Thurston Conservation District Board of Supervisors Work Session Minutes

February 27, 2024

Hybrid: In-Person and Virtual on Zoom Originally Scheduled: 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Actual Meeting Time: 5:00 p.m. – 6:18 p.m.



Present at Work Session:

TJ Johnson, TCD Board Chair Helen Wheatley, TCD Board Supervisor Betsie DeWreede, TCD Board Supervisor Doug Rushton, TCD Board Supervisor David Iyall, TCD Board Supervisor Sarah Moorehead, TCD Executive Director Sophia Barashkoff, TCD Staff Stephanie Bishop, TCD Staff Ben Cushman, TCD Legal Counsel

- 1 **1.** Topic List Review, *All*
- 2. Staff Presentation: Forest Health and Wildlife Preparedness, *Stephanie Bishop*
- 3 Rates and Charges, Sarah Moorehead
- 4. Conservation and Education Center (CEC) Development, All
- 6 **6.** Legislative Day Update, All

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- 7. Important Updates & Announcements
 - a. Board of Supervisors, All
 - b. Executive Director, Sarah Moorehead

Respectfully, Docusigned by:

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TJ Johnson, TCD Board Chair

Thurston Conservation District Board of Supervisors Regular Board Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2024

Hybrid: In-Person and Virtual on Zoom Originally Scheduled: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Actual Meeting Time: 6:30 pm – 7:37 p.m.



Present at Meeting:

TJ Johnson, TCD Board Chair
Helen Wheatley, TCD Board Supervisor
Betsie DeWreede, TCD Board Supervisor
Doug Rushton, TCD Board Supervisor
David Iyall, TCD Board Supervisor
Sarah Moorehead, TCD Executive Director
Sophia Barashkoff, TCD Staff

Ben Cushman, TCD Legal Counsel
Emily Davis, Department of Ecology
Molly Paige, Department of Ecology (ECY)
Gab Rasso, Department of Ecology (ECY)
Jean Fike, Washington State Conservation
Commission (WSCC)

Summary of Action Items

● None.

Summary of Motions Passed

- 3 Supervisor Rushton moved to approve the Agenda. Supervisor Iyall seconded. Motion passed
- 4 *unanimously, (5-0).*

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- 5 Supervisor Iyall moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Supervisor Rushton seconded. Motion
- 6 passed unanimously, (5-0).
- 7 Supervisor DeWreede moved that the board formally oppose the EATS Act (S.2019, H.R. 4417)
- 8 and to communicate their opposition to TCD's local congressional delegation and to NACD
- 9 and WACD. Supervisor Rushton seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (5-0).
- Supervisor Iyall moved to adjourn the February 27, 2024 TCD Board Meeting. Supervisor
- 11 Wheatley seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (5-0).

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Full Version of the Minutes

12	Welcome & Introductions			
13	At 6:30 p.m., TCD Board Chair TJ Johnson called the February 27, 2024 Regular Board Meeting			
14	to order. TCD Board, Staff, members of the public, and Legal Counsel were introduced by the			
15	Board Chair. For each vote, TCD Board Chair Johnson called out Supervisors by name. He			
16	announced that the meeting was being video recorded. TCD Supervisors Johnson, Iyall, Rushton			
17	and Executive Director Moorehead attended the meeting in person at the TCD office.			
18	Supervisors Wheatley and DeWreede attended the meeting virtually.			
19	Agenda Review			
20	Supervisor Rushton moved to approve the Agenda. Supervisor Iyall seconded. Motion passed			
21	unanimously, (5-0).			
22	Consent Agenda			
23	A. January 23, 2024, Board Work Session & Meeting Minutes			
24	B. February 2024 Financial Report			
25	C. South Sound Habitat Strategic Initiative Lead (HSIL) Outreach Recreation and			
26	Conservation Office (RCO) Applicant Authorization			
27	D. Shore Friendly South Sound (SFSS) Collaborative RCO Applicant Authorization			
28	E. Garden-Raised Bounty (GRuB) Vendor Agreement			
29	F. Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) Vendor Agreement			
30	G. Pierce County Shellfish NTA 3.0 Funding Agreement			
31	H. WSCC Community Engagement Funding Agreement			
32	I. TCD Equipment Rental Policy & Procedure Update			
33	Supervisor Iyall moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Supervisor Rushton seconded. Motion			
34	passed unanimously, (5-0).			
35	Public Comment			
36	No public members commented.			
37	Partner Reports			
38	A. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Lynn Khuat			
39	 Ms. Khuat was not present. 			
40	B. Department of Ecology (ECY) Update, Emily Davis			
41	 Emily Davis, Molly Paige, and Gabe Raso provide updates. 			

• A written update was provided in the Board Packet.

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C. Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) Update, Jean Fike 44 45 Ms. Fike gave an update. WSCC gave TCD high marks on its annual Conservation Accountability 46 47 Performance Program (CAPP) review. CAPP is WSCC's annual legal and policy review of WA State conservation districts. 48 49 D. Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) Update, TCD Supervisor Doug 50 Rushton 51 Supervisor Rushton provided an update. • 52 WACD's Spring meeting is scheduled for May 29-30 in Ellensburg. 53 E. National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Update, TCD Supervisor and NACD 54 **Board Member Rushton** 55 Supervisor Rushton provided an update. 56 The NACD Resolution Committee unanimously passed all 5 WA State resolutions. **Legislative** 57 Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression (EATS) Act (S. 2019, H.R. 4417) 58 In the view of the TCD Board, the EATS act will further consolidate corporate control of the food 59 60 system at the expense of local communities and family farms. This proposal is contrary to 61 Thurston Conservation District's commitment to support locally led and focused conservation. Supervisor DeWreede moved that the board formally oppose the EATS Act (S.2019, H.R. 4417) 62 63 and to communicate their opposition to TCD's local congressional delegation and to NACD 64 and WACD. Supervisor Rushton seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (5-0). 65 Governance 66 A. 2024 TCD Elections update 67 B. 2024 Annual Plan Development C. March 26, 2024 Work Session Topic List & Meeting Agenda Development 68 69 **Work Session** 70 Topic List Review, All 71 Staff Presentation: Shore Friendly/Bulkhead Projects, Karin Strelioff Rates and Charges, Sarah Moorehead 72 • 73 Conservation & Education Center (CEC) Development, All 74 Legislative Wrap Up, Sarah Moorehead 75 Partner Report Review, All 76 *Important Updates & Announcements*

Board of Supervisors, All

Executive Director, Sarah Moorehead

79	Board Meeting Agenda		
80	 Welcome, Introductions, Audio Recording Announcement 		
81	Agenda Review		
82	Consent Agenda		
83	 February 27, 2024 Board Work Session & Meeting Minutes 		
84	 March 2024 Financial Report 		
85	Public Comment		
86	 Partner Reports (if present) 		
87	 Natural Resources Conservation Service 		
88	 Washington State Department of Ecology 		
89	 Washington State Conservation Commission 		
90	 Washington Association of Conservation Districts 		
91	 National Association of Conservation Districts 		
92	Governance, All		
93	o 2024 Election Update		
94	 2024 Annual Plan Review and Adoption 		
95	 April 26, 2024 Work Session Topic List & Meeting Agenda Development 		
96	 Executive Session: To discuss potential legal action with counsel. 		
97	Executive Session: To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or		
98			
99	RCW 42.30.110 (1) To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential		
100	litigation.		
101	The Executive Session opened at 7:15 pm to last no more than 10 minutes and concluded at		
102	7:25 pm. In attendance: TCD Board Members Johnson, Wheatley, DeWreede, Rushton and Iyall		
103			
104	Executive Session Report Out		
105	No action was taken.		
106	Executive Session: To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or		
107	potential for litigation		
108			
109	litigation.		
110	The Executive Session opened at 7:27 pm to last no more than 10 minutes and concluded at		
111	7:37 pm. In attendance: TCD Board Members Johnson, Wheatley, DeWreede, Rushton and Iyal		
112	TCD Legal Counsel Ben Cushman; and Executive Director Moorehead.		
113	Executive Session Report Out		
114	No action was taken.		

- Supervisor Iyall moved to adjourn the February 27, 2024 TCD Board Meeting. Supervisor
- 116 Wheatley seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (5-0).

117 Adjourn **7:37** pm

Respectfully, Docusigned by:

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TJ Johnson, TCD Board Chair

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