



1251 2nd Avenue South — Room 102, Okanogan, WA 98840

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TO: The Record
SUBJECT: April 4, 2013 Board of Supervisors Meeting
LOCATION: USDA Service Center, Okanogan, WA
FROM: Kim Simpson, District Treasurer

PRESENT:

Ivan Oberg, Chair	Kirsten Cook, Conservation Educator
Albert Roberts, District Auditor	Leslie Michel, Conservation Planner
Lorah Super, Member	Gerri Oberg, Associate Supervisor
Jerry Asmussen, Member	Will Keller, NRCS
Craig Nelson, District Manager	Steve Colvin, landowner
Kim Simpson, District Treasurer	Jay Kehne, Conservation Northwest
Bob Clark, Technical Coordinator	Nancy Warner, IRIS
Terri Williams, Conservation Planner	

Regular Meeting Call to Order: Ivan Oberg called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Agenda: The agenda was presented. Craig Nelson suggested adding Jay Kehne to the agenda after Nancy Warner's presentation. Kim Simpson asked to add a Firewise contract amendment and the Washington State Conservation Commission Master and Basic Allocation contracts to the Review, Approve, and sign contracts and conservation plans section. Albert Roberts moved to approve the agenda as modified. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Ivan Oberg asked for comments on the **March 7, 2013 minutes**. Albert asked that the date on his Supervisor's report be changed to April 4, 2013, not April 5, 2013. Albert Roberts moved to approve the minutes as amended. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report #719, which covers the checking account activity for March 8, 2013 to April 4, 2013, inclusive was presented for the Board's approval. The following vouchers/checks are approved for payment:

Payroll direct withdrawals; on 3-19-13 totaling \$7,942.35, Payroll direct withdrawals; on 4-3-13 totaling \$7,942.37, Voucher (check) numbers; 9713 - 9735 totaling \$14,241.90, Direct withdrawals on 3-13-13 totaling \$2,679.88, on 3-18-13 totaling \$12.60, on 3-20-13 totaling \$270.00 , on 3-20-13 totaling \$164.56, on 3-21-13 totaling \$2,727.08, on 3-25-13 totaling

\$387.58, on 3-25-13 totaling \$185.00, on 3-25-13 totaling \$51.68, on 3-25-13 totaling \$250.28, on 3-29-13 totaling \$137.79, on 3-31-13 totaling \$3.27 on 4-2-13 totaling \$12.60, and on 4-4-13 totaling \$164.56 and transfers of \$1,693.00 to the savings account. The deposits totaled \$35,809.22 and expenditures totaled \$37,173.50. Albert Roberts moved to approve Treasurer's Report #719 as presented. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Supervisor Reports:

Jerry Asmussen – Jerry reported that he was very busy calving the last two meetings and is now into branding. He also reported that snow moisture looks good.

Albert Roberts – Albert reported that he attended the WACD Legislative Day in Olympia on March 21 and they had the best turn out, with all but three conservation districts represented. Slow Food Okanogan is hosting a fundraiser and memberships drive on April 5, 2013 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Salmon Creek Coffee in Okanogan. The Colville Tribes Range Department has funding and is looking for someone to do range transects for them. Albert asked them to contact us for potential assistance.

Ivan Oberg – Ivan reported that he had an interesting tour of the Kettle River & Buckhorn mine, which provides 230 direct jobs to the area.

Lorah Super – Lorah reported that she has tickets available for the Wild Game Feed this Saturday. She is also preparing for the Ride to Rendezvous on May 6-10, 2013. Lorah reported attending a "Trashion Show" recently. Folks brought apparel they designed from recycled goods. Lorah also reported that she recently accepted a position as an advisor for the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. She said she was able to distribute plant sale posters in her area.

Nancy Warner – North Central Washington Community Success Summit

Nancy is here representing the Initiative for Rural Innovation and Stewardship (IRIS). The organization works to foster sustainable communities in North Central Washington. Their focus is on gathering and sharing success stories. Five years ago they started holding an annual success summit to share community success. IRIS is working on having the summits focus on a community development process.

Nancy, Kirsten and Brian Cook, presented to the Okanogan City Council earlier this year and received unanimous support from the City to host the event. There is a coordination meeting for this year's event on April 23, 2013. Nancy shared the IRIS strategic Plan with everyone and explained that they are focused on the summit and their Gathering Our Voice program as their two flagship programs. This year the community success summit will be held at the Okanogan Middle School gymnasium in November.

Nancy is here to seek our support for the 2013 NCW Community Success Summit. She passed around a flyer that lists three levels of sponsorship available, then offered to answer any questions. She needs to hear the level of sponsorship we are interested in by early May.

Jay Kehne – Conservation Northwest – Composting Facility

Jay talked about the conference that Conservation Northwest held a year ago in Colville. Out of that meeting they worked with a couple of ranchers in the Colville area to have a range rider hired and the ranchers reported zero losses from wolf predation last year which was down from eight the year before. Jay talked briefly about wolf behavior, as it relates to their patterns of migration and food sources.

Jay explained that information from other areas that have had wolf reintroduction over recent years shows that one in seven packs will need to be killed due to behavior which is often induced by human actions, such as leaving carcass piles in relatively remote areas. Jay talked about a program near Missoula, MT that works in concert with the Montana Department of Transportation to use their facilities to put together a composting facility. Then a local contractor will be hired to pick up carcasses and haul them to the composting facility. The process is voluntary and completely confidential.

Jay is suggesting that the conservation district or another organization work to put together a program similar to the one near Missoula. There was discussion about the costs, how such a system would work in our area, and whether local ranchers would participate.

Associate Supervisor Reports:

Ivan asked Steve Colvin if he would like to give a report, even though he is not a supervisor at this time. Steve handed out a letter he wrote to the board, regarding his interest in serving on the Okanogan Conservation District Board. He is very interested in the things we are working on and the District's involvement in the community. He has been working on trying to increase interest in the Oroville School District for the Envirothon.

Lorah Super moved to temporarily suspend the District policy (resolution #2002-01) and appoint Steve to the vacant position of the District Board. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

District Manager and Staff Reports:

Craig Nelson reported that he finished the five year and annual plans of work and he sent them out for comment. Comments are due by April 26, 2013.

Craig gave an update on the district office space. He received an email from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) that states we have until July 1, 2014 to take action. We have three options; sign an agreement with NRCS, contract with the landlord, or move out by that date.

Kim Simpson suggested that since we have time before we begin paying rent, that we begin transferring the amount budgeted towards rent into our savings account. Lorah Super moved to transfer the amount of funds in the 2013 Okanogan Conservation District budget for rent (\$6,000) into savings for building and/or rent costs in coming years. Albert Roberts seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Craig Nelson informed the board that the Washington Conservation Commission plans to hold a second All District Visioning meeting on May 20 and 21st, 2013 in Wenatchee. Ivan Oberg stated he will try to attend with Craig.

Craig met with Jon Merz, the new manager from Foster Creek Conservation District. Jon showed interest in meeting with other conservation district managers. A meeting was arranged in Wenatchee with area managers and it was so beneficial, that they plan to meet again next month.

Kirsten Cook reported that we received an additional \$18,400 from Washington Dept. of Natural Resources for Firewise education. She shared the Firewise postcard and posters that will be distributed. Kirsten announced that we will have a display at the Annual Spring Fair Home and Garden show April 19th through the 21st, 2013. She also reported that preparation for plant sale went well with assistance from 12 volunteers from a 4-H group. Kirsten and Craig plan to present information on District projects, including the plant sale on open line tomorrow morning.

Contracts & Conservation Plans

The Firewise amendment, adding \$18,400 to our contract, extending the grant to November 30, 2013 and adding additional duties, was presented. Albert Roberts moved to approve the Firewise amendment. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

It was decided to not consider the Conservation Commission master contracts at this meeting until staff has a chance to review them and make any recommendations to the Board.

Natural Resources Conservation Services:

Will Keller, NRCS Range Conservationist, reported that Sarah Troutman-Zahn is the new District Conservationist and will be reporting to the position here in Okanogan on April 22, 2013. NRCS budget is tight enough that the agency will not be filling the Central Area Conservationist position for the time being. Doug Allen, who has taken the East Area Conservationist position, will be the acting Area Conservationist for the North Central and Big Bend Teams until the Central Area position is filled.

Will reported that he is working with Troy Accord in the Beaver Creek watershed on a water system improvement that was designed by the Bureau of Reclamation and funded by a Salmon Recovery Funding Board grant administered by the conservation district.

Agency Reports:

No agency representatives were present.

Public Comments

No members of the public were present.

Old Business

Task List – No changes. Staff has not had an opportunity to change the format.

Other – Kim asked if any of the supervisors were interested in attending the WADE training. Steve stated that he would like to attend.

New Business

Other – There was no other New Business.

Ivan Oberg **adjourned** the meeting at 8:12 PM.

Summary of Motions

Albert Roberts moved to approve the agenda as modified. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Albert Roberts moved to approve the minutes as amended. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Albert Roberts moved to approve Treasurer's Report #719 as presented. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Lorah Super moved to temporarily suspend the District policy (resolution #2002-01) and appoint Steve to the vacant position of the District Board. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Lorah Super moved to transfer the amount of funds in the 2013 Okanogan Conservation District budget for rent (\$6,000) into savings for building and/or rent costs in coming years. Albert Roberts seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Albert Roberts moved to approve the Firewise amendment. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.


Ivan Oberg, Chair 5/2/13
Date


Kim Simpson, District Treasurer 5/2/13
Date