



Okanogon Conservation District

1251 S. Second Ave, Room 102

Okanogon, WA 98840

DRAFT

TO: The Record
SUBJECT: August 2, 2016 Board of Supervisors Meeting
LOCATION: Okanogon Conservation District office, Okanogon, WA
FROM: Kim Simpson, District Treasurer

PRESENT:

Ivan Oberg, Chair	Zach Day, Natural Resource Technician
Jerry Asmussen, Vice Chair	Amy Martin, Conservation Planner
Lorah Super, Supervisor	Allisa Carlson, Wildlife Conservation Planner
Gerri Oberg, Associate Supervisor	Stacie Powers, Intern
Craig Nelson, District Manager	Becky Snijder, Natural Resource Technician
Kim Simpson, District Treasurer	Kyle McGovern, Natural Resource Technician
Bob Clark, Sr. Conservation Planner	Kim Kogler, Natural Resource Technician
Kirsten Cook, Conservation Educator	Juan Ledezma, Financial Assistant
Terri Williams, Conservation Planner	Sarah Troutman, NRCS
Leslie Michel, Soil Scientist	Jerry DeBacker, Okanogon Land Trust
Mindy Widell, Natural Resource Technician	

Meeting Call to Order: Ivan Oberg called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Agenda: Kirsten asked to add the Pacific Education Institute (PEI) Field Stem contract to the “Contracts & Conservation Plans” section. Jerry Asmussen moved to approve the agenda as amended. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Lorah Super moved to approve the July 2016 regular Board Meeting and July 26, 2016 Special Board Meeting minutes as presented. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report #759, which covers the checking account activity from July 7, 2016 to August 2, 2016, inclusive was presented for the Board's approval. The following vouchers/checks are approved for payment: Payroll direct withdrawals on 7-20-2016 totaling \$17,113.74, on 8-3-16 totaling \$17,728.58 voucher (check) numbers; 10637 - 10653 totaling \$101,332.98, direct withdrawals on 7-8-16 totaling \$1,880.00, on 7-8-16 totaling \$200.00, on 7-12-16 totaling \$5,511.64, on 7-14-16 totaling \$7,012.49, on 7-20-16 totaling \$219.04, on 7-20-16 totaling \$1,705.49, on 6-20-16 totaling \$20.98, on 7-20-16 totaling \$39.22, on 7-20-16 totaling \$1,709.11, on 6-20-16 totaling \$250.40 on 7-20-16 totaling \$2,734.34, on 6-20-16 totaling \$743.37, on 6-20-16 totaling \$29.98, on 6-20-16 totaling \$135.98, on 6-21-16 totaling \$1,690.00, on 6-26-16 totaling \$5,853.96, on 6-29-16 totaling \$1,847.24, on 6-29-16 totaling \$2,376.60, and on 6-29-16 totaling \$18.65. The deposits totaled \$152,239.87, which included a transfer of

\$100,000.00 from savings to checking, expenditures totaled \$170,153.79. Jerry Asmussen moved to approve Treasurer's Report #759 as presented. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report #758, which is a revised report due to an error discovered following approval at the July 2016 regular board meeting. Lorah Super moved to approve Amended Treasurer's Report #758. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

Supervisor Reports:

Lorah Super – Lorah reported that the past month has been exciting, since their Emergency Watershed Program (EWP) dike blew out in a flash flood a couple weeks ago and then four days later they had a fire adjacent to their property. Lorah will be attending a Forest Health Collaborative meeting tomorrow. She added that there will be a Fire adapted Communities workshop in the Fall.

Jerry Asmussen – Jerry reported he also had a few fires in his area and they were all fought differently. He added that water in the range is good.

Ivan Oberg – Ivan reported on his recent travels with Gerri Oberg, where he stopped in at a couple of conservation district offices to hear about what they do and to tell them about our District's programs. He passed around a few flyers and information he gleaned from these stops to share with the board and staff.

District Manager and Staff Reports:

Craig Nelson announced that he handed off the Rates and Charges proposal to the Okanogan County Commissioners last week and so far, has not heard back from them.

Craig reported that he and Kirsten Cook have had discussion regarding the departure of Kirstie Bickford and plan to advertise for a full time Conservation Educator position as soon as possible, so they can get a person to take on the position early in the school year.

Craig stated that with the Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) Area Meetings coming in a couple of months, it is very important to begin working on any resolutions the board feels would be good to present.

Craig noted that he has been tentatively asked to present about our fire recovery activities to the forest working group that meets concurrently during the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) meeting in early February. He added that, just today he was asked to present on the same topic at the NACD Pacific Region meeting in Sacramento, CA in September.

Craig introduced Juan Ledezma, the new Financial Assistant to the group.

Kirsten Cook reported that there will be a self-guided Firewise Tour of Homes in the Methow this weekend. She added that the Okanogan County Fair is September 8 – 12, 2016 and asked for recommendations for fair booth displays.

Leslie Michel announced that the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) has asked for a full proposal of her grant application by September 18, 2016.

Ivan asked for introductions of the District's new employees, Kyle McGovern, Stacie Powers, Becky Snijder, and Kim Kogler.

Amy Martin informed that we now have a new Department of Ecology grant, which will involve two contracts, a fencing project around Thurlow Lake and a well and trough installation.

Contracts & Conservation Plans:

South Central WA Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) WAFAC Contract – Kirsten Cook presented the Washington Fire Adapted Communities (WAFAC) grant contract for the amount of \$18,411. Jerry Asmussen moved to approve the SCW RC&D WAFAC grant contract and authorize Ivan to sign the agreement when available. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

PEI Field Stem – Kirsten Cook presented the contract for the Pacific Educator Institute Field Stem grant for \$2,275.00. Lorah Super moved to approve the PEI Field Stem contract and authorize Ivan to sign the agreement when available. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Agency Reports

Okanogan Land Trust, Jerry DeBacker – Jerry reported that most of the annual monitoring is complete and they are working to finalize an easement between Tonasket and Havilah. They will be working on a proposed to be donated easement in Bonaparte Creek in October. They are currently looking for office space in Okanogan.

Natural Resources Conservation Services, Sarah Troutman – Sarah reported that she did a site visit with Bob Clark and Kelly Scott on French Creek to view the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) project where the dike blew out after a storm. After surveying the area, it was determined that the dike will be rebuilt again with larger rock.

Sarah is working on getting funds added to the WSCC contract for task orders for the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) for assistance in the Okanogan County. She announced that a new student trainee from Okanogan, Brendan Dilloughery is expected to start on August 22, 2016 and a new Nespelem Soil Conservationist has been selected.

Public Report – There were no public comments.

Old Business

Plant Sale – Craig Nelson and Kirsten Cook presented an analysis on why they are recommending to discontinue the plant sale. After discussion, Lorah Super moved to discontinue the plant sale until further notice. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Other Old Business – There was no other old business.

New Business

Emergency Grass Seeding Contract Modification – Terri Williams informed the board members present that last year's grass seeding contracts had a stipulation for no grazing for three years and how some sites were not even effective seeding. Native grasses and introduced grasses that were present before the fire returned anyway. Craig Nelson asked if the board would be okay granting relief from the no grazing clause in some situations. After considerable discussion, Jerry Asmussen moved to allow deferral from the no grazing stipulation on a case by case basis and to develop a process on which the decision is made. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Fire Recovery Cost-share Eligible Practices – Terri Williams reported that cost share projects for fire recovery come various forms, from fencing, stock water and irrigation to driveways, to cattle crossings and culverts. She asked the board for guidance as to what they would see as acceptable cost share projects for the fire recovery funds. There was discussion about how to determine the line between whether or not the project is a natural resource concern. Jerry Asmussen asked that a process of determining a cost shares eligibility be written up and brought back to the next board meeting. Kim Kogler reported she sees a need for forestry practices and asked for guidance as to what type of practices the board would be comfortable with paying cost share on. Lorah Super moved to develop a forest practice cost share program using limited practices, such as chipping, masticating, and treating burned material and hazard tree removal, not restricted to hazard areas, but prioritized. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Jerry Asmussen asked that staff come back with a plan.

Washington Conservation Society Membership – Craig Nelson explained that the Washington Conservation Society is an off shoot of WACD and offers small grant programs for education and can be a grantor for grant applications if a 501(c)3 is required. The board asked that we bring this back for discussion at the next board meeting.

WSCC 2017 Implementation Grant – Craig Nelson announced that the District has received Implementation funds from the WSCC in the amount of \$88,923. He explained that \$12,500 of that would go to Basic Funding, \$13,000 for administration and elections, \$48,423 for technical assistance and \$15,000 for information and education. Jerry Asmussen moved to approve the 2017 Implementation grant. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Other New Business – There was no other new business.

Jerry Asmussen left the meeting at 7:25 PM, so there was no longer a quorum.

District Elections Changes – Kim Simpson informed that the WSCC approved posting for comment, draft changes to the election procedures and policies, which includes an adoption of a common date or week for district elections sometime during the first quarter of the year among other changes. A summary of the proposed changes up for comment, is posted on their website and all comments should be directed to Bill Eller.

Other – There was no other new business.

Ivan Oberg adjourned the meeting at 7:39 PM.

Summary of Motions

Jerry Asmussen moved to approve the agenda as amended. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Lorah Super moved to approve the July 2016 regular Board Meeting and July 26, 2016 Special Board Meeting minutes as presented. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Albert Roberts moved to approve Treasurer's Report #759 as presented. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Lorah Super moved to approve Amended Treasurer's Report #758. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

Jerry Asmussen moved to approve the SCW RC&D WAFAC grant contract and authorize Ivan to sign the agreement when available. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Lorah Super moved to approve the PEI Field Stem contract and authorize Ivan to sign the agreement when available. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

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Lorah Super moved to develop a forest practice cost share program using limited practices, such as chipping, masticating, and treating burned material and hazard tree removal not restricted to

hazard areas, but prioritized. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Jerry Asmussen moved to approve the 2017 Implementation grant. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Ivan Oberg Date
Chair

Kim Simpson Date
District Treasurer