

**WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Public Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2005**

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 February 10, 2005 at 12:00 p.m.

II. Attendance and Quorum.

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	Robert Barker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jerry Van Dellen
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rod Visser	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cornelius Timmermans
<input type="checkbox"/>	Randy Kinley		

Also in attendance were:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	George Boggs, District Manager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Gillies, NRCS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dawn Bekenyi, Admin. Assistant		Bas Scholten, Associate Supervisor

III. Meeting Called to Order.

Jerry Van Dellen acted as Chairman of the meeting called it to order at 12:10 p.m.

IV. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting.

Rod Visser moved that the minutes of the January 13, 2005 Board meeting be approved as mailed. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

V. Financial Report.

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

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

Cornie Timmermans moved to approve the Financial Report. Rod Visser 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:

Jan 2005 - balance					
Voucher (check) numbers	<u>12857</u>	through	<u>12870</u>	and totaling	<u>11,027.68</u>
Payroll check numbers:	<u>12871</u>	through	<u>12885</u>	and totaling	<u>18,648.08</u>
February 2005					
Voucher (check) numbers	<u>12886</u>	through	<u>12912</u>	and totaling	<u>8,756.29</u>

Payroll check numbers: 12913 through 12926 and totaling 18,360.96
moved by Cornie Timmermans. Rod Visser seconded the motion. The motion passed.

VI. Action Items.

A. Approval of Contracts.

CREP Cultural Resources Contract –

There are four new CREP applicants that need to have cultural resource assessments done on their proposed projects. The District sends out requests for bid to a list of certified archeologists. From those that respond the District selects the lowest bidder. The District enters into an agreement for the cultural resource assessment with the contractor. George presented 3 contracts for approval by the Board.

Cornie Timmermans moved to approve the list of Cultural Resource Assessment contracts. Rod Visser seconded the motion. The motion passed.

04-04-CRS02: 05-02	Pelleboer	Equinox Archeological Consulting
04-04-CRS02: 05-03	PUD #1	Equinox Archeological Consulting
04-04-CRS02: 05-04	Tarr & Robson	Equinox Archeological Consulting

Tenmile Project Contracts –

George explained that the Department of Ecology grant (Tenmile Phase III) has a riparian component. The District advertised for bidders and put out a request for bids. The lowest bidder for all projects was Squalicum Mountain Enterprises. George explained that the projects including riparian establishment for Phase I & II as well as planting on 5 new sites to complete the Four mile Creek riparian area.

Cornie Timmermans moved to accept the lowest bid and approve the contracts (listed) with Squalicum Mountain Enterprises for riparian work on the Four mile creek under DOE grant Tenmile Phase III G0500076. Rod Visser seconded the motion. The motion passed.

G0500076: 05-04	Schilke	Squalicum Mountain Enterprises
G0500076: 05-05	Roosma	Squalicum Mountain Enterprises
G0500076: 05-06	Ghuman	Squalicum Mountain Enterprises
G0500076: 05-07	Velthuisen	Squalicum Mountain Enterprises
G0500076: 05-08	Polder Enterprises (Vander Veen)	Squalicum Mountain Enterprises
G0500076: 05-09	Tenmile Phase I Establishment	Squalicum Mountain Enterprises
G0500076: 05-10	Tenmile Phase II Establishment	Squalicum Mountain Enterprises

VII. Other Business.

A. George Boggs, District Manager.

North County Drainage –

George reported that he met with representatives from Whatcom County, Department of Ecology (DOE), and Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) regarding drainage issues in the North County. There was no consensus on how to solve the problem. The County is reluctant to undertake another planning process because of its commitments to the ongoing WRIA process. Another meeting is scheduled with agency representatives and a few landowners on February 17, 2005. A public landowner meeting on the issue will be held in March. Henry Bierlink is scheduling this meeting. The group will invite landowners and agency representatives to discuss the matter. There was discussion as to whether setting up a Drainage Improvement District (DID) would address the matter.

Critical Areas Ordinance –

George reported that the County's Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO) has been released for comment on February 4th. George has a copy if anyone wanted to review it and make comments. There was discussion regarding the 97 CAO. Conservation Planning for Ag Lands (CPAL) was part of the 97 CAO and only the Dairy industry followed through on this requirement. By law, the CAO has to be updated every seven years.

George explained some changes drafted that address agriculture. There are three levels of planning proposed. Small farms would get a checklist to review and make appropriate changes. Middle sized producers would use a workbook to address their concerns. Current Dairy Nutrient Management Plans cover dairy operations and the AFO/CAFO process will address other commercial producers.

To address Public Disclosure concerns, the thought is to have the CAO farm plan stay with the individual. Whatcom County would not have a copy of the farm plans. A copy would be available upon request for good cause to the individual.

Drainage is a critical issue. Drainage and beaver issues will be addressed through CREP and other riparian planting projects. Public Hearings on the CAO are scheduled for February 15 and 16.

There was discussion regarding how revisions could be made to the draft CAO. John discussed the thoughts behind drafting the 97 CAO and the current proposed CAO. Copies of the ag section were made for the Board.

Lagoon Storage Issues –

There was discussion regarding the unusual amount of rain received this winter and the impact on manure lagoons around the County. Several agencies are watching the storage problems, rainfall and upcoming t-sum 200. T-sum 200 was discussed. The T-sum is a tool to use to balance storage and crop use. George discussed questions some agencies have regarding farm plans. John Gillies reviewed the planning process defending the planning process. The plans were drafted for average rainfalls. This year we have experienced 6 consecutive months that exceeded the average rainfall. This is a very rare occurrence.

There was discussion regarding custom pumper liability when exceeding farm plan application recommendations. The idea of a "license" for custom manure pumpers was discussed at length.

Salmon Safe –

George met with Rod DeJong and Sherm Polinder regarding the marketing potential of a "Salmon Safe" label for milk. George reviewed his meeting.

WACD Legislative Issues –

George sent the Board information from the Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) on legislative issues effecting Conservation Districts. WACD encouraged Districts to contact their legislatures requesting that Conservation District programs budgets be increased to the original request levels. A letter, email or visit to Olympia was suggested.

Cornie Timmermans moved that the District send a letter to our legislators requesting that the WA Conservation Commission programs be funded at the original levels requested in their budget request. Rod Visser seconded the motion. The motion passed.

CD Supervisors –

As of the Board meeting the District had not received a letter of resignation from the Board from Randy Kinley. The Conservation Commission will hold a hearing if the matter is not resolved by the next Board meeting.

There was discussion regarding Supervisor applicant possibilities for the upcoming elected position opening.

B. John Gillies, NRCS.

Shared Salmon Summit –

John was on the “Saving Farms and Saving Fish” panel at the State Salmon Summit in Tacoma. Topics discussed by the panel included drainage infrastructure and land use controls to save land and economic incentives.

Dairy Manure Storage –

Due to the universal manure storage shortage issue John looked into sandbagging manure lagoons. The engineers said that it would work as a temporary fix. However, John found that cost of sand bagging and labor would be prohibitive.

EQIP –

There was approximately \$900,000 in EQIP funds this year. Most of the funds went to Whatcom County. There will be 15 contracts out of the 84 applicants.

Water Quality Testing –

The Dairy Federation is asking for a letter of endorsement in seeking funding to do source identification water quality testing in the bay. The District is in support of tracking sources of bacteria.

Rod Visser moved that the District write a letter in support of funding water quality source tracking of bacteria in the Bay. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

VIII. Record of Board Actions.

05-10 Rod Visser moved that the minutes of the January 13, 2005 Board meeting be approved as mailed. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

05-11 Cornie Timmermans moved to approve the Financial Report. Rod Visser seconded the motion. The motion passed. Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Treasurer’s Report was approved.

05-12

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05-13 Cornie Timmermans moved to approve the list of Cultural Resource Assessment contracts. Rod Visser seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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04-04-CRS02: 05-04	Tarr & Robson	Equinox Archeological Consulting

05-14 Cornie Timmermans moved to accept the lowest bid and approve the contracts (listed) with Squalicum Mountain Enterprises for riparian work on the Four mile creek under DOE grant Tenmile Phase III G0500076. Rod Visser seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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- 05-15** Cornie Timmermans moved that the District send a letter to our legislators requesting that the WA Conservation Commission programs be funded at the original levels requested in their budget request. Rod Visser seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- 05-16** Rod Visser moved that the District write a letter in support of funding water quality source tracking of bacteria in the Bay. Cornie Timmermans seconded the motion. The motion passed.

IX. Adjournment.

There being no further business before the meeting, Cornie Timmermans moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:14 p.m. Rod Visser seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting on motion duly made, seconded and carried, adjourned at 2:14 p.m.

Dated: March 28, 2005

Dawn Bekenyi, Administrative Assistant