TO:

The Record

SUBJECT:

March 6, 2025; Board of Supervisors Meeting

LOCATION:

Okanogan Conservation District Office, Okanogan, WA and

Remotely via Microsoft Teams and Teleconference

FROM:

Natalie Torres, Administrative Assistant

PRESENT:

Lorah Super, Chair

Jerry Asmussen, Vice Chair Steve Colvin, Supervisor

Phil Dart, Supervisor

Craig Nelson, Executive Director

Becky Drenner, Finance Director Jordana Ellis, Irrigation Lead

Terri Williams, Planner Trainer

Rosalie Powell, Communications Technician

Fellow

Sam Nurmi, Wildfire Resiliency Planner

Eli Loftis, Wildfire Community & Resiliency Lead Emmy Engle, Communication & Outreach Lead Brant Rosenthal Smith, Science Data & Mon. Coord. Chevelle Yeckel, Water Quality & Riparian Lead

Celeste Acord, NRCS

Jack Owen, Irrigated Ag. Natural Resource Tech

Tanya Margerison, Finance Assistant

Kim Kogler, Grants & Contracts Director

Taylor George, Agriculture Planner Emily Bustamante, Education Lead

Natalie Torres, Administrative Assistant

<u>Meeting Call to Order:</u> Lorah Super called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM. She completed a roll call of Supervisors, Associate Supervisors, staff, partners, and the public.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Agenda Approval: Phil Dart moved to approve the agenda as amended. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

<u>Approval of Minutes:</u> Phil Dart moved to approve February 6, 2025; board meeting minutes as amended. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report #862, which covers the checking account activity from February 7, 2025, to March 6, 2025, inclusive, was presented for the Board's approval. The following checks/payroll/direct withdrawals/electronic payments were approved for payment:

Two direct deposit payrolls, 02/01/2025 – 02/15/2015 totaling \$34,774.73 and 02/16/2025 – 02/28/2025 totaling \$35,914.94

Checks – numbers 12655 – 12679 totaling \$83,440.40.

Electronic payments – totaling \$226,212.93.

Deposits totaling \$222,237.71 were made.

Becky presented Treasurer's Report #862. Steve Colvin moved to approve Treasurer's Report #862. Phil Dart seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Supervisor Reports:

Phil Dart – Phil reported that he is enjoying the spring weather. There is no runoff yet, with 2.5 feet of snow received.

Jerry Asmussen – Jerry mentioned that the word of the day is "mud." The frost is gone, but where the moisture was, there is now plenty of mud.

Steve Colvin – Steve reported that he has no mud, which is great. He has 16 lambs, and the winery is up and running while bringing in new employees. On April 15, his daughter and her family are moving to assist with the family business. Pruning is underway, and a variety of events are starting, beginning with an Irish Potluck on March 15 at 5 PM at Esther Bricques Winery & Vineyard. The event will feature food, wine, and music. The winery hosts family-friendly events, as it is not a pub and does not serve hard liquor,

Lorah Super – Lorah shared that winter in Methow has felt like an icebox—there was decent snowfall initially, but then nothing. Despite the cold temperatures, she was too busy to ski until two weeks ago, just as the snow started melting. Now, it's a fast-melting icebox, with moisture either evaporating or turning to mud. Her old outhouse has been converted into a chicken coop, now home to six chickens with space for three more. She also attended a Forest Health Collaborative meeting yesterday and has been serving as acting chair since January.

Associate Supervisor Reports:

There were no associate supervisors present.

Staff Reports:

Craig reported that as new equipment is purchased, the treasurer's report will reflect significant expenses over the next few months. He noted that while funding is currently strong, the intent is to prepare for leaner times. Discussions are ongoing about purchasing a small boat for lake monitoring, hauling, and accessing river sections. An inflatable Zodiac with a rigid bottom is being considered, but the team is still assessing their actual needs.

He announced that Elliot Phillips has been hired, with a start date of March 10. Elliot will assist with Aaron's workload while Aaron is on leave and is currently funded through June 30. With the team now fully staffed, staff meetings have become more challenging due to space constraints, leading to conversations about the need for a new building to better accommodate both staff and equipment.

Craig also shared that he attended the NACD meeting in Soap Lake, which took place a week after the freezes and tariffs were implemented. The meeting included discussions on the potential for federal layoffs, and a survey conducted by NACD found that the impacts are being widely felt.

Craig reported that accessibility issues on the website, raised by Emmy, led to a discussion between him and Lorah. They are working on improvements and hope to have something to present at the next board meeting.

He also attended Legislative Day, where he had a productive conversation with Dave Upthegrove. Additionally, he met with the Director of Agriculture, Derek Sandison, and Lorah shared that Director Sandison had a useful tip for the CCC project. Representative Engell and Senator Short's Senior Legislative Aide, Shannon Whitmore, met with them to discuss funding priorities. Last July, the Conservation Commission's budget package recommended \$5 million total for the biennium for Forest Health. When the agency budget request was submitted, it was broken down by priority order:

- 1. Implementation Grant (listed as Conservation Technical Assistance or CTA)
- 2. Science Hub
- 3. Food Policy Forum
- 4. Forest Health (which most districts have argued should have been higher on the list)

The top three priorities were fully funded as requested in Governor Inslee's budget in December. Craig shared this information due to his discussions with Sen. Short and noted that WACD passed a resolution that directs them to support the Conservation Commission's budget priorities. However, he expressed concerns about growing pains, as the Commission seems to be focusing on building its own programs rather than supporting local programs.

Regarding DDT, Craig has been in discussions with Sen. Short, to request that the funding be rolled to the next biennium to allow for actual soil remediation. He has been exploring whether funding can be used for paying affected landowner to grow specific crops that draw the contaminants from the soil, then having those crops properly destroyed in an incinerator. A proposal was submitted last week, and he followed up with Sen. Short's legislative assistant, Whitmore, on Monday and Tuesday to go over the details. All necessary information has been provided, and Senator Short is following up with legislative committee staff. It remains uncertain whether the funding can be transferred to another agency or next biennium. The current funding would allow for two seasons of plant growth and destruction. Early drafts of a study from WA State Department of Agriculture and Washington State University Extension staff suggest that this method may be effective. If results confirm success, orchardists and other landowners may be able to use this approach to remediate their land.

Becky reported that a large purchases such as a boat with trailer may cost \$20,000, many more cost-share payments are being processed. More funds have been pulled from savings, as reflected in the treasurer's report. However, funding is expected to come in over the next few months, including FEMA funds.

There was a delay of about 10 days in receiving funds due to system glitches—Eli and Jordana completed their part, but an email incorrectly stated that the process was not finished when, in reality, the information was disappearing from the system. Ryan Williams is working to update some rules to help prevent these issues in the future and streamline processes. Currently, Kim and Tanya are reviewing cost-share contracts with Becky. Terri may also assist in the coming

months. They are ensuring all details are properly completed. All vouchers need to be submitted by the 20th, but Becky plans to have them done by the 10th to ensure timely processing, as it is first come, first served.

Next month, the treasurer's report should show improvement, but there are still significant expenses, and equipment purchases to keep in mind. Additionally, the district will be receiving a new pickup this month, adding another \$60,000 in expenses. Becky noted that next month, she may initiate discussions about securing a small loan or another financial option, such as an operating line of credit.

Looking ahead, the internal annual audit with Mike Baden is scheduled for Monday, followed by the election the next day. Becky and Diana will serve as polling officers, with Steve up for election. In-person voting will take place from 2–6 PM. Emmy, Chevelle, and Rosalie assisted with advertising, and Becky plans to include candidate names in future election announcements.

Sam introduced herself to the board sharing, she is our new Wildfire Resiliency Planner.

Rosalie informed board members that they need to complete a merchandise order form and is happy to answer any questions.

Emmy shared the invitations for our Conservation Celebration, which will take place on May 7, 2025.

Eli shared that he is moving forward with fire grant applications, requesting \$15 million—\$10 million for our organization, \$2.5 million directly, and another \$2.5 million split with Cascadia CD for Spanish materials. The funding would also support backup crews and temporary workers to complete projects.

He expressed appreciation for having Sam on board and provided an update on Bill 1539, which involves a working group or council composed of Natural Resources representatives and other individuals. Their goal is to develop a resolution or mitigation strategy for the ongoing insurance challenges seen across the U.S., particularly related to defensible space. Eli and Lorah are advocating for OCD to be recognized as an official member and primary point of contact in this effort. A hearing with the senator is scheduled for this week, and they hope to further discuss their current and active role in the process.

NRCS Report

Celeste Acord – Celeste thanked the district for its acknowledgment and support, noting that many are feeling a sense of whiplash. While task orders are in place and funding is available, the likelihood of actually completing the work remains uncertain. She is reaching out to districts to assess any immediate needs. Sarah is set to return next week, and they plan to brainstorm ways to introduce flexibility into task orders. Meanwhile, DODG is considering canceling leases for five offices, some of which had just been renewed—news that came as a surprise to the state agency. Efforts are underway to keep these offices open.

Celeste also noted that IRA funds cannot be used for new contracts, and there is still no update on the Farm Bill. Lastly, she reminded everyone that the local work group meeting is scheduled for April 17.

Partner Reports

There were no other partners present.

Review, Approve and Sign Contracts and Conservation Plans:

Copy Machine Quotes – Natalie shared a comparison of three printer/copier options—Kyocera 5054ci, Xerox C8155, and Toshiba e-Studio 5525AC—to help OCD select the best choice based on features, pricing, and service costs.

- Kyocera 5054ci: Prints at 50 ppm, has a 3,200-sheet capacity, and includes a 4,000-sheet finisher with a booklet folder and tri-fold capability. Total cost: \$12,030.
- Xerox C8155: Has a 3,000-sheet capacity and a 3,000-sheet finisher with a booklet folder (no tri-fold). Total cost: \$13,575.
- Toshiba e-Studio 5525AC: Prints at 55 ppm, has a 2,000-sheet capacity, and includes a 3,000-sheet finisher with a booklet folder (no tri-fold). Total cost: \$13,120.

Jerry moved to approve the purchase of the Kyocera and authorized Lorah Super or Craig Nelson to sign a purchase contract when presented with one. Phil Dart seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Polling Officer Personal Services Contract – Becky shared that the district election requires two polling officers, and she will serve as one. Diana Samek, who has assisted for the past three years, has agreed to serve again for approximately six hours. Historically, polling officers have been compensated \$100, and Becky proposes continuing this practice for this year's election. Phil Dart moved to approve the Polling Officer Personal Services Contract and authorized Craig Nelson to sign it. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Nature Everywhere Conference Travel Authorization – Emily shared that the Children and Nature Network's annual Nature Everywhere Conference will take place in St. Paul, Minnesota, from May 13-16. The event focuses on engaging children from preK to high school in outdoor learning and showcases successful programs nationwide. Attending provides networking opportunities with government agencies, educators, and outdoor organizations. Key sessions will cover teacher training, school gardens, and connecting high school students to natural resource careers. The conference aligns with staff training plans, and all costs, estimated at \$1,700, will be fully covered by 2025 Implementation Funds for professional development. Steve Colvin moved to approve the training and authorized registration, airfare, transportation, lodging, per diem, and other eligible incidental expenses for Emily to attend the Nature Everywhere Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota in May. Phil Dart seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Methow Valley Chipping Events Personal Services Contract - Rosalie shared that the district is organizing mobile chipping events in nine communities throughout May and June, including Timberline Meadows, Edelweiss, Liberty Woodlands, Libby Creek, Sun Mountain Ranch Club, Lost River Airport Association, Pine Forest, Wilson Ranch, and Buttermilk Creek. A contractor

has not yet been selected. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was submitted on February 21, 2025, with a submission deadline of March 5, 2025. Staff will rank proposals and notify the lowest responsive contractor on March 5, followed by contract development. The events are expected to take approximately 96 hours, with chipping costs not exceeding \$25,000. Phil Dart moved to approve the Personal Services Contract and authorized Lorah Super or Craig Nelson to sign the finalized contract. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Boesel-Schoenfeld Pipeline Replacement Project - Jordana shared that the 1,283-foot irrigation pipeline running west from the irrigation canal to the Boesel and Schoenfeld pump plants is leaking and needs replacement. The Boesel property, located in Twisp, Washington, surrounds the airfield serving the Smokejumper base near the Methow River, while the Schoenfeld property lies between Boesel Field and the Twisp-Winthrop Eastside Road. Both properties receive irrigation water from the Chewuch Canal Company, which diverts water from the Chewuch River. The current 50-year-old, 8-inch pipeline delivers 696 GPM but has multiple leaks. The project will replace it with two independent pipelines totaling 2,566 feet—a 6-inch line delivering 577 GPM and a 3-inch line delivering 119 GPM. The total project cost is \$243,563, with a cost-share of \$182,673. Two separate contracts will be required to assign maintenance and cost-sharing responsibilities appropriately. Steve Colvin moved to approve the Boesel-Schoenfeld Pipeline Replacement Project contracts and authorized Lorah Super or Craig Nelson to sign the finalized contract once SCC has issued official notification of cost share award. Phil Dart seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Service Contract Washington Water Trust – Jordana shared that the Okanogan Conservation District has received funding from the Washington State Department of Ecology's Local Drought Planning and Preparedness Grant Program to develop a local drought preparedness plan. The plan aims to enhance resilience to increasing drought conditions by identifying actionable projects to mitigate hardships and risks related to water supply. It will assess countywide water supply challenges and outline strategies to reduce risks and improve long-term resiliency. To support this effort, Jordana recommends approving a service contract with the Washington Water Trust to assist in preparing the local drought plan for Okanogan County. The contract amount will not exceed \$58,250. Phil Dart moved to approve the Service Contract with Washington Water Trust and authorized Lorah Super or Craig Nelson to sign the finalized contract. Steve Colvin seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Service Contract Methow Watershed Council – Jordana shared that the Okanogan Conservation District has received funding from the Washington State Department of Ecology's Local Drought Planning and Preparedness Grant Program to develop a local drought preparedness plan. The plan will enhance resilience to increasing drought conditions by identifying actionable projects to mitigate hardships and risks related to water supply. It will assess countywide water supply challenges and outline strategies to reduce risks and improve long-term resiliency. To support this effort, Jordana recommends approving a service contract with the Methow Watershed Council to assist in preparing the local drought plan for Okanogan County. The contract amount will not exceed \$60,750. Phil Dart moved to approve the Service Contract with Methow Watershed Council and authorized Craig Nelson to sign the finalized contract. Steve Colvin seconded the motion, and the motion unanimously.

Service Contract Washington Water Research Center/Washington State University — Jordana shared that the Okanogan Conservation District has received funding from the Washington State Department of Ecology's Local Drought Planning and Preparedness Grant Program to develop a local drought preparedness plan. This plan will enhance resilience to increasing drought conditions by identifying actionable projects to mitigate hardships and risks related to water supply. It will assess countywide water supply challenges and outline strategies to reduce risks and improve long-term resiliency. To support this effort, Jordana recommends approving a service contract with the Washington Water Research Center/Washington State University to assist in preparing the local drought plan for Okanogan County. The contract amount will not exceed \$138,963. Phil Dart moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with WSU and authorized Lorah Super or Craig Nelson to sign the finalized MOU. Steve Colvin seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Service Contract Trout Unlimited - Jordana shared that the Okanogan Conservation District has received funding from the Washington State Department of Ecology's Local Drought Planning and Preparedness Grant Program to develop a local drought preparedness plan. This plan will enhance resilience to increasing drought conditions by identifying actionable projects to mitigate hardships and risks related to water supply. It will assess countywide water supply challenges and outline strategies to reduce risks and improve long-term resiliency. To support this effort, Jordana recommends approving a service contract with Trout Unlimited to assist in preparing the local drought plan for Okanogan County. The contract amount will not exceed \$4,800. Phil Dart moved to approve the Service Contract Trout Unlimited Work Order and authorized Lorah Super or Craig Nelson to sign the finalized contract. Steve Colvin seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

2025 Irrigation Efficiencies Grant Program (IEGP) Application Ranking - Jack shared that due to the limited capacity of the Irrigation Efficiencies Grant Program (IEGP), District staff developed a ranking system to prioritize projects based on program goals, including restoring instream flows, reducing aquifer demand, mitigating drought vulnerability, enhancing water quality, retiming water availability, and increasing on-farm productivity. The system also considers social factors to ensure equitable distribution of financial benefits. Applicants complete the attached ranking tool to the best of their knowledge, with final scores determined by calculating overall water savings and analyzing maps for location, critical effect areas, and development pressure. Each applicant had seven business days to contest their scores with the Water Resources Team and reach a consensus on their final ranking. Phil Dart moved to approve the IEGP ranking results to allow staff to seek funding for the projects in the order they are ranked for the 2025 fiscal year. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Jackson Ranch Supplemental FH Project – Eli stated that the Jackson Ranch, owned by Chick and Sindy Jackson, is working with WA DNR Service Forestry to reduce wildfire risk, improve wildlife habitat, and enhance forest productivity. WA DNR connected them with Okanogan CD to masticate 92.2 acres of already treated land. The project, designed by WA DNR forester Sam Halvorsen with input from Eli Loftis, is estimated to cost \$93,646.62. The district proposes a 75% cost-share, contributing up to \$70,234.96 from WSCC forest health funds. Jerry Asmussen moved to approve the 2nd Jackson Ranch Forest Health Project Cost-Share agreement and

authorized Lorah Super or Craig Nelson to sign the finalized agreement. Phil Dart seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Butler Post-Fire Refencing Project – Eli stated that the site includes 47 acres of shrubsteppe and ponderosa pine savanna, heavily burned in the 2014 Carlton Complex Fire. Historically used for cattle and pig grazing, the property has damaged fence lines that pose entanglement risks to wildlife, including mule deer and sharp-tailed grouse. Staff propose using Washington Shrubsteppe Restoration and Resiliency Initiative (WSSRI) funds through WSCC to provide a 100% cost-share for removing 1.25 miles of old fencing and replacing it with wildlife-friendly fencing. The total estimated cost is \$31,858.22, aligning with WSSRI requirements. Phil Dart moved to approve the Butler Fire Recovery Fencing Project and authorized Craig Nelson or Lorah Super to sign the cost-share agreement once it is available. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Bonaparte Meadows Addendum – Craig shared that they negotiated with the Conservation Commission to further develop the Bonaparte Meadows acquisition project. The Commission has agreed to fund key assessments, including a site inventory, environmental assessment, preliminary water rights review, deed and title search, and a broker opinion on property value. The proposed work will take place through June 30, 2025, under a personal services contract with Julie Vanderwall, a trained ecologist with extensive knowledge of the project. Craig requested board approval for the Commission addendum totaling \$68,000. After discussion, the board recommended increasing the addendum total to \$70,00. Phil Dart moved to approve the Bonaparte Meadows Addendum, and authorized staff authority to make necessary decisions to implement the scope of work. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Julie Vanderwal Personal Services Contract — Craig explained that to implement the Bonaparte Meadows Project, a private contractor is needed to complete the work within a short timeframe and effectively act as a project manager. Julie Vanderwal, a local ecologist with extensive experience in evaluating environmental conditions and assisting with property acquisitions, has submitted a proposal to complete the necessary work—excluding surveying, which will need to be handled separately. Craig requested board approval to negotiate a personal services contract for up to \$43,000 with Julie Vanderwal of Sparrow Song Consulting. During the discussion, the board also considered the assessment of water flow in the area. Concerns were raised about damming on the north end, nonfunctioning culverts in the middle, and the impact on those downstream. There was also discussion about potential restoration work and the validity of the existing water right, as the bog floods annually. Jerry Asmussen moved to authorize district staff to negotiate and sign a personal services contract with Julie Vanderwal of Sparrow Song Consulting for up to \$43,000 for the Bonaparte Meadows Project. Phil Dart seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Public Comment - There was no public comment.

Water Bank Update – Jordana shared that the first acquisition is progressing, with some responses received from the Department of Ecology regarding the structure of the sale and

eligible expenses. However, these answers raised additional questions that need to be resolved within the planning team before bringing them to the Board for a decision. These discussions will take place in upcoming planning meetings, and legal counsel may be required before finalizing any decisions.

The request for qualifications for legal counsel has been published, and while no submissions have been received yet, one prospective respondent has submitted a question.

The draft appraisal for the Barkley acquisition arrived last week. Staff is currently reviewing it and has identified a few necessary corrections. Once the planning team has had a chance to review and provide comments, the corrections will be made, and the updated report will be shared with the seller.

The Pine Creek application has been accepted by Ecology and successfully passed the comment period. It is currently in the review process, sitting third in line. Ecology is still reviewing the first application, with a total of six in the queue.

Jordana also inquired with the grant manager about the availability of funds in the next biennium. Ecology confirmed that all current funds will be expended before the six applications in line are approved. However, there is enough funding projected to cover at least the first five applications, including Pine Creek. There has been no indication that the pilot program will receive additional funding in the next biennium, and if a proposal for renewal exists, it is not coming from Ecology.

Conservation Celebration – The board discussed and selected nominees for awards to be presented at the 85th OCD Conservation Celebration.

New Business:

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

WSCC Advance Cost Share Funds Request - Becky shared that the WA State Conservation Commission allows up to 50% of total cost-share funds for any grant to be awarded in advance to help cover large reimbursement payments to cooperators. The approval process takes 2-3 weeks, and the funds must be used within six months. By June 30th, the district will need to pay nearly \$800,000 in cost-share payments across the Irrigation Efficiencies, Forest Health, Fencing, and Air Quality programs. However, the district does not have sufficient revenue to cover these payments without additional funding. The board requested a trial period for this approach, to be revisited at the end of the biennium on June 30, 2027. Phil Dart moved to authorize the Finance Director, currently Becky Drenner, to apply for advance funding from the WA State Conservation Commission to help cover cost-share payments made to cooperators whenever advance funding is deemed necessary by the Finance Director for the efficient payment of expenses, with a trial period through June 30, 2027, after which the approach will be reviewed. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Strategic Plan Program Areas – Craig shared that the strategic plan, once complete, will serve as the guiding document for program priorities, helping employees manage workloads,

communicate project feasibility to partners and cooperators, and clarify staffing needs. This decision is essential for finalizing position descriptions and determining how to structure the strategic plan itself. He provided a document listing both recent and ongoing programs and requested that the board group them into seven or fewer primary program areas. If multiple programs are combined, the board should identify the primary and secondary components within each grouping. For example, if forest health and wildfire are combined, the board should determine which takes precedence in naming the program. Additionally, Craig asked the board to rank these top-level programs in priority order, with the most critical listed first. Notes will capture which secondary programs fall under each primary category.

This prioritization will be valuable for future grant applications and decision-making when considering new projects with limited capacity. During the discussion, Eli suggested "Landscape Health" as a category, while Lorah proposed "Community Health/Viability" and emphasized the need to "carve out for education." Rosalie raised the question of whether communication would connect with education. Emmy stated, "We want the key words to be leading," and Steve added, "Shorter words that mean more."

Jerry provided a list of suggested categories:

- Water
- Forest
- Air / "Public Health"
- Agriculture & Rangeland
- Education / Outreach / Garden (Community & School)
- Community Conservation Urban Residential "Community Services"
- District Operations

No motion was made.

Executive Session – Discuss the Employee Performance per RCW 42.30.110 (g) – Lorah called the executive session into order at 8:57 PM. At 9:12 PM, the board returned to public session.

Lorah Super adjourned the meeting at 9:13 PM.

Summary of Motions

Phil Dart moved to approve the agenda as amended. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Phil Dart moved to approve February 6, 2025; board meeting minutes as amended. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Steve Colvin moved to approve Treasurer's Report #862. Phil Dart seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Jerry moved to approve the purchase of the Kyocera and authorized Lorah Super or Craig Nelson to sign a purchase contract when presented with one. Phil Dart seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Phil Dart moved to approve the Polling Officer Personal Services Contract and authorized Craig Nelson to sign it. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Steve Colvin moved to approve the training and authorized registration, airfare, transportation, lodging, per diem, and other eligible incidental expenses for Emily to attend the Nature Everywhere Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota in May. Phil Dart seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Phil Dart moved to approve the Personal Services Contract and authorized Lorah Super or Craig Nelson to sign the finalized contract. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

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Phil Dart moved to approve the Service Contract with Washington Water Trust and authorized Lorah Super or Craig Nelson to sign the finalized contract. Steve Colvin seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Phil Dart moved to approve the Service Contract with Methow Watershed Council and authorized Craig Nelson to sign the finalized contract. Steve Colvin seconded the motion, and the motion unanimously.

Phil Dart moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with WSU and authorized Lorah Super or Craig Nelson to sign the finalized MOU. Steve Colvin seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Phil Dart moved to approve the Service Contract Trout Unlimited Work Order and authorized Lorah Super or Craig Nelson to sign the finalized contract. Steve Colvin seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Phil Dart moved to approve the IEGP ranking results to allow staff to seek funding for the projects in the order they are ranked for the 2025 fiscal year. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Jerry Asmussen moved to approve the 2nd Jackson Ranch Forest Health Project Cost-Share agreement and authorized Lorah Super or Craig Nelson to sign the finalized agreement. Phil Dart seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Phil Dart moved to approve the Butler Fire Recovery Fencing Project and authorized Craig Nelson or Lorah Super to sign the cost-share agreement once it is available. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Phil Dart moved to approve the Bonaparte Meadows Addendum, and authorized staff authority to make necessary decisions to implement the scope of work. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Jerry Asmussen moved to authorize district staff to negotiate and sign a personal services contract with Julie Vanderwal of Sparrow Song Consulting for up to \$43,000 for the Bonaparte Meadows Project. Phil Dart seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Phil Dart moved to authorize the Finance Director, currently Becky Drenner, to apply for advance funding from the WA State Conservation Commission to help cover cost-share payments made to cooperators whenever advance funding is deemed necessary by the Finance Director for the efficient payment of expenses, with a trial period through June 30, 2027, after which the approach will be reviewed. Jerry Asmussen seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

No motion was made for the Strategic Plan Program Areas.

Lorah Super

Chair

Date

Administrative Assistant