

Washington Association of Conservation Districts

Summary of November Board Actions

- Doug Rushton moved to adopt the agenda with the staff requested changes. Second by John Floyd. Motion carried.
- Jeanette Dorner moved to authorize up to \$30,000 for the purchase of a new vehicle for the PMC, out of the capital reserve, not including tax, title and license. Second by Alan Chapman. Cindy Pierce offered a friendly amendment to increase the total to \$40,000, which was accepted. Motion carried.
- Alan Chapman moved to adopt the October and September meeting minutes as presented. Second by John Preston seconds. Motion carried.
- John Preston moved that the Board propose the Columbia Basin CD name change to the association at the Annual Business Meeting. Second by Doug Rushton. Motion carried.
- Alan Chapman moved that the Board propose disbanding the PMC Subcommittee at the Annual Business Meeting. Second by Jeanette Dorner. Motion carried with Amy McKay's abstention.
- Amy McKay moved that the Board proposed the creation of a Livestock Committee at the Annual Business Meeting. Second by Jerry Kolke. Motion Carried.
- Doug Rushton moved to remove the "non-supervisors" restriction on permanent committee policy language. Second by Jeanette Dorner. Motion carried with Jack Clark's abstention.
- Jeanette Dorner moved that the Board propose making district employees eligible for one of the two area director positions in each area at the Annual Business Meeting. Second by Cindy Pierce. Motion carried.
- Jeanette Dorner moved to disseminate the draft 2023 legislative priorities for comment and feedback by the membership. Second by Jeff Schibel. Motion carried.
- Jeanette Dorner moved to adopt the policy on resolutions from the floor. Second by Cindy Pierce. Motion carried.
- Amy McKay moved to approve the 2023 proposed board meeting schedule. Second by Barbara Bailey. Motion carried.

Washington Association of Conservation Districts

Remote Connection through Zoom

November 21, 2022

Board Meeting Minutes

Members Remotely Present

Mike Mumford, President (Pend Oreille CD)
Amy McKay, Vice President (Whitman CD)
Barbara Bailey, Secretary (Underwood CD)
Doug Rushton, National Director (Thurston CD)
Jeanette Dorner, Past President (Pierce CD)
Alan Chapman, Northwest Area Director (Whatcom CD)
Lisa Zaborac, Southwest Area Director (Grays Harbor CD)
Jerry Kolke, Southwest Area Director (Clark CD)
John Preston, North Central Area Director (Columbia Basin CD)
Jack Clark, South Central Area Director (Benton CD)
Jeff Schibel, Northeast Area Director (Lincoln County CD)
John Floyd, Northeast Area Director (Pend Oreille CD)
Mary Collins, Southeast Area Director (Palouse CD)
Cindy Pierce, WADE President (Skagit CD)

Others Remotely Present

Tom Salzer, WACD Executive Director
Ryan Baye, WACD Legislative & Membership Director
Jim Brown, WACD Director of Nursery Operations
Chris Pettit, WSCC Executive Director
Kristina Ribellia, Executive Director (Columbia Basin CD)
Craig Nelson, Executive Director (Okanogan CD)
Becca Hebron, District Manager (Foster Creek CD)
Ryan Williams, District Manager (Cascadia CD)

President Mumford called to order at 6:00. Ryan Baye took roll to confirm a quorum was present.

Area Focus

Craig Nelson presented for Okanogan CD, sharing the district's recent activities including building up the district's water bank pilot program, and their difficulty filling staff vacancies.

Ryan Williams presented for Cascadia CD, that he hoped everyone enjoyed the Annual Conference in Wenatchee. He discussed wrapping up the final projects from the field season with a snowy field project the following week, how the district was adjusting to the increased costs of doing business, and the start to sign-ups for the district's RCPP program.

Kristina Ribellia presented for Columbia Basin CD by explaining the district's recent name change. She detailed some of the many district activities including harmful algae bloom efforts, a drone program, building out their bilingual services, work on the Odessa watershed program, and their preparations for moving into their new district office.

Becca Hebron presented for Foster Creek CD, having been District Manager for nine days. She was proud FCCD was the 2022 North Central District of the Year and the many programs and staff contributions to their recognition.

Adopting Agenda

Ryan Baye asked for changes to be made to the draft agenda shared the previous week before the board adopted the meeting's agenda. He specifically asked the board to:

- Add a "Adopt previous meeting minutes" agenda item after Area Focus.
- Move the 7:20 "WACD Annual Business Meeting & Resolutions" to after "2023 Preliminary Legislative Priorities"
- Add an "action" option to the 8:20 Board dinner agenda item.

Doug Rushton moved to adopt the agenda with the staff requested changed. Second by John Floyd. Motion carried.

Public Comment Period

Mike Nordin, District Manager of Pacific and Grays Harbor Conservation Districts, shared with the board that the two districts would be paying dues before the Annual Conference. He also shared personal remarks with his support for the bylaw proposal authorizing district employees to serve as Area Directors.

Treasurer's Report

Tom Salzer presented the Treasurer's Report on behalf of Treasurer Dave Fenn. He highlighted the current total in WACD's investment account, projections for the year's PMC harvest, and described some of the aged receivables included in the financial report. He answered a question about how WACD structured its investments with Edward Jones.

Nursery Manager's Report

Jim Brown discussed the start of harvest at the nursery and their preparations for this year. He gave additional details to his request from the October meeting for funding for a new field pick-up, that the current one had to be towed back from Whatcom County and should not be counted on for this year's operations. Jeanette Dornier moved to authorize up to \$30,000 for the purchase of a new vehicle for the PMC, out of the capital reserve, not including tax, title and license. Second by Alan Chapman. Cindy Pierce offered a friendly amendment to increase the total to \$40,000, which was accepted. Motion carried.

Previous Meeting Minutes

It was brought to the President' attention that he had skipped adopting the previous meeting's minutes. Alan Chapman moved to adopt the October and September meeting minutes as presented. Second by John Preston seconds. Motion carried.

Bylaw Proposals

Ryan Baye briefed the Board on the four bylaw proposals and their backgrounds. He also reported on the feedback received from the membership on the concept of district employees as Area Directors and a staff proposed alternative policy to remove the restriction on non-supervisors on WACD Committees.

John Preston moved that the Board propose the Columbia Basin CD name change at the Annual Business Meeting. Second by Doug Rushton. Motion carried.

Mike Mumford discussed his reasons for proposing elimination of the PMC Subcommittee. He believed that it had been necessary at the time to create a permanent group dedicated to the PMC's operations but that the Subcommittee had not met in three years.

Alan Chapman moved that the Board propose disbanding the PMC Subcommittee at the Annual Business Meeting. Second by Jeanette Dorner. Motion carried with Amy McKay's abstention.

Amy McKay moved that the Board propose the creation of a Livestock Committee at the Annual Business Meeting. Second by Jerry Kolke. Motion Carried.

Doug Rushton moved to remove the "non-supervisors" restriction on permanent committees policy language. Second by Jeanette Dorner. Mike Nordin offered a public comment approving the concept but did not want to see the cap on "non-supervisors" entirely removed. Motion carried with Jack Clark's abstention.

Jeanette Dorner moved that the Board propose making district employees eligible for one of the two area director positions in each area at the Annual Business Meeting. Second by Cindy Pierce. There was discussion amongst board members who wanted to give the membership the chance to discuss this. There were also questions if area associations could choose to keep the restriction. Motion carried.

2022 Election Debrief

WACD Lobbyist Brynn Brady joined the call to debrief the outcomes of the 2022 election and what it meant for the 2023 legislative session. She also shared details of changes in legislative leadership and what potential bills she was hearing about.

Preliminary 2023 Legislative Priorities

Ryan Baye described how the draft legislative priorities were prepared based on adopted resolutions and previous years' feedback on returning bills. Jeanette Dorner offered a comment on how funding by RCO should be included amongst the budget priorities because of the

number of districts who receive grants from that agency. Jeanette Dorner moved to disseminate the draft 2023 legislative priorities for comment and feedback by the membership. Second by Jeff Schibel. Motion carried.

WACD Annual Business Meeting & Resolutions

Mike Mumford discussed how he was approaching the Annual Business Meeting when it came to speaking order and handling online and in-person discussion. He invited board feedback since it was his first time presiding over the Business Meeting. He also asked for the Board to adopt a policy on resolutions from the floor of the meeting, to avoid the repeat of last year's uncertainty. Jeanette Dorner moved to adopt the policy on resolutions from the floor. Second by Cindy Pierce. Motion carried.

2023 Board Meeting Schedule

Ryan Baye detailed the changes made to the draft schedule based on comments and feedback shared during the year, to not have board meetings that fell on a federal holiday and to take June and July off from the monthly meeting schedule. Amy McKay moved to approve the 2023 proposed board meeting schedule. Second by Barbara Bailey. Motion carried.

Ryan Baye also presented the Board with a request to move the planned December meeting, since not many of the Board members planned to attend the Annual Conference. There was discussion on a proposed new time for the Board to meet, which was settled on December 5th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41.