZ, SECONDED BY SYNDAR TO:
Approve the Badger Acres LLC (Fred Polinder) farm plan without modification.
MOTION CARRIED (5-0)

- 19-16 It WAS MOVED BY CHRISTIANSON, SECONDED BY CHAPMAN TO:**
Ratify the Chair's execution of and approve the contract for the Homeowners Incentive Program with Whatcom County (HIP contract) for \$216,883,
MOTION CARRIED (5-0)
- 19-17 It WAS MOVED BY SYGITOWICZ, SECONDED BY CHAPMAN TO:**
Ratify the Chair's execution of and approve the contract with Whatcom Community Foundation for \$40,000,
MOTION CARRIED (5-0)
- 19-18 It WAS MOVED BY SYGITOWICZ, SECONDED BY SNYDAR TO:**
Approve the proposal for funding to provide technical assistance to the City of Lynden for assistance with landowners with eroding banks along Fishtrap Creek.
MOTION CARRIED (5-0)
- 19-19 It WAS MOVED BY CHAPMAN, SECONDED BY DAVIS TO:**
For mail-in ballots, the Whatcom Conservation District directs the Election Supervisor to count only the mail-in ballots where a signature has been verified by the WC Auditor Election Office and refer all unverified mail-in ballots to the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC).
MOTION CARRIED (5-0)

Adjournment.

There being no further business before the meeting, Alan Chapman moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:05 p.m. Heather Christianson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting, on motion duly made, seconded and carried, adjourned at **4:05** p.m.

Dawn Bekenyi, District Auditor

Approved: April 18, 2019