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DRAFT

TO: The Record
SUBJECT: January 6, 2015 Board of Supervisors Meeting
LOCATION: Okanogan Conservation District office, Okanogan, WA
FROM: Kim Simpson, District Treasurer

PRESENT:

Ivan Oberg, Chair (via telephone)	Kirsten Cook, Conservation Educator
Jerry Asmussen Vice-Chair	Terri Williams, Conservation Planner
Lorah Super, Supervisor	Randy Kelley, Associate Supervisor
Craig Nelson, District Manager	Dale Swedberg, WDFW
Kim Simpson, District Treasurer	Sarah Troutman-Zahn, NRCS
Bob Clark, Technical Program Coord.	

Meeting Call to Order: Ivan Oberg called the meeting to order at 5:25 PM.

Agenda: Staff asked to add Conservation District awards and the Red Shirt Mill to new business. Lorah Super moved to approve the agenda as amended. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Lorah Super moved to approve the minutes. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report #740, which covers the checking account activity for December 10, 2014 to January 6, 2015, inclusive was presented for the Board's approval. The following vouchers/checks are approved for payment: Payroll direct withdrawals on 12-19-14 totaling \$9,163.27, payroll direct withdrawals on 1-6-15 totaling \$9,135.39, voucher (check) numbers; 10119 - 10138 totaling \$54,162.10, direct withdrawals on 12-15-14 totaling \$3,830.61, on 12-18-14 totaling \$980.00, on 12-18-14 totaling \$164.56, on 12-23-14 totaling \$3,378.70, on 12-31-14 totaling \$17.41, and transfers to savings of \$2870.00. The deposits totaled \$91,485.93, and expenditures totaled \$83,702.04. Lorah Super moved to approve Treasurer's Report #740 as presented. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Supervisor Reports:

Lorah Super – Lorah attended the Forest Health Collaborative meeting the week of the Washington Association of Conservation Districts and feels that the meetings are very worthwhile. She is now part of a small sub-committee that is working to develop an economic evaluation for proposed Forest Service projects. The group will meet again in late January.

Jerry Asmussen – Jerry reported that he is staying busy feeding cows. He also informed that some rutting occurred from thaw and runoff a couple of weeks ago, when it warmed up all the way up to 3,000 feet in elevation.

Ivan Oberg – Ivan mentioned that he thinks the personnel committee should start work on revamping the district policies.

Associate Supervisor Reports:

Randy Kelley – Randy reported that he made it to the Okanogan Conservation District Board meeting. He and his wife recently sold their house and are currently living a dream in a nice single wide until they build a new house.

District Manager and Staff Reports:

Craig Nelson attended a Carlton Complex fire meeting last night in Brewster. There was over 100 people in attendance and the meeting gave those involved in the fire an opportunity to discuss what they learned from the experience. They would like the agencies to listen to the public and to see a better use of resources. Agencies were also given the chance to discuss what they learned and what they are doing to improve fire and emergency response procedures.

Craig has been in communication with Juda Youngstrom regarding our office lease and described the bits and pieces of what she is proposing to the district, for a one year lease. Jerry Asmussen moved to authorize Craig Nelson to sign a rental lease for the current space as long as it is within the parameters described. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Contracts & Conservation Plans – The cost-share application isn't ready so we will address this item next month.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS): Sarah Troutman-Zahn reported that many NRCS staff have been using their vacation leave, so it has been quiet around the office. Staff members continue to work on contracting. She informed that many cooperators did not get their payments on time, so they have some unhappy landowners. Sarah stated that the National Programmatic agreement was re-written, which voids their State Level Agreement for cultural resources, so all practices need to be consulted on until a new agreement is developed.

She reported there are plans for a sign-up period for those interested in a Resource Management system plan. Sarah also mentioned that there will be a Local Working Group statewide Kick-off meeting on January 27, 2015.

Agency Reports:

Dale Swedberg, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) – Dale reported that Sherry Fernari (Methow Wildlife Area Manager) is doing an exceptional job. The agency has been working to get burnt fence rebuilt in the Chilliwist and Methow Wildlife Areas using Washington Conservation Corps crews. After the fence is complete, they will start working on other fire follow up work. They are now working on some other post-fire forest restoration activities. WDFW is putting together an agency burn team so they can keep working on prescribed fire.

Public Report:

There was no public present.

Old Business

January/February Monthly Plan – Kim Simpson noted that the candidate filing deadline is coming up on January 15, 2015 and so far she has not received any other applications other than Albert Roberts. She also mentioned that it is time to start thinking about drafting an annual plan.

Other – Dale Swedberg announced that the new Executive Director for the Okanogan Land Trust (OLT) is Thom Woodruff. He comes to the position with years of experience at private companies, foundations, and most recently with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. He also reported that the OLT project applications for Derek Olma and Gordon Strandberg (in Ferry County) both ranked in the top five for funding. Another project for Olma and one for Sorianno were ranked lower down.

New Business

Washington Legislature Budget and Cost-share Process – Craig Nelson gave a brief overview of the Washington Legislature Budget. He reported that the Governor's budget includes \$3,000,000 for assistance to the Carlton Complex Fire landowners and we need to develop a process to advertise, distribute and rank the projects. He asked the Board of Supervisors to let him or Terri Williams know if they have any priorities, geographic concerns or comments regarding this. He informed that around \$200,000 will go to the Okanogan County Noxious Weed Board for weed control in the burned areas, \$250,000 - \$300,000 will be used for staff time and the rest would be used for fire recovery.

Annual Planning Kickoff – Craig Nelson announced that staff will begin working on the Districts annual plan this month. After discussion, it was decided to use the Long Range Plan for a guide while developing the annual plan, making adjustments for the effect the Carlton Complex Fire brought about.

Conservation District Awards – Craig Nelson and Kirsten Cook asked the Board of Supervisors to consider nominations for several awards that will be presented at the District's 75th Anniversary Celebration in February. There are three different categories, the "Norm

