

Thurston Conservation District Consent Agenda Decision Sheet May 2021 Board Meeting



A. April 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

- a. Proposed action: accept without amendment and approve.
- b. Action taken:
- c. ☒ Passed ☐ Moved for discussion during meeting ☐ Tabled to future meeting

B. April 2021 Work Session Minutes

- a. Proposed action: accept without amendment and approve.
- b. Action taken:
- c. ☒ Passed ☐ Moved for discussion during meeting ☐ Tabled to future meeting

C. May 2021 Financial Report

- a. Proposed action: accept without amendment and approve.
- b. Action taken:
- c. ☒ Passed ☐ Moved for discussion during meeting ☐ Tabled to future meeting

D. TCD Resolution #2021-03 Long term Agriculture Destination in Thurston County

- a. Proposed action: accept without amendment and approve.
- b. Action taken:
- c. ☒ Passed ☐ Moved for discussion during meeting ☐ Tabled to future meeting

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF THE THURSTON CONSERVATION DISTRICT, WASHINGTON ON May 27, 2021 AND EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

SIGNED:

DocuSigned by:

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TJ Johnson, Board Chair

DocuSigned by:

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Betsie DeWreede, Vice Chair

DocuSigned by:
Doug Rushton
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Doug Rushton, Board Member

DocuSigned by:
David Iyall
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David Iyall, Board Auditor

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:
Sarah Moorehead
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Sarah Moorehead, Executive Director

DocuSigned by:
Helen Wheatley
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Helen Wheatley, Board Member

Thurston Conservation District Board of Supervisors

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2021

Virtual GoToMeeting

Meeting Time: 5:30pm - 7:15pm

Originally scheduled: 5:30pm – 6:55pm



Present at Meeting:

Betsie DeWreede, TCD Vice-Chair

David Iyall, TCD Board Supervisor

Doug Rushton, TCD Board Supervisor

Helen Wheatley, TCD Board Supervisor

Ben Cushman, TCD Attorney

Sarah Moorehead, TCD Executive Director

Leah Kellogg, TCD Staff

Jean Fike, WA State Conservation Commission

Alena Reynolds, Department of Ecology

Tom Salzar, WA Association of Conservation

Districts

Summary of Action Items

- 1 • **ACTION ITEM: ED Moorehead will draft a proposed plan for opening the office to the**
2 **public and staff for the June 8, 2021 Special Meeting.**

Summary of Motions Passed

- 3 • ***Supervisor Wheatley moved to remove agenda item 9 (the Executive Session to discuss***
4 ***the performance of the Executive Director) and 10B (TCD Board Officer Elections) from***
5 ***the agenda. Supervisor Iyall seconded.***
- 6 • ***Supervisor Wheatley moved to amend her previous motion and moved to remove item***
7 ***9 (the Executive Session to discuss the performance of the Executive Director).***
8 ***Supervisor Rushton seconded.***
- 9 • ***Supervisor Wheatley withdrew her previous motion and amendment.***
- 10 • ***Supervisor Rushton moved to postpone item 9 (the Executive Session to discuss the***
11 ***performance of the Executive Director) to a future meeting and to postpone item 10B***
12 ***(TCD Board Officer Elections) to the June 8, 2021 Special Meeting. Supervisor Iyall***
13 ***seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (4-0).***
- 14 • ***Supervisor Iyall moved to adopt the revised Agenda. Supervisor Rushton seconded.***
15 ***Motion passed unanimously, (4-0).***
- 16 • ***Supervisor Rushton moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Supervisor Iyall seconded.***
17 ***Motion passed unanimously, (4-0).***
- 18 • ***Supervisor Iyall moved to award the CEC Feasibility Study contract to Beckwith***
19 ***Consulting Group. Supervisor Wheatley seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (3-0).***
20 ***Supervisor Rushton abstained from voting.***
- 21 • ***Supervisor Iyall moved to adjourn. Supervisor Wheatley seconded. Motion passed***
22 ***unanimously, (4-0).***

Full Version of the Minutes

Welcome & Introductions

At 5:30pm TCD Board Vice-Chair DeWreede called the May 27, 2021 Regular Board Meeting to order via the online forum, *GoToMeeting*. Thurston CD Board and Staff were introduced by the Board Vice-Chair verbally. Chair DeWreede called out Supervisors by name for each vote and she announced that the meeting is video recorded. TCD Board Chair Johnson was not present.

Agenda Review

- Correct the Consent Agenda item to say “Ag Designation” rather than “Ag Destination”.
- Due to the absence of TCD Board Chair Johnson, postpone two agenda items: 1) the Executive Session to discuss the performance of the Executive Director and 2) the TCD Board Officer Elections.

Supervisor Wheatley moved to remove agenda item 9 (the Executive Session to discuss the performance of the Executive Director) and 10B (TCD Board Officer Elections) from the agenda. Supervisor Iyall seconded.

Supervisor Wheatley moved to amend her previous motion and moved to remove item 9 (the Executive Session to discuss the performance of the Executive Director). Supervisor Rushton seconded.

Supervisor Wheatley withdrew her previous motion and amendment.

Supervisor Rushton moved to postpone item 9 (the Executive Session to discuss the performance of the Executive Director) to a future meeting and to postpone item 10B (TCD Board Officer Elections) to the June 8, 2021 Special Meeting. Supervisor Iyall seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (4-0).

Supervisor Iyall moved to adopt the revised Agenda. Supervisor Rushton seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (4-0).

Consent Agenda

- April 22, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
- April 8, 2021 Work Session Minutes
- May 2021 Financial Report
- TCD Resolution #2021-03 Long term Agriculture Designation in Thurston County

Supervisor Rushton moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Supervisor Iyall seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (4-0).

Public Comment (Three minutes per person)

No members of the public chose to comment.

Partner Reports**A. Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) Update, *Jean Fike***

- The WSCC approved changes to the Natural Resource Investment (NRI) Cost Share program. A recorded webinar has been scheduled, for June 2, 2021 at 9:00am, to clarify the changes and explore the new opportunities for conservation districts.
- The WSCC is considering revisions to the Shellfish Cost Share program. Comments from conservation districts and other stakeholders are encouraged and should be directed to Alison Halpern, WSCC Scientific Policy Advisor.
- Effective April 7, 2021, the Governor signed a new cultural resources executive order replacing the existing order. WSCC is reviewing the new order for any implications to its existing internal cultural resources policies and procedures. Conservation districts are encouraged to suggest general changes to the Commission's current cultural resources policies and procedures by the July WSCC Commission Meeting.

B. Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) Update, *Supervisor Rushton and Tom Salzar*

- Written update information was provided in the Board Packet.
- WACD held their first Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Meeting.

C. National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Update, *Supervisor Rushton*

- Written update information was provided in the Board Packet.

D. Department of Ecology (DOE), *Alena Reynolds*

- A written report was provided in the Board Packet.
- The 2021 DOE's Water Quality Grant application process requires the submission of Notice of Intent documents, which are due by June 15, 2021.

E. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Update, *Robin Buckingham*

- Robin Buckingham was not present.

Covid-19 Update, *ED Moorehead*

- Staff is reviewing state guidance about: 1) staff returning to in-office work hours, 2) opening the office to the general public, and 3) holding in-person staff and board meetings.
- According to TCD's General Counsel Recommendation, it is not appropriate for the District to ask the public about their vaccination status. However, it is appropriate for the District to ask employees about their vaccination status. If an employee has not been vaccinated, the District cannot ask why and must make accommodations for safe working conditions for all staff.
- The Board supports opening up the office to staff and the public, but, at this time not for public meetings.

ACTION ITEM: ED Moorehead will draft a proposed plan for opening the office to the public and staff for the June 8, 2021 Special Meeting.

Executive Session: To review responses to the Conservation and Education Center Request for Qualifications.

In attendance: TCD Supervisors; Wheatley, Iyall, Rushton, and DeWreede, TCD Legal Counsel Ben Cushman, and ED Moorehead

RCW 42.30.110 (d) To review negotiations on the performance of publicly bid contracts when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased costs

Executive Session opened at 6:19pm for 20 minutes with no action taken, ending at 6:40pm

Regular meeting opened at 6:40pm.

Executive Session Report Out

- No actions were taken.

TCD Conservation and Education Center (CEC)

- Award Notification - ***Action Item***

Supervisor Iyall moved to award the CEC Feasibility Study contract to Beckwith Consulting Group. Supervisor Wheatley seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (3-0). Supervisor Rushton abstained from voting.

Governance, All

A. 2021 Collective Bargaining Process

- Negotiations for the 2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) will begin this summer. Before bargaining can begin, the Board will need to formally select an executive bargaining team.

B. June 8, 2021 Special Meeting Agenda

- Staff Presentation:
- May 2021 Minutes Review & Revision
- Zangle Cover Bulkhead Removal Project
- Board Officer Elections
- Conservation and Education Center
- Covid-19 Health Update
- Citizens Advisory Committee
- TCD Community Awards
- Community Presentations to the Board
- Important Updates & Announcements
- June 24, 2021 Board Meeting Agenda Development
- Executive Session: Executive Director Preformation Evaluation

128 **Other Reports**

129 A. Board of Supervisors Report, *All*

- 130 • Supervisor Iyall attended the WACD DEI meeting, representing TCD.

131 B. Executive Director Report, *ED Moorehead*

- 132 • TCD received a 12-passenger van as a donation. The van is being used by the
133 Veterans Conservation Corps Crew.
- 134 • Funding for three new riparian planting projects was approved by Thurston
135 County. The grants will fund roughly \$100,000, and cover 9 acres, of riparian
136 restoration.
- 137 • Staff will schedule a gathering for the TCD Board and staff to get to know each
138 other better.
- 139 • To diversify our outreach, the District's Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
140 (JEDI) committee is developing communications strategies to target specific zip
141 codes.
- 142 • The Thurston County Community Planning and Economic Development
143 Department is developing an Agricultural Liaison position in their Planning and
144 Permitting Office.

145 ***Supervisor Iyall moved to adjourn. Supervisor Wheatley seconded. Motion passed***
146 ***unanimously, (4-0).***

Adjourn 7:15pm

Respectfully,

X

DocuSigned by:
TJ Johnson
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Betsie DeWreede
TCD Board Vice-Chair