



1251 2ND AVENUE SOUTH – ROOM 101, OKANOGAN, WA 98840
PHONE: (509) 422-0855 EXT. 5 • FAX: (509) 422-0532 • WEB: WWW.OKANOGANCD.ORG

TO: The Record
SUBJECT: October 6, 2011 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	Wes Hover, Member
Lorah Super, Member	Ralph Longanecker, Assoc. Supervisor
Gerri Oberg, Assoc. Supervisor	Craig Nelson, District Manager
Bob Clark, Tech. Prog. Coordinator	Laura Clark, Admin. Prog. Coord.
Kim Simpson, District Treasurer	Kelly Kolrud, Conservation Planner
Will Keller, NRCS	

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

Agenda: The agenda was presented. Add: WACD Professional Services contract, Okanogan Watershed Plan action, and NACD dues to New Business. Add: WACD resolutions to Old Business. Lorah Super made a motion to approve the agenda as changed. Albert Roberts seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Approval of Minutes: Ivan Oberg asked for comments on the **September 1, 2011 minutes**. Ivan Oberg corrected his comment regarding the USDA meat processing to reflect they are “hoping” to get it started. Albert Roberts corrected his comment regarding the fire near his house to reflect the response was from the Mount Tolman Fire District. Jerry Asmussen made a motion to approve the September 1, 2011 minutes as changed. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report #701, which covers the checking account activity for September 2, 2011 to October 6, 2011, inclusive was presented for the Board's approval. The following vouchers/checks are approved for payment:
Payroll direct withdrawals; on 9-19-11 totaling \$9,853.82,
Payroll direct withdrawals; on 10-4-11 totaling \$9,789.59,
Voucher (check) numbers; 9448 to 9461 totaling \$89,745.21,
Direct withdrawals on 9-6-11 totaling \$245.00, on 9-6-11 totaling \$3,087.60, on 9-7-11 totaling \$300.00, on 9-8-11 totaling \$200.00, on 9-13-11 totaling \$3,044.19, on 9-16-11 totaling \$12.65,

on 9-21-11 totaling \$195.00, on 9-22-11 totaling \$3,072.23, on 9-23-11 totaling \$71.96, on 9-23-11 totaling \$13.25, on 9-23-11 totaling \$258.97, on 9-23-11 totaling \$10.47, on 9-23-11 totaling \$38.50, on 9-29-11 totaling \$142.89, on 10-3-11 totaling \$12.65, on 10-6-11 totaling \$3,048.90, and on 10-6-11 totaling \$195.00, and deposits totaling \$30,986.25. Albert Roberts made a motion to approve Treasurer's Report #701 as written. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report #700 Amended – This report is amended to correct the last two checks, check numbers 2446 & 2447 to reflect their correct amount. It also corrects the ending check number reflected in the September 1, 2011 Board meeting minutes. Jerry Asmussen made a motion to approve the amended Treasurer's Report #700. Albert Roberts seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Kim Simpson advised the Board a new bill just arrived by email that is due shortly: it is the **Firefly invoice** for \$145.40 to troubleshoot the backup issue we were having.

Jerry Asmussen made a motion to approve the **National Association of Conservation Districts dues** payment of \$775.00. Albert Roberts seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Supervisor Reports: Ivan Oberg received a letter from Butch Ogden at the Washington Association of Conservation Districts stating that our District will not be subject to a **state audit** this year.

Jerry Asmussen indicated that they have had plenty of **rain and bears** at his place. He asked when they will begin **diverting water** for the Gladstone project on Bonaparte Creek. Kelly Kolrud indicated they will be diverting a portion of the stream in October/November 2011. Based on that activity, they will determine when they will do the full stream diversion.

Lorah Super advised they are presently **harvesting** potatoes and beets. She attended a meeting on September 15, 2011 where they discussed that all the state agencies have to cut their **budgets** due to a state budget shortfall. The comment period for the **US Forest Service Plan** has been extended. Lorah assisted a Mazama group in submitting comments which included adding a buffer zone at the edges of the US Forest Service's preserved forest land adjacent to structures in order to protect those structures from wildfire. Lloyd at the Nature Conservancy is interested in addressing the issues associated with the shutdown **wood mills**. Lorah submitted an application for appointment to the **Washington Forestry Practices Board** for their vacant position. The Okanogan County Commissioners are interested in the **Ruckelshaus Center Volunteer Stewardship Program** and will be having a meeting to discuss that on October 25, 2011 at 7:00 PM.

Albert Roberts indicated his **harvest** is almost done and he is moving into preparing for the **winter**.

Associate Supervisor Reports: There were no associate supervisors present.

District Manager's Report: Craig Nelson advised the **Ruckelshaus Center Volunteer Stewardship Program** will fall under the Washington State Conservation Commission. This program will allow for a county level determination of the riparian management policy, which could vary from the Shorelines Master Plan. Craig is working on the Department of Ecology **grant application** to fund education and outreach to livestock producers on the Okanogan River from Tonasket to the Canadian border to address any water quality issues. This would provide funding to create conservation plans for those producers with some funds for implementation. The grant would also pay for the development of other projects in the area which would allow us to seek additional funding to implement those projects. The **State House Agriculture and Resource committee** came during September and had a tour of the north county ranches and Buckhorn Mine. This was followed by an evening meeting. There they discussed the **Wolf Management Plan**, including the fact that wolves can create problems for the livestock producers and they are concerned. They discussed **state lands management issues**. Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife has acquired \$3.5 million in land acquisitions in the Methow Valley, but they have no funding to manage those lands. There is also a need to fund **forestry management** for the US Forest Service. They also discussed the fact that **water rights** can and have been transferred outside of their respective watersheds, while some areas have stopped allowing additional water rights. The "**Three Directors**" are the directors for the state agencies of Department of Ecology, Department of Agriculture, and the Washington State Conservation Commission. They are working on an agreement to address the cooperation between the agencies and conservation districts for **water quality complaints**. There is currently a water quality issue related to agricultural operations being dealt with in the Samish Basin (Skagit County) to address the impacts of livestock operations on shellfish beds. This process may lead to a way to handle the partnership between Ecology and conservation districts. Ecology is pressured to protect water quality from agricultural operations from environmental groups and Tribes. There is a **livestock best management practices training** being provided by the Washington State University in Ellensburg on October 20 & 21, 2011 which Kelly Kolrud and maybe Craig Nelson will attend. Craig advised the Board that we need to replace his and Kirsten Cook's **computers** and he is exploring options on how to fund those purchases.

Bob Clark asked the Board its preference regarding creating **interlocal agreements or annexing of each town or city** within the county into the District in order to be able to perform projects within their boundaries. He presently has an irrigation diversion fish screen project which falls within a town not in the District. The Board will consider at a future meeting how to handle request from landowners in incorporated cities and towns.

Contracts & Conservation Plans

Lorah Super made a motion to approve the **Strickland livestock project** to develop two water systems, 2,600' of fencing, 1,500' of piping, a solar pump, and two water troughs for \$24,680 to exclude cattle from their seven acre pond. This project would be paid with \$5,000 from the Implementation grant, landowner cost share of labor, and the balance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Albert Roberts seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Albert Roberts made a motion to approve entering into a contract with the Colville Confederated Tribes to perform the **Loup Loup Creek revegetation project** following the Tribes' project replacing culverts at that location. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Albert Roberts made a motion to approve spending the balance of the US Fish and Wildlife Service project funding of approximately \$7,500 on revegetating the **Gladstone project**. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Jerry Asmussen made a motion to approve the interlocal agreement with the **Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife** to be able to work on projects on their land. Albert Roberts seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Agency Reports:

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Randy Kelley indicated that the NRCS will soon be working on the contract with the District for **building space** and other items. The current general application deadline for the **Environmental Quality Incentive Program** and the **Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program** is November 4, 2011. Randy stated their appreciation of the partnership with our District. Each year NRCS asks each conservation district to indicate their **resource concerns** on specific land uses and he will be coming back next month with that question to our District. He presented two **conservation plans** for signature: Delfield SAFE project and the Colville Confederated Tribes Hopkins Place project.

Old Business

Attendance to the **Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) Area Meeting** on October 25, 2011 will include Albert Roberts, Craig Nelson, and maybe Ivan Oberg and Lorah Super. Randy Kelley will also be attending.

Attendance to the **WACD Annual Meeting** on November 28, 2011 to December 1, 2011 will include Ivan Oberg, Jerry Asmussen, Albert Roberts, Lorah Super, Craig Nelson, and Bob Clark. We will ask Wes Hover if he will be attending.

WACD Resolutions:

Jerry Asmussen made a motion to approve **District Resolution #2011-03** "WACD support the full implementation of HB 1309 Ecosystem Standards on all lands managed by Washington State natural resource agencies." Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Lorah Super made a motion to approve **District Resolution #2011-04** "WACD support legislation to limit long-term landowner liability when implementing conservation practices." Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Lorah Super made a motion to approve **District Resolution #2011-05** "WACD and NACD (National Association of Conservation Districts) support legislation to prevent management activities from being regulated by EPA through the Clean Water Act as a point source." Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Albert Roberts made a motion to approve **District Resolution #2011-06** regarding lining irrigation ditches and stating the benefits of doing so. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Department of Ecology Grant Applications – We already discussed the livestock grant application. Craig Nelson is still discussing the needs for the Technical Service Provider contract to address Irrigation Water Management and Integrated Pest Management with Randy Kelley in order to submit a grant application.

Task List

#3 – **NRCS Background Checks** – The final background checks for Laura Clark and Kirsten Cook are in the process with NRCS.

#4 – **Cost Share Policy** – This policy is still being developed.

#9 – **Forest Plan** – As indicated, the comment period has been extended and they are still working on this item.

#11 – **Ponderosa Pine Cone Harvest** – Further discussion regarding the issues surrounding the timing of the cone harvest.

Public Comments: No public comments were given.

New Business

Jerry Asmussen made a motion to have our District host the **2012 Washington State Envirothon** event. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

We need to support legislative action and contact our legislators to support **stable funding** for the Washington State Conservation Commission and conservation districts. There will be a legislative district meeting on November 3, 2011 in Colville which Craig Nelson and maybe Ivan Oberg and Jerry Asmussen will attend.

Jerry Asmussen made a motion to approve the **Washington Association of Conservation Districts' Profession Service contract** to allow Craig Nelson to be funded to work for WACD on the Department of Ecology Memorandum of Agreement. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed. Albert Roberts abstained from the motion.

The Okanogan Watershed Plan approval process was discussed. No further action will be taken at this time.

Ivan Oberg **adjourned** the meeting at 9:20 PM.

Summary of Motions

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

Summary of Motions (continued)

Jerry Asmussen made a motion to approve the September 1, 2011 minutes as changed. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Albert Roberts made a motion to approve Treasurer's Report #701 as written. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Jerry Asmussen made a motion to approve the amended Treasurer's Report #700. Albert Roberts seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Jerry Asmussen made a motion to approve the National Association of Conservation Districts dues payment of \$775.00. Albert Roberts seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Lorah Super made a motion to approve the Strickland livestock project to develop two water systems, 2,600' of fencing, 1,500' of piping, a solar pump, and two water troughs for \$24,680 to exclude cattle from their seven acre pond. This project would be paid with \$5,000 from the Implementation grant, landowner cost share of labor, and the balance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Albert Roberts seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Albert Roberts made a motion to approve entering into a contract with the Colville Confederated Tribes to perform the Loup Loup Creek revegetation project following the Tribes' project replacing culverts at that location. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Albert Roberts made a motion to approve spending the balance of the US Fish and Wildlife Service project funding of approximately \$7,500 on revegetating the Gladstone project. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Jerry Asmussen made a motion to approve the interlocal agreement with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife to be able to work on projects on their land. Albert Roberts seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Jerry Asmussen made a motion to approve District Resolution #2011-03 "WACD support the full implementation of HB 1309 Ecosystem Standards on all lands managed by Washington State natural resource agencies." Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Lorah Super made a motion to approve District Resolution #2011-04 "WACD support legislation to limit long-term landowner liability when implementing conservation practices." Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Lorah Super made a motion to approve District Resolution #2011-05 "WACD and NACD (National Association of Conservation Districts) support legislation to prevent management activities from being regulated by EPA through the Clean Water Act as a point source." Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Summary of Motions (continued)

Albert Roberts made a motion to approve District Resolution #2011-06 regarding lining irrigation ditches and stating the benefits of doing so. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Jerry Asmussen made a motion to have our District host the 2012 Washington State Envirothon event. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

Jerry Asmussen made a motion to approve the Washington Association of Conservation Districts' Profession Service contract to allow Craig Nelson to be funded to work for WACD on the Department of Ecology Memorandum of Agreement. Lorah Super seconded the motion and the motion was passed. Albert Roberts abstained from the motion.

Ivan Oberg, Chair Date

Laura Clark, Admin. Prog. Coord. Date