

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

9:00 AM
June 22, 2020

Conference Room
6975 Hannegan Rd

MEETING SUMMARY

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Christianson called the meeting to order at 9:12 AM.

BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT

Board Members

- X Heather Christianson, Chair
- X Suzzi Snyder, Vice-Chair
- X Larry Davis, Secretary/Treasurer
- X Alan Chapman

- X Valeri Wade

Administrative Staff & Others in Attendance

- X George Boggs, Executive Director
- X Dawn Bekenyi, District Clerk/Auditor

- X Frank Corey, Habitat Team Coordinator
- X Alex Hall, NRCS

Roll call of attendees.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

OPEN SESSION (In person or written)

Alex Hall, NRCS report –

Alex reported on program activities and deadlines.

The local NRCS office is still physically closed, by appointment only. They are following social distancing protocols during site visits and at the office.

CONSENT AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED BY DAVIS AND SECONDED BY SNYDAR TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS. MOTION CARRIED (5-0).

1. Request approval of Meeting Summaries for June 3, 2020 meetings of the Board.
2. Request approval of Financial Reports for May 2020.
3. Request approval of Lummi Shellfish Project Extension/Modification
4. Request approval of Cost-share Agreement for R Nymeyer to Construct Erosion Control Structure.
5. Request approval for Cluster Engineer Contract Extension
6. Request approval to pay WACD Dues
7. Request approval for Step Increase in pay for Harris effective July 1.

REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA

OTHER ITEMS

Minutes approved as submitted at the July 27, 2020 Board meeting.

1. Rates & Charges.

The Board discussed the pros and cons of continuing to pursue a Rates and Charges proposal for 2020. The final decision was to continue outreach efforts regarding the Conservation District and what services we provide and pursue community backing for a Rates & Charges proposal in 2021.

It was moved by Chapman to continue our outreach efforts and pursue community backing for a Rates and Charges with the goal of a Rates and Charge public meeting in July 2021. Seconded by Snyder. Motion Passed. (4 yea and 1 abstained) Two with heartache. (Wade – abstained)

2. Reducing Staff Hours through Shared Work Program.

Our state offers employers to provide partial employment through the Shared Work Program works. George discussed the budget implications and which employees would participate.

It was recommended to authorize the staff to utilize the Shared Work Program for the month of July and maybe beyond.

It was moved by Chapman to implement the Shared Work Program for staffing. Seconded by Snyder. Motion Passed. (5-0)

3. FY2021 Budget.

George discussed the budget with conservative estimates for CNMP planning and cost-share technical assistance. The District should have a better idea of the next calendar year funding in October.

It was moved by Davis to approve and adopt the FY21 budget. Seconded by Chapman. Motion Passed. (5-0)

4. FY21 Annual Plan of Work.

George reviewed the annual plan of work. There was extensive discussion of edits.

It was moved by Chapman to approve the Annual Plan of Work for FY21. Seconded by Davis. Motion Passed. (5-0)

5. Diversity, Equality & Inclusion – CD Policy.

George discussed the proposed policy.

Larry Davis brought up that there has been discussion regarding the “Black Lives Matter” movement in other Conservation District venues.

Alan has also encountered this in other meetings. The Conservation District’s policy has always been to serve everyone regardless of race, religion, etc.

George explained the concerns about working with diverse landowners and their perceptions and ideals without going sideways of our inclusive policy of working with everyone. Espousing our inclusive nature of working with the community and equip staff to deal with potential “harassment” behaviors. Work with staff to diffuse any potential conflict, reply with an inclusive message, and withdraw from the situation. Discussed how to redirect back to the task at hand.

Minutes approved as submitted at the July 27, 2020 Board meeting.

The Board would like to review and bring back at the July meeting to discuss for potential adoption. A committee was selected to review and draft a policy. Larry Davis and Suzzi Snyder will work on the policy. Larry would like to see a staff member represented as well. Valerie wondered if we should seek input from the outside effected groups.

Heather asked George to share the webinars with all Supervisors to review.

6. FY2020 Budget Performance (Q1-Q3).

George gave a brief review. He will do some more in depth analysis for the next meeting.

7. Executive Director's Report.

Nothing more.

8. Supervisor Reports.

Alan Chapman –

There is a WACD meeting tomorrow. Somethings will be discussed, annual meeting, mission vision statement, more stuff.

Alan provided in his report.

Larry Davis –

Larry posted his supervisor report.

INTRODUCTION ITEMS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS AND BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

None.

Record of Board Actions.

20-19 IT WAS MOVED BY DAVIS AND SECONDED BY SNYDAR TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS. MOTION CARRIED (5-0).

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20-20 It was moved by Chapman to continue our outreach efforts and pursue community backing for a Rates and Charges with the goal of a Rates and Charge public meeting in July 2021. Seconded by Snyder. Motion Passed. (4 yea and 1 abstained) Two with heartache. (Wade – abstained)

Minutes approved as submitted at the July 27, 2020 Board meeting.

20-21 It was moved by Chapman to implement the Shared Work Program for staffing. Seconded by Snyder. Motion Passed. (5-0)

20-22 It was moved by Davis to approve and adopt the FY21 budget. Seconded by Chapman. Motion Passed. (5-0)

20-23 It was moved by Chapman to approve the Annual Plan of Work for FY21. Seconded by Davis. Motion Passed. (5-0)

Adjournment.

**IT WAS MOVED BY CHAPMAN. SECONDED BY DAVIS:
to adjourn the meeting at 12:01 am.
MOTION CARRIED. (5-0)**

There being no further business before the meeting, adjourned the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

Dawn Bekenyi, District Auditor