

**WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
Public Meeting Minutes  
April 11, 2012**

**I. Time and Place of Meeting.**

A regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Whatcom Conservation District (WCD) was held at the Ag Service Center, 6975 Hannegan Rd, Lynden, Washington on April 11, 2012, at 7:00 p.m.

**II. Attendance and Quorum.**

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

Joe Heller, Chair	Terry Lenssen, Vice Chair
Larry Davis	Ed Stone
Dick Yoder	

Also in attendance were:

George Boggs, Executive Director	Dawn Bekenyi, Admin. Assistant
Larry Helm	Jayne Uerling

**III. Meeting Called to Order.**

Joe Heller, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

**Larry Davis moved that the minutes of the March 14, 2012 Board meeting be approved as mailed. Terry Lenssen seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**V. Financial Report.**

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

Dawn Bekenyi, Administrative Assistant, presented the financial report. There were no questions.

**Dick Yoder moved to approve the Financial Report. Larry Davis 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:

March 2012 - balance					
Voucher (check) numbers	<u>19331</u>	through	<u>19358</u>	and totaling	<u>26,057.50</u>
Payroll check numbers:	<u>19359</u>	through	<u>19373</u>	and totaling	<u>28,070.52</u>
April 2012					
Voucher (check) numbers	<u>19374</u>	through	<u>19393</u>	and totaling	<u>19,934.62</u>
Payroll check numbers:	<u>19394</u>	through	<u>19407</u>	and totaling	<u>27,894.29</u>

**Moved by Dick Yoder. Larry Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

## **VI. Action Items.**

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

#### Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO) Plan Approval –

There was one Critical Areas Ordinance plan submitted for Board approval. George reviewed the plan. A plan was written for Bellewood Acres for land application of distillate.

**Larry Davis moved to approve the Critical Areas Ordinance Plan for:**

- **Bellewood Acres.**

**Ed Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

### **B. Approval of Contracts.**

A renewal of the Memorandum of Agreement with the Washington State Health Care Authority Public Employees Benefits Board was submitted for approval.

**Dick Yoder moved to renew and sign the Memorandum of Agreement with Health Care Authority Public Employees Benefits Board. Larry Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

## **VII. Other Business.**

### **A. Supervisors Reports.**

#### Larry Davis –

NRCS Local Working Group - Larry participated via conference call in the quarterly meeting of the NRCS Washington State Technical Advisory Committee. He chaired a special meeting of the Northwest Local Working Group.

Pollution Correction Action Team (PCAT) – Larry and George attended the initial Whatcom County Pollution Correction Action Team meeting.

Meetings – Larry participated in the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSSC) budget webinar.

Larry participated in the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Policy Book Task Force conference call.

Regional Envirothon – Larry was a judge on the panel for oral presentations at the regional Envirothon in Ferndale. Whatcom Conservation District hosted the Northwest Regional Envirothon competition this year at Tennant Lake Interpretive Center. It was well attended with 64 students plus instructors and station leaders.

#### Dick Yoder –

Cattle ID – Dick reported that the Washington State Cattlemen are seeking a cattle ID program to prove ownership and vaccinations. There is resistance from the Dairy Federation. Currently all beef cattle must be inspected if sold. Whereas 15 dairy cows can ship without inspection.

The Board discussed how cattle sales and inspections work for both dairy and beef cows. The WS Cattlemen and Dairy Federation should get together and agree on a state law or a federal law will be created. Any federal law would be a public information issue. A facilitator could get the groups together to discuss the issue.

**Joe Heller** –

Supervisor Election – Joe sat in on the ballot counting. It turned out to be a close election, just 64 votes separated the two candidates. The counting took quite some time to do. All the paperwork has been submitted to Bill Eller at the WS Conservation Commission for review and certification. There was further discussion regarding the supervisor election, observers and how the election was handled.

**B. Alex Hall, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).**

Alex was not able to attend the meeting, but provided a written report (attached).

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) – George reported that there are 30 people on the waiting list.

Puget Sound Initiative – It appears likely that WA NRCS will be receiving a special allocation of money to work on projects that benefit salmon habitat. The ranking criteria, funding pools, and contracting deadlines are still being worked out.

**C. George Boggs, Executive Director.**

Pollution Correction Action Team (PCAT) – George reviewed the agency directors present at the initial meeting. George reported that he received a letter from the Washington State Department of Health stating that the shellfish beds are threatened with a downgrade in Portage Bay. Whatcom County will meet regarding what they can do and the timeline to do it. There was discussion regarding finding the pollution source, not just that there is some pollution. The thought is to bracket the testing to narrow down the issue areas to pin-point priority watersheds. All sources of pollution are being reviewed.

Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) – George met with Dave Vogel, new WACD Executive Director. Dave has worked in Florida, North Carolina and originally Pennsylvania. They toured the county from Semiahmoo to north Lynden.

Annual Plan of Work – In preparation of working on the annual plan of work, George gave a couple of power point presentations regarding our programs and Board and staff qualifications. He showed a map of Whatcom County and shared water quality issues. He shared statistics of our county; 6<sup>th</sup> leading ag county in the state, our windshield survey showing livestock operations, CREP projects and wetland and stream enhancement projects. The second power point presentation was about why we do an Annual Plan of Work and key elements. George reviewed the last Annual Plan of Work. The Board reviewed the elements and confirmed areas that they wish to continue and ways to track completion. Larry D and George will work on formatting and submit for comment and approval at the May Board meeting.

May and June Board meetings – The board meetings for May and June need to be rescheduled due to conflicts. The May meeting was rescheduled to May 14, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. The June meeting will be scheduled at the May meeting.

Dairy Planner – George reported that the position posted and we have received some applications. He gave a review of some issues that need to be resolved before proceeding with a hire.

Budget – George informed that Board that the state budget was passed. CREP was funded. So we can start approving plans again.

**VIII. Record of Board Actions.**

**12-24 Larry Davis moved that the minutes of the March 14, 2012 Board meeting be approved as mailed. Terry Lenssen seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**1-25 Dick Yoder moved to approve the Financial Report. Larry Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed. Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Treasurer's Report was approved.**

**12-26**

The following voucher/warrants are approved for payment:

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April 2012

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**Moved by Dick Yoder. Larry Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**12-27 Larry Davis moved to approve the Critical Areas Ordinance Plan for:**

- Bellewood Acres.

**Ed Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**12-28 Dick Yoder moved to renew and sign the Memorandum of Agreement with Health Care Authority Public Employees Benefits Board. Larry Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

## **IX. Adjournment.**

**There being no further business before the meeting, Larry Davis moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 p.m. Dick Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

The meeting, on motion duly made, seconded and carried, adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Dated: June 1, 2012

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Dawn Bekenyi, Administrative Assistant

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