



Okanogan Conservation District

1251 S. Second Ave, Room 102

Okanogan, WA 98840

PHONE: (509) 422-0855 EXT. 5 • WEB: WWW.OKANOGANCD.ORG

DRAFT

TO: The Record
SUBJECT: March 5, 2015 Board of Supervisors Meeting
LOCATION: Okanogan Conservation District office, Okanogan, WA
FROM: Kim Simpson, District Treasurer

PRESENT:

Albert Roberts, District Auditor	Terri Williams, Conservation Planner
Lorah Super, Supervisor	Leslie Michel, Conservation Planner
Steve Colvin, Supervisor	Nancy Nash-Mendez, Spec. Proj. Coord.
Craig Nelson, District Manager	Randy Kelley, Associate Supervisor
Kim Simpson, District Treasurer	Stan Janowicz, NRCS
Bob Clark, Technical Program Coord.	Mike Baden, WSCC

Meeting Call to Order: Albert Roberts called the meeting to order at 5:07 PM.

Agenda: Staff asked to add Washington Association of District Employees (WADE) training to “New Business” and Landowner Agreements for the Conservation Innovative Grant (CIG) to “Review, Approve and Sign Contracts and Conservation Plans”. Lorah Super moved to approve the agenda as amended. Steve Colvin seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

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

Treasurer's Report #742, which covers the checking account activity for February 6, 2015 to March 5, 2015, inclusive was presented for the Board's approval. The following vouchers/checks are approved for payment: Payroll direct withdrawals on 2-18-15 totaling \$9,452.02, payroll direct withdrawals on 3-4-15 totaling \$9,411.96, voucher (check) numbers; 10151 - 10162 totaling \$25,531.47, direct withdrawals on 2-11-15 totaling \$32.46, on 3-12-15 totaling \$3,833.99, on 2-19-15 totaling \$825.00, on 2-19-15 totaling \$164.56, on 2-24-15 totaling \$3,448.48, on 2-25-15 totaling \$358.14, on 2-25-15 totaling 206.08, on 2-25-15 totaling 305.04, on 2-25-15 totaling \$842.98, on 2-28-15 totaling 42.11, on 3-5-15 totaling \$825.00, on 3-5-15 totaling \$164.56 and transfers to savings of \$12,575.00. The deposits totaled \$60,797.58, and

expenditures totaled \$68,018.85. Lorah Super moved to approve Treasurer's Report #742 as presented. Steve Colvin seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Supervisor Reports:

Steve Colvin – Steve reported that it was nice to be back.

Lorah Super – Lorah reported that she has performed a personal exploration of the long term recovery process of the Carlton Fire since December by interviewing fire victims. She added that she did not come up with very positive results with what is going on. Lorah also reported that she worked with Craig Nelson on an opportunity to increase the budget for cost share on forestry in the Carlton Complex budget request. Lorah spoke about the Shorelines Master Program and the 2011 plan that cost \$75 million that was put on the shelf and never approved. Lorah was happy to report that her High Tunnel funded through Environmental Quality Incentives Plan (EQIP) will go up this month.

Albert Roberts – Albert informed that the Okanogan County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on a new proposed Shorelines Master Program on March 9, 2015 at the Commissioners hearing room in Okanogan. He announced that the Planning Commission is still down three members, so they are looking for new recruits. Albert reported that the Voluntary Stewardship Program has a deadline of July 1, 2015 to be funded and the state legislature may not extend the deadline. If the program isn't funded, the Okanogan County Commissioners will have 18 months to work with the agriculture community to develop regulations regarding agricultural practices in and near critical areas.

Associate Supervisor Reports:

No associate reports given.

District Manager and Staff Reports:

Craig Nelson reported that he presented to the Okanogan County Commissioners on the progress for the Carlton Complex Fire assistance. Craig also met with Jason Paulson, Keith Stennes, and Carlene Anders from the Long Term Recovery groups, explaining what the Okanogan Conservation District has achieved and what we will do with the state funds, if and when we receive them. Craig stated that most people have been very positive about the BAER report. Craig has been working with Lael Duncan and Roni Holder-Diefenbach on creating a template to be used in future disasters. Craig reported that he is finalizing a grant to get a Conservation Crew to come and clean out irrigation ditches and install fencing in the Carlton Complex Fire areas. He also hopes to have the Washington State Veterans Authority assist with volunteer organization for the projects.

Craig reported that there is still no word from Natural Resources Conservation Service regarding funds for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP). He has been working with Mark Clark from the Washington State Conservation Commission to get some other funding to

cover this, otherwise it will need to come out of the \$1.165 million, which will create a hole in the original budget. Craig stated that work is in progress to do critical area seeding and he is also working on an agreement with the Okanogan County Weed Board, so they will receive some of the state funds to do weed control in the burned areas. At this time we have 281 requests for site visits and there are still many that need to be done. Craig informed that we will be going through current applications to hire people to assist with the site visits.

Bob Clark reported that he continues to work on the Fish Screens and hopes to get in at least six before the high water hits. He also informed that the screen size he has been using may no longer be correct because of the possible future listing of the Lamprey.

Leslie Michel reported that she will be presenting at the Annual Regional Approaches to Climate Change's (REACCH) annual meeting. Leslie will also be presenting at The Methow Valley Interpretive Center to the public, on the impact of Carlton Complex Fire to soils and waters and the BAER team. Leslie announced that the movie, "Symphony of the Soils" will be showing on March 22, 2015 at the Omak Theater at 1:00 PM and March 21, 2015 in the Methow at 7:00 PM.

Terri Williams reported that she is working on landowner agreements with about 60 landowners for seeding, about 2,000 acres, in the Carlton Complex burned area.

Contracts & Conservation Plans – Leslie Michel explained that she will need to have landowner agreements signed for her Conservation Innovative Grant (CIG), since this is time sensitive, she asked for authorization to have Albert Roberts or Craig Nelson sign them once they are complete. Lorah Super moved to authorize Albert Roberts or Craig Nelson to sign the CIG landowner agreements once they are complete. Steve Colvin seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS): Stan Janowicz was present to report on behalf of Sarah Troutman-Zahn. Stan has been working on the snow survey and reported that everything seems to be about three weeks to a month early this year. Stan informed that the Local Work Group meeting will be held in Chelan on March 18, 2015 at 10:00 AM.

Agency Reports:

Mike Baden, our new regional manager with the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC), gave a little background and said he loves working with conservation districts and is happy to be back on the east side of the state. He reported that he sends out quick notes about once a month and that if you have not received them, to be sure to give him your email address so he can add you to his list. Mike reported that the WSCC has requested districts to send in their top three priorities proposals by March 15, 2015 and that some of these priorities may be funded with unspent funds that were returned. He stressed that it was important to let the WSCC know if the district would need to return any of the grant funds by March 31, 2015. Mike also informed that most of the Supervisors in the state have taken the open government training, but that there were still a few out there that need to complete the training.

Public Report:

There was no public present.

Old Business

January/February Monthly Plan – Kim Simpson reminded everyone that the board meeting time would change from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM next month.

Other – Craig Nelson reported that the 75th anniversary celebration was a success and gave kudos to Kirsten Cook and Nancy Nash-Mendez for the planning they did. He also praised the other district employees for helping make the celebration a success.

New Business

Cost Share Resolution – This was put on hold until next month, since more research was needed.

Vehicle Purchasing Authority – Craig Nelson informed that there was a need for two more vehicles with the added staff and work that will be going on the next couple of years. Steve Colvin moved to give Craig Nelson authority to purchase two vehicles as long as the funds from the WSCC came through. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Steve added that we need to have a policy to change out the vehicles before they give out.

New Hires – Craig Nelson explained the need to hire new employees to cover all the additional work that the district has with the Carlton Complex Fire assistance. Steve Colvin moved to approve hiring new employees to cover the additional work. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Purchase Desks, Computers and Related Items for New Employees – Craig explained the need to purchase new computers to replace failing systems in the office and provide computers for new employees along with desks and associated office supplies. Steve Colvin moved to approve the purchase of up to five computers along with desks and related items. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Internal Audit/Schedule 22 – Albert Roberts reported that the schedule 22-internal audit was finished and went very well, as usual.

WADE Training – The Washington Association of District Employees training will be held June 15-17, 2015 in Leavenworth. Steve Colvin moved to allow district staff to attend the WADE training. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Conservation Innovative Grant (CIG) Interlocal Agreements – Craig Nelson informed that some of the work Leslie Michel would be doing for the CIG grant would be outside of the Okanogan Conservation District's (OCD) boundaries, so the OCD needs interlocal agreements with the other conservation districts authorizing OCD to work within their boundaries. Steve Colvin moved to give authority to either Albert Roberts or Ivan Oberg to sign the interlocal agreements to allow OCD to work in the other conservation district's areas. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Other

Critical Area Seeding – Craig Nelson reported that with the critical area seeding getting under way, there will be a need for landowner agreements to be signed. Steve Colvin moved to give authorization to Craig Nelson to sign the landowner agreements for critical area seeding. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Albert Roberts **adjourned** the meeting at 7:18 PM.

Summary of Motions

Lorah Super moved to approve the agenda as amended. Steve Colvin seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Lorah Super moved to approve the minutes. Steve Colvin seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Lorah Super moved to approve Treasurer's Report #742 as presented. Steve Colvin seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Lorah Super moved to authorize Albert Roberts or Craig Nelson to sign the CIG landowner agreements once they are complete. Steve Colvin seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Steve Colvin moved to give Craig Nelson authority to purchase two vehicles as long as the funds from the WSCC came through. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Steve Colvin moved to approve hiring new employees to cover the additional work. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Steve Colvin moved to approve the purchase of up to five computers along with desks and related items. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

