



Thurston
Conservation District
 Local solutions to local problems

Board of Supervisors
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 27, 2016
2:00 PM

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Present at the meeting:

- | | |
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| 9 Kathleen Berger, Staff | Stephanie Bishop, Staff |
| 10 Robin Buckingham, Staff | Dakota Dominguez, AmeriCorps |
| 11 Amy Franks, Staff | Joe Hanna, Citizen |
| 12 Amy Hatch-Winecka, Staff | Eric Johnson, Board Chair |
| 13 Hanna Jones, AmeriCorps | Derek King, Puget Sound Restoration Fund |
| 14 Richard Mankamyer, Board Member | Aslan Meade, Board Member |
| 15 Mary Middleton, Pacific Shellfish Institute | Sarah Moorehead, Staff |
| 16 Jane Mountjoy – Venning, Thurston County | Chris Stearns, Thurston Co PUD |
| 17 Jeff Swotek, NRCS | |

Action Items:

1. Amy HW to coordinate meeting with board, staff and county to discuss Conservation Futures option
2. Staff to review policies to see if an amendment is required to: 1) change date range of check register, and 2) email/include in board packet the check register and bank statements

TCD has rotating meeting chair duties for each Board Meeting. This month’s meeting chair is Eric Johnson. Eric called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. There was a quorum.

1. Welcome, Introductions and Public Comment:

- Introductions were made
- Joe Hanna requested a copy of associate board member policy

2. Agenda Review:

- Addition: Inclusion of SW Area Meeting as Agenda Item #4A

3. Review of Minutes & R&C Work Session Motions, All

A. Action Item Follow-up

Action items from August 30, 2016 board meeting addressed in separate report

B. Review of August 30, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Line Edits: None

Richard Mankamyer moved to approve August 30, 2016 meeting minutes, as written. Aslan Meade seconded. No discussion. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

C. Review of WACD Resolution Motions

Line Edits: Item number 2 was not approved by board and should be stricken from record

4. Partner Reports:

A. WSCC, Shana Joy

- Not present

B. NRCS, Jeff Swotek

- Provided updates and deadlines for NRCS programs.

- 54 **5. 2017 Shellfish Fund Proposals**
- 55 ▪ Amy reviewed Shellfish Fund Program details (Proposal approval process, funding logistics, etc.)
- 56 ▪ Proposal details included in board packet
- 57 ▪ **Nearshore Marine Water Quality Testing**, Stephanie Bishop
- 58 Questions and Feedback:
- 59 - How often do you take the children out? Low tide events in May and June, September and sometimes
- 60 October
- 61 - Do you do water samples? Yes, plankton samples and pH; Compare between fresh and marina
- 62 - Where do you send samples? Fecal Coliform sent to county lab; Other testing done in-house
- 63 - Do you test for heavy metals? No. Richard shared informational handout on chromium-6
- 64 - Aslan said he was impressed by the number of partners involved
- 65 ▪ **Homeowner Septic Grant Program and Septic Take Riser Rebate Program**, Jane Mountjoy-Venning
- 66 Questions and Feedback:
- 67 - How much has funding request increased from last year? \$13,500 for low-income program and
- 68 \$1,250 for risers program
- 69 - How many septic systems are you monitoring? 10,000; Monitoring is a community partnership;
- 70 Monitor via required renewal of operational certificates
- 71 - What's the percentage of septic system deficiencies? Approx. 3% deficiency; Includes pumping
- 72 needs; Rates has decreased from 14-17% failure rate (not including pumping) in first year of program
- 73 - Amy HW shared that all-day certification class is engaging and interesting
- 74 ▪ **Clear Choices for Clean Water**, Sarah Moorehead
- 75 Questions and Feedback:
- 76 - Is it voluntary? And how do people know it's available? Yes, workshops and education events such as
- 77 especially Dive into Your Neighborhood)
- 78 - Was something like this proposed to the whole county? In the past, Clear Choices was proposed as a
- 79 county wide program, but is currently concentrated in the in Shellfish Protection Districts; Would be
- 80 interested to increase funding and explore other water quality concerns.
- 81 - Clarification of titles within the funding – funding is broken down by tasks not humans as in the past
- 82 - How much funding is being requested? Approx. \$50,000 to include AmeriCorps position, staff time,
- 83 and TC Env. Health, and project supplies and incentives and bulk mailings
- 84 - Amy H.W. highlighted how this program is being used as a template across the country which is
- 85 exciting!
- 86 ▪ **Collaborative Solutions to Shoreline and Stormwater Issues**, Amy Hatch-Winecka
- 87 Questions and Feedback:
- 88 - How far back counts as shoreline? Depends on features of site; Not determined by a set distance; Set-
- 89 backs determined by county health
- 90 ▪ **Engaging Landowners in the Henderson and Nisqually SPDs**, Sarah Moorehead
- 91 Questions and Feedback:
- 92 - Does the district have the capability to produce a video? This caliber of outreach programming needs
- 93 a professional
- 94 - Suggestion to include VSP outreach into this program
- 95 ▪ **Technical Assistance and Conservation Planning**, Amy Hatch-Winecka
- 96 Questions and Feedback:
- 97 - None
- 98 - **SPD Cost Share Program**, Amy Hatch-Winecka
- 99 Questions and Feedback:
- 100 - None
- 101 ▪ **Puget Sound Everyday Action Series**, Mary Middleton
- 102 Questions and Feedback:
- 103 - None
- 104 ▪ **Henderson Inlet Community Farm**, Derek King
- 105 Questions and Feedback:
- 106 - How many participants? Large group is 100 students; Usually 40-50

- 107 - How did last year go? Great! Expanding our give-away projects and saw an increase in participation
- 108 in our programing through farm-stand
- 109 - Do you have outreach to neighborhood groups or associations? That's a good idea; We have targeted
- 110 emails to neighborhoods in the past, but lack capacity for much physical outreach
- 111 - Amy provided context for the connections, volunteer services, product, and partnerships that Derek &
- 112 HICSF contribute to TCD events and programs

113

114 **6. Thurston County Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Update - Chris Chaput**

- 115 ■ Currently conducting site visits to inspect for Mazama pocket gophers. Short window of time to find
- 116 them due to their habits above ground. Permitting is backed up due to this. Proposal could allow county
- 117 to issue conditional permits to catch up with back log and take responsibility to EPA.
- 118 ■ Oregon spotted frog habitat also an issue in permitting – although proposing desk review can be
- 119 performed for these rather than site visit. Application would allow the County to comply with ESA but
- 120 move forward with county business.
- 121 ■ HCP essentially streamlines permitting process for landowners rather than a costly alternative if
- 122 landowners attempt to deal with DFW alone.
- 123 ■ Q&A:
- 124 ○ Economic impact? Yes, analyzing cost of implementation vs. not implementing
- 125 ○ How will this coincide with Sustainable Thurston and no net loss? Working lands portion of HCP will
- 126 provide some mitigation to demonstrate this. Easements could provide credits to offset other impacts,
- 127 along with site management plans. Permanent and term easements will be included / proposed.
- 128 ○ What is the timeline? Process takes about 12-18 months to ensure compliance with all regulations.
- 129 Graphic circulated of current process.
- 130 ○ What does this mean for farms and potential farms? County is trying to streamline process and monitor
- 131 development; makes dealing with US Fish easier, by a regional basis rather than site by site. 2000 acres
- 132 – the county “needs” to acquire – then legacy lands, lands that are already protected, county would
- 133 purchase a perm easement with third party management. This program can dovetail VSP to preserve
- 134 farmlands.
- 135 ○ Process doesn't start until gopher habitat is identified, so the process is even longer? Yes unfortunately
- 136 correct. County cannot staff up during “gopher season.”
- 137 ○ Threshold of purchase price for the property? No, still unknown. Targeted size 50 acres or more.
- 138 ○ What proportion does Conservation Futures play? What are other revenue sources? Permit fees, CF is
- 139 a small part, levy may go out, mitigation fees – development fees in general. Excise / transfer tax still a
- 140 possibility.

141

142 **7. Staff Reports**

143 **A. Kathleen Berger**

- 144 ■ Chehalis Basin Strategy Fund: circulated data from outreach events
- 145 ■ CREP: CREP is on hold until total acres enrolled assessed nationally; Outreach will continue

146 **B. Robin Buckingham**

- 147 ■ Presented a Conservation Plan Summary for CP #11-2016

148 **C. Stephanie Bishop**

- 149 ■ Water Quality season has begun!! October 20th is the monitoring date.
- 150 ■ Working with Nora on Shoreline Technical Assistance 3 workshops; Board invited to attend

151

152 **8. Strategic Plan Activities Update, All**

153 **A. Easement Subcommittee Report, Amy Hatch-Winecka**

154

155 **AI –Amy to coordinate meeting with board, staff & county to discuss Conservation Futures options**

156

157 **B. TCD Facility Relocation, Aslan Meade**

- 158 i. Tenino site update: Some buildings are irreparable; Due to this uncertainly, have not submitted
- 159 proposal yet, if TCD wants a facility there, we likely have to build it

- 160 ii. Co-housing & location options: Tabled until next month
161 **C. Scheduling Strategic Planning Session:** Tabled until next month.
162
163 **9. Financial Report, Amy Franks**
164 **A. Monthly Financial Report**
165 ▪ Amy presented end of year balance sheet and other financials to board; Amy provided notes
166 ▪ Developing 2017 FY Budget
167 **B. Review of August 2016 Check Register**
168 ▪ Board reviewed check register, tabled until next month due to lack of time to review.
169 **C. Resolution #13-2016: Authorized Bank Account Signers**
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171 **Aslan moved to approve Resolution #13-2016: Authorized Bank Account Signers. Richard seconded. All**
172 **in favor. Motion passed.**
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174 Check Register: The August check register (Checks 18957–18982 for \$67,870.11, no voids) was presented
175 by staff. Board tabled August check register until October meeting, due to inadequate time to review.
176

177 **AI - Staff to review policies to see if an amendment is required to: 1) change date range of check register,**
178 **and 2) email/include in board packet the check register and bank statements**
179

180 **10. Administrative Reports**

- 181 **A. Executive Director's Report,** Not present
182 **B. August Monthly Staff Reports**
183 **C. Policies & Procedures Update;** Tabled to October board meeting
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185 **11. Inter-District Agreement with Grays, Harbor, Lewis and Thurston Conservation District,** Amy HW
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187 **Aslan moved to approve Inter-District Agreement with Lewis Conservation District. Richard seconded. No**
188 **discussion. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.**

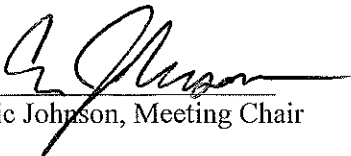
189 **Eric Johnson motioned to pay dues to the Washington Conservation Society. Aslan seconded. Vote: All in**
190 **favor. Motion Passed.**
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192 **12. Rates & Charges Assessment Follow-Up,** All
193 Tabled until October board meeting
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195 **13. Roundtable & Adjourn,** All
196 Tabled

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198 Eric Johnson adjourned the meeting at 5:10p.m.
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200 Respectfully Submitted,
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203 Eric Johnson, Meeting Chair
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