



1251 2nd Avenue South — Room 101, Okanogan, WA 98840

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TO: The Record
SUBJECT: June 7, 2012 Board of Supervisors Meeting
LOCATION: USDA Service Center, Okanogan, WA
FROM: Laura Clark, Administrative Program Coordinator

PRESENT:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Ivan Oberg, Chair | Jerry Asmussen, Vice Chair |
| Albert Roberts, District Auditor | Lorah Super, Member |
| Wes Hover, Member | Gerri Oberg, Assoc. Supervisor |
| Craig Nelson, District Manager | Bob Clark, Technical Program Coordinator |
| Laura Clark, Admin. Program Coor. | Kim Simpson, District Treasurer |
| Terri Williams, Conservation Planner | Kirsten Cook, Conservation Educator |
| Bill Eller, WSCC | Steve Fucile, SCW RC&D |
| Heather Simmons-Rigdon, SCW RC&D | Colleda Monick, SCW RC&D |

Regular Meeting Call To Order: Ivan Oberg called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Introductions were made.

Agenda: The agenda was presented. Move the Save Water Save Energy group's presentation ahead of the Manager and Staff Report. Add: Old Business – Plant Sale Update. Add: New Business – National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant. Jerry Asmussen 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 **May 3, 2012 minutes**. Lorah Super amended the information on the auction to reflect its proper name. Jerry Asmussen made a motion to approve the May 3, 2012 minutes as amended. Wes Hover seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report #709, which covers the checking account activity for May 4, 2012 to June 7, 2012, inclusive was presented for the Board's approval. The following vouchers/checks are approved for payment:

Payroll direct withdrawals; on 5-17-12 totaling \$8,416.87,
Payroll direct withdrawals; on 6-4-12 totaling \$8,416.86,
Voucher (check) numbers; 9571 to 9588 totaling \$17,907.09,

Direct withdrawals on 5-4-12 totaling \$160.00, on 5-8-12 totaling \$2,570.00, on 5-11-12 totaling \$2,771.88, on 5-17-12 totaling \$12.60, on 5-18-12 totaling \$189.56, on 5-22-12 totaling \$160.00, on 5-22-12 totaling \$2,570.01, on 5-25-12 totaling \$164.16, on 5-25-12 totaling \$621.53, on 5-25-12 totaling \$16.08, on 5-25-12 totaling \$343.51, on 5-25-12 totaling \$97.23, on 6-1-12 totaling \$12.60, on 6-4-12 totaling \$189.56, on 6-5-12 totaling \$160.00, on 6-7-12 totaling \$2,570.03, and on 5-11-12 a transfer of \$3,400.00 to the savings account. The deposits totaled \$68,354.15 and expenditures totaled \$47,349.57. Wes Hover made a motion to approve Treasurer's Report #709 as written. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Supervisor Reports: Wes Hover got his circle **irrigation** systems installed. He reported there was a **wolf** kill near Carlton recently. Approximately 50% of the **basin fields** received rain, so there is probably an impact to hay and other agricultural crops.

Lorah Super indicated she has been moving **horses** to new fields and planting **potatoes**. They also have a bid in for a packing job. She **facilitated** a board meeting recently, for which she received some very positive feedback. The BBC movie, that her pack company assisted, has now been released "**Land of the Lost Wolves**".

Jerry Asmussen said they received more **snow** up in the hills recently.

Albert Roberts said he was grateful for the **recent rains** as it means less time and energy watering fields.

Associate Supervisor Reports: There were no associate supervisor reports.

South Central WA Resource Conservation & Development: Steve Fucile gave the history of the **Save Water Save Energy program**. It is funding received from Bonneville Power Administration and then coordinated through Resource Conservation and Development Councils. Our area is coordinated by the SCW RC&D, which is where Steve and the others work. The program is intended to extend the reach of BPA to more on the ground activities for on-farm electric savings. Agricultural operations can upgrade their equipment and realize an electrical savings. This program now covers 13 utilities, 10 conservation districts, and 5 RC&Ds. The program will continue with BPA funding, but they are also seeking additional funding from other sources.

Heather Simmons-Rigdon, SCW RC&D, indicated the last year was kind of rough and they are **streamlining the process**, including reporting and making payments more efficient. They are now asking "How can we make it work better" on internal and state levels. In order to achieve that, it was decided they would form a **state oversight review board**. That board will be made up of two representatives from each RC&D area and will require one to two meetings per year. They are looking for a representative from our District. Bob Clark does our technical work and Kirsten Cook does the statewide marketing for this program.

District Manager's Report: Craig Nelson sent a letter to Lynn Brown, central area representative for the WA State Conservation Commission, stating his concern for the **lack of communication to conservation districts** on many activities by the WACD and the WSCC. There will be a meeting at the WA Association of District Employees to discuss the issues, including changes and Commission staff decisions not communicated to conservation districts. Another concern is having staff level tasks dealt with at their meetings and having them removed from the agenda in order to leave more time for agencies and planning. Craig indicated he has not had a lot of time recently to work on the **Rapid Watershed Assessment**, but expects to be able to dedicate more time to this project next week. The Colville Confederated Tribes and the Natural Resources Conservation Service have a lot of data that will greatly benefit this project. There is a **Competitive Efficiencies** grant to address administrative efficiency shortfalls in conservation districts. The grant limits the request to a maximum of \$35,000 and is due on July 10, 2012. The **interviews** were conducted for the new conservation planner position and those details will be discussed later in the meeting.

Bob Clark indicated that the WA Department of Natural Resources does not currently have funding to do the **range transects**. Bob is in the process of getting programmatic approval for **irrigation pump screens** in order to reduce the time spent getting permits for each individual project.

Kirsten Cook handed out her **monthly report** and reviewed the same with the Board.

Contracts & Conservation Plans

Lorah Super made a motion to approve the **Traylor landowner agreement**. Albert Roberts seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Jerry Asmussen approved entering a contract with Cates and Erb for \$87,938.67 to do the work on the **Traylor culvert project** between August 1, 2012 and September 30, 2012. Wes Hover seconded the motion. Albert Roberts abstained. The motion was passed.

Lorah Super made a motion to approve the **Verle Kaiser grant** contract to provide stream table lessons to outlying schools for \$1,500. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Jerry Asmussen made a motion to approve the **WA State Department of Transportation general permit** for the Traylor project. Wes Hover seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Agency Reports:

Washington State Conservation Commission: Bill Eller indicated that the topics he was going to discuss have already been covered in this meeting.

Old Business

There is no nomination for the **Tree Farmer of the Year** award.

There was a discussion about how to use the remaining approximately \$12,500 in the **Implementation grant**. Lorah Super made a motion to approve the purchase of a computer for up to \$3,000, a Tommy lift gate for the Ford F150 pickup and installation for approximately \$4,000, two canopies for approximately \$300, a hand cart for approximately \$200, salaries for the conservation planner and WA Association of District Employees trainings up to \$5,000, and any remaining funds would be used to purchase small tools or, if sufficient, purchase another computer. Wes Hover seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Kirsten provided an update on the **WA State Envirothon** competition to the Board. She has now created a "cook book" which will give future hosts a step-by-step guide on how to host the competition. She advised that next year's event will be hosted by Palouse Conservation District. The 2013 current issue topic will be range.

The interviews were conducted for the conservation planner position and the interview committee is recommending a person to hire. Albert Roberts made a motion to hire Leslie Michel for the new conservation planner position at a rate of the equivalent of \$16-\$18 per hour on a monthly salary basis. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Task List

- #3 – Background Checks – Remove Laura Clark from the task
- #5 – Grant Balance Tracking – Kim is presenting these monthly during a staff meeting
- #10 – WA State Envirothon – Completed
- #11 – City of Tonasket annexation – Amend to read "annexation into the District"
- #15 – WADE – To be completed next week
- #16 – Thank You letter to Ralph Longanecker – Sent
- #19 – Options for Building Space – Some options were presented (later in the meeting)
- #20 – DNR Transect Monitoring – DNR does not have funding at this time – Seek funding
- #21 – Tree Farmer of the Year – No nomination
- #22 – Priority Purchases List – Purchases discussed and decided upon

Kim Simpson presented a spreadsheet showing the **plant sale** bottom line from this and prior year sales. There was discussion on whether or not to continue the plant sale due to the bottom line losses. However, it was cited that this sale is a great marketing tool. Albert Roberts made a motion to continue the annual plant sale and to expand the education and marketing of it. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Public Comments: No public comments were given.

New Business

After some discussion, Lorah Super made a motion to submit the **Competitive Efficiencies grant** for at least two of these three prioritized items: 1) a fuel efficient vehicle for \$15,000, 2)

Training for Board and Staff development for \$10,000, and 3) building rent for \$10,000. Albert Roberts seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Albert Roberts made a motion to submit a grant application to the **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation** to provide cost share funds for the Upper Okanogan Livestock grant. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

The group took a **break** from 9:30 PM to 9:40 PM.

The Board went into **executive session** at 9:40 PM for 20 minutes to conduct an employee exit interview.

The Board came out of executive session at 10:00 PM.

The Board went into executive session at 10:00 PM for 15 minutes.

Ivan Oberg **adjourned** the meeting at 10:15 PM.

Summary of Motions

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

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Summary of Motions (continued)

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Ivan Oberg, Chair Date


Laura Clark, Admin. Program Coor. Date