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**TO:** The Record  
**SUBJECT:** February 2, 2012 Board of Supervisors Meeting  
**LOCATION:** USDA Service Center, Okanogan, WA  
**FROM:** Laura Clark, Administrative Program Coordinator

**PRESENT:**

Ivan Oberg, Chair	Wes Hover, Member
Lorah Super, Member	Gerri Oberg, Assoc. Supervisor
Craig Nelson, District Manager	Laura Clark, Admin. Program Lead
Kim Simpson, District Treasurer	Kirsten Cook, Conservation Educator
Terri Williams, Conservation Planner	Randy Kelley, NRCS
Curtis Beus, WSU Extension	

**Regular Meeting Call To Order:** Ivan Oberg called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM.

**Agenda:** The agenda was presented. Add: Contracts – Gahimer letter of support. Lorah Super made a motion to approve the agenda as changed. Wes Hover seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

**Approval of Minutes:** Ivan Oberg asked for comments on the **January 5, 2012 minutes**. Wes Hover made a motion to approve the January 5, 2012 minutes as written. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

**Treasurer's Report #705**, which covers the checking account activity for January 6, 2012 to February 3, 2012, inclusive was presented for the Board's approval. The following vouchers/checks are approved for payment:

Payroll direct withdrawals; on 1-18-12 totaling \$7,462.10,  
Payroll direct withdrawals; on 2-3-12 totaling \$7,462.15,  
Voucher (check) numbers; 9515 to 9520 totaling \$5,351.42,  
Direct withdrawals on 1-10-12 totaling \$2,948.09, on 1-13-12 totaling \$2,807.88, on 1-17-12 totaling \$9.96, on 1-20-12 totaling \$120.00, on 1-24-12 totaling \$2,285.10, on 1-26-12 totaling \$192.36, on 1-26-12 totaling \$249.51, on 1-26-12 totaling \$1,690.84, on 1-26-12 totaling \$428.65, on 1-30-12 totaling \$108.78, on 1-30-12 totaling \$834.35, on 1-31-12 totaling \$492.50, on 1-31-12 totaling \$122.33, and on 2-2-12 totaling \$9.96, and deposits totaling \$48,767.86.  
Lorah Super made a motion to approve Treasurer's Report #705 as written. Wes Hover seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

**Supervisor Reports:** Lorah Super advised that **Methow Forest Resources** met with the Nature Conservancy to form a partnership in order to assist with moving their small diameter and sawmill business forward. The **National Fire Plan** committee met and ranked the high priority areas within the Carlton area to determine where they will work on wildfire protection projects. The ranking was: 1- French Creek, 2- Texas Creek, 3- Gold Creek, and 4- Libby Creek.

Wes Hover advised the **Okanogan County Electric Cooperative** approved and signed the Memorandum of Understanding with us to work on the Save Water Save Energy projects. Wes is working with the NRCS to install irrigation pivots through the **Environmental Quality Incentive Program** and that contract has now been signed. There was another two feet of **snow** in the past ten days in his area, but now it is warming up again.

**Associate Supervisor Reports:** There were no associate supervisor reports.

**District Manager's Report:** Craig Nelson attended the **National Association of Conservation Districts' Annual Meeting**. He attended the natural resource policy committee meeting and a session on seeking funding. After observing how they process **resolutions**, he suggests we keep all resolutions to just a few lines of language as that is how they are presented to the NACD. It is better that we shorten the language than having them shorten it for us. NACD had a formal policy question regarding how to handle **TMDLs** (Total Maximum Daily Load) for waterways in any given area. They are developing some guidelines to pass on to districts. They also provided an update indicating the **NRCS** has 27 million acres nationwide enrolled in various federal conservation programs. The NRCS has more work and less staff time to complete it than they have had in the past, making a greater need for the Technical Service Provider contracts/assistance. The **forestry resource resolution** brought forward from our state passed the committee level unanimously, but although likely, he was unsure whether it passed through the final level of approval as he had to leave the session early. After many interviews and effort, we were able to hire our new conservation planner. **Terri Williams** started work with us today.

Kirsten Cook indicated she has been doing presentations to the Virginia Granger Elementary school students with the **stream table**. She had a district booth at the **Okanogan County Horticulture Association** annual meeting where there were roughly 150 people in attendance. She had about 30 people stop and pick up information on our programs and felt it was very successful.

Laura Clark provided an update on the **Firewise** funding and activities. She attended three separate meetings to prioritize project areas (Carlton, Nine Mile Ranch/Pontiac Ridge, and Aeneas Valley) for funding the Washington Department of Natural Resources has secured. Lorah Super added that we should develop forestry projects and make an application to the National Fire Plan.

Kim Simpson advised the **surplus equipment** has now been inventoried, tagged, and she is preparing to advertise the sale.

**Contracts & Conservation Plans**

Wes Hover made a motion to approve the **Okanogan County PUD Memorandum of Understanding** to do the Save Water Save Energy projects. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Wes Hover made a motion to approve the **Nespelem Valley Electric Cooperative Memorandum of Understanding** to do the Save Water Save Energy projects. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Wes Hover made a motion to approve the **Okanogan County Electric Cooperative Memorandum of Understanding** to do the Save Water Save Energy projects. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Lorah Super made a motion to authorize the staff to negotiate with the **Foster Creek Conservation District** for them to provide us with professional conservation planning services up to 20 hours per week to assist with our workload during the next few months. Wes Hover seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Lorah Super made a motion to approve the **Gahimer water right** letter of support to install a non-consumptive water diversion to run a micro hydro system to generate electricity. Wes Hover seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

**Agency Reports:**

***Natural Resources Conservation Service:*** Randy Kelley will be attending the statewide **Local Work Group** meeting tomorrow to discuss the process this year. Randy provided two **handouts**: 1) Environmental Quality Incentive Program FY 2011 and FY2012 statistics, and 2) NRCS North Central Washington Team active contracts and agreements statistics. There will be another **Conservation Reserve Program** signup this year. Randy also provided the current **snow survey** information and reviewed the same with the Board.

***Washington State University Extension:*** Curtis Beus has **three classes** they are offering soon: 1) Cultivating Success (agriculture), 2) Beef 200, and 3) Agritourism Training Program. The Agritourism training has been changed to be an all day session at four different locations to accommodate the needs expressed. WSU Extension is still seeking a **new director**. They received **budget cuts** also. They have changed their **management process** to manage by field specialties rather than by location. Another state ended up having to drop all of their field offices and create a central office to handle the entire state. Curtis is still working on developing a class on **riparian grazing**. On November 7, 2012 Andy Perleberg, Wenatchee WSU Extension, will have a class **“Ties to the Land”** which covers agricultural successional planning. Andy is also hosting the **2013 Field Day** and will looking towards the Okanogan area to have that event.

***Washington State Conservation Commission:*** Bill Eller advised there will be a webinar in the next few weeks to discuss the **state budget** and its impacts. Bill was advised that our District will be an **auto election** as only one candidate filed for the Board position. The **Schedule 22**

process and form have been updated and a webinar will be held in late March to discuss the new process. We will conduct our Schedule 22 review in April.

### **Old Business**

Laura Clark advised the **plant sale** order deadline was extended twice and we are still collecting orders due to the excess/surplus supply still coming. She discussed the issues of the financial loss in the plant sale and provided her suggestions. Wes Hover made a motion to stop growing our own ponderosa pine for future years. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

As previously indicated, the **District Elections** are now an auto election as we only had one candidate file for the open Board position.

### **Task List**

- #8 – **Chesaw/Oroville grade project** – Although this is an old task, we will continue to seek funding.
- #9 – **Staff training plan** – An annual request from WACD will help accomplish this task.
- #10 – **Three agency MOA** – The draft will be considered by the Commission before being forwarded to the agencies.
- #12 – **District Elections** – Albert Roberts was the only candidate filed, so there will not be an election.
- #13 – **Surplus** – The items have been identified and will be out to bid this month.
- #15 – The **new conservation planner** has now been hired.

**Public Comments:** No public comments were given.

### **New Business**

Craig Nelson presented the draft **FY 2013 Annual Plan of Work**. There was one update to the draft and it will be sent out to our partnering groups.

Craig Nelson provided an update on the **Eight Mile project** which Bob Clark has been working with the US Forest Service on for some time now. This project will install efficiencies on irrigation systems so additional water may be left in the stream.

Randy Kelley advised they will now be handling the Department of Labor work for our area on a contractual basis.

Ivan Oberg **adjourned** the meeting at 6:50 PM.

### **Summary of Motions**

Lorah Super made a motion to approve the agenda as changed. Wes Hover seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

**Summary of Motions (continued)**

Wes Hover made a motion to approve the January 5, 2012 minutes as written. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

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Ivan Oberg, Chair

Date

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Laura Clark, Admin. Prog. Coord.

Date