

KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors

Meeting Minutes

May 12, 1999

Supervisors Present: Bill Niccolls, Chair; Lynn Sullivan, Vice-Chair; Chris Tiffany, Secretary/Treasurer; Nancy Hansen, Member; Scott Wallace, member.

Guests Present: Laurie Clinton, Resource Lands and Open Space Section of the King County Water & Land Resources Division; George R. Jaquish, USDA Farm Service Agency; Eric Nelson, Resource Lands and Open Space Section of the King County Water and Land Resources Division; Stu Trefry, Washington Conservation Commission; Bruce Harpham; Patricia O'Hanley; Max Prinsen.

Staff Present: Sandi Krenkel, Lyle Stoltman

NRCS Present: Joe Henry

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. Bill Niccolls, Chair presided.

Agenda Confirmation: The Board agreed to change the agenda as follows:

- Add discussion of application for a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the Wetland Plant Cooperative as Item 15.

- Add one-half hour Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

Guest Introduction: Everyone present made introductions.

Public Comment: No public comment

M(Tiffany)/S(Sullivan)/P a motion to approve the March 10, 1999 minutes as presented.

M(Hansen)/S(Wallace)/P a motion to approve the April 5, 1999 minutes as presented.

Board Operations Manual:

Chris Tiffany presented an outline for the proposed Board Operations Manual and a short discussion ensued. Bill Niccolls requested that board members bring back to future board meetings any suggestions for the manual. A suggestion was made that a committee should be formed to work on the Board Operations Manual and Chris Tiffany volunteered and was appointed Chair of the committee. Lynn Sullivan volunteered to serve as well, with Stu Trefry and Nancy Hansen offering editing assistance. Bill then noted that one of the topics in the outline was "Attendance at other Meetings" under Board of Supervisors Responsibilities. He requested that this item be addressed as a first order of business by the committee. In the interim asked all Supervisors attending other meetings to follow the practice that unless officially designated to attend meetings as a representatives of the Board that Supervisors not speak for the Board at other meetings.

31 **Attendance at the King County Council Budget Committee Meeting May 19, 1999:**

32 Sandi informed the Board that the King County Council is requesting a follow-up report from the
33 meeting last year on July 15, 1998 concerning budget and work plan issues. Council staff have
34 asked that a Boardmember be designated to speak for the Board. Chris Tiffany was designated.

35 **Associate Supervisor Appointments:**

36 Sandi introduced three potential Associate Supervisors: Bruce Harpham; Patricia O'Hanley; Max
37 Prinsen. The candidates described their background and the reasons why they would like to serve
38 on the Board of Supervisors.

39 **M(Tiffany)/S(Hansen)/P a motion to appoint Bruce Harpham, Patricia O'Hanley, and Max**
40 **Prinsen as Associate Supervisors of the King Conservation District.**

41 **Year 2000 Plan of Work Pursuant to King County Ordinance 12959**

42 Chris Tiffany explained that King County Ordinance 12959, authorizing the District's special
43 assessment from January 1, 1998 through December 31, 2000, has an agreement attached to the
44 ordinance. The agreement was signed by a previous District Chair on November 15, 1993 and
45 establishes the roles and responsibilities of the County and District with respect to the
46 authorization and use of funds from the special assessment. Within the agreement is an item
47 requiring that the District submit a Work Plan on or before June 1 of the year prior to the
48 effective date of the Work Plan. This means that the Plan of Work for the Year 2000 must be
49 submitted by June 1, 1999. Chris presented Resolution 99-05 establishing the 2000 Program of
50 Work as Required by King County Ordinance 12959.

51 Nancy Hansen questioned the wording on page 2 of paragraph 1 of the Work Plan where it stated
52 that the District will focus its efforts in addressing the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for
53 salmonid species and will continue to participate in the Tri-County planning efforts for a salmon
54 recovery strategy. Nancy pointed out to the Board that she believed this was a policy issue and
55 did not know if it should be included without a consensus from the Board that this is indeed the
56 District's focus. A discussion ensued and it was agreed to change the language to the following:
57 *The District will continue to address the Endangered Species Act (ESA) needs for salmonid*
58 *species and will continue to participate in the Tri-County planning efforts for a salmon recovery*
59 *strategy*

60 **M(Tiffany)/S(Sullivan)/P Resolution 99-05 Establishing the Year 2000 Program of Work as**
61 **Required by King County Ordinance 12959, Attachment A, with the amended language to**
62 **accept the Year 2000 Work Plan as noted in lines 57-59 above.**

63 **Deferred Compensation Program for District employees:**

64 Sandi presented information regarding the establishment of a deferred compensation program for
65 District employees through the State of Washington, Department of Retirement Systems. She
66 noted that this is a benefit that can be available to District employees at no cost to the District

M(Tiffany)/S(Wallace)/P Resolution 99-06 establishing a Deferred Compensation Plan for King Conservation District employees.

Final Draft of Letter Concerning Recreational Use of Agricultural Lands

Chris Tiffany presented a final draft of a letter to be sent to King County Executive Ron Sims and King County Councilmember Louise Miller. These letters stem from decisions and discussions undertaken by the Board on December 15, 1998 and March 10, 1999. The Board discussed the final draft of the letters regarding the recreational use of agricultural lands and Lynn Sullivan presented additional changes to be made paragraph 3.

M(Tiffany)/S(Hansen)/P a motion (passed by a vote of three to one, Scott Wallace opposed) to accept the letters as amended by Lynn Sullivan and send them to Ron Sims and Louise Miller concerning recreational use of agricultural lands.

District Executive Report:

Sandi presented the First Quarter Report of Accomplishments and Financial Operations. This report meets the project and financial accounting systems record-keeping as recommended by the King County Executive Auditor.

Sandi presented the Final Draft of the 1999 First Quarter Work Plan Revision.

Sandi Krenkel briefly explained hiring Jeremy Bell for seasonal full-time work this summer to assist permanent staff in completing grant contracted work. Jeremy currently works for King Conservation district part-time.

Sandi informed the Board that the District has six surplus computers. Sandi explained that she proposed donating one of the computers to Cascadia Quest, a non-profit organization and partner of the District, and offering the others for sale to employees by means of a silent auction.

M(Wallace)/S(Sullivan)/P a motion (with Chris Tiffany abstaining) to give to Cascadia Quest one surplus computer from and sell the remaining five at no less than \$70 each.

Treasurer's report:

Chris Tiffany presented the Treasurer's report.

M(Tiffany)/S(Sullivan) a motion to ratify check numbers 4760 through 4858 for the months of March and April in the amount of \$78,046.81.

A discussion ensued about the financial operations of King Conservation District. Chris informed the Board that she would like to reinstate the Finance Committee in order to review the budget and make recommendations to the Board for adjustments so as to not overspend in any one category, sign checks for the district, and address the financial questions of new board members. The committee is to consist of the Chair and the Secretary/Treasurer. Bill Niccolls agreed to the re-instatement of the committee.

Lake Forest Park Contract for Services:

Sandi Krenkel explained that the City of Lake Forest Park has agreed to contract for services with the District for restoration of Blue Heron Park gave a brief explanation about the contract with Lake Forest Park. The District will coordinate with the City and a citizens group in restoring the riparian habitat that is overtaken by Japanese Knotweed.

M(Tiffany)/S(Hansen)/P a motion to authorize the Chair to sign a contract between the City of Lake Forest Park and the District for the performance of conservation services.

Washington State Department of Information Services

Sandi Krenkel presented a customer service agreement with the Washington State Department of Information Services whereby they offer software discounted from 15 to 35 percent. Sandi added there are no fees involved in this contract.

M(Tiffany)/S(Sullivan)/P a motion to authorize the Chair to sign the customer service agreement with the State of Washington Department of Information Services.

EPA Grant Application

Sandi Krenkel discussed a grant application for \$5000 from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency for the Wetland Plant Cooperative. Sandi explained this grant will enable KCD to continue the Wetland Plant Cooperative at the same level and provides some extra money for supplies and labor. She informed the Board that there is no match required from the District.

M(Wallace)/S(Tiffany)/P a motion to submit a grant application to the EPA for the Wetland Plant Cooperative.

New Business:

Sandi Krenkel informed the Board that for a future agenda topic she would like to have a review of law firms to work with the District on the new Policy and Personnel manual. Bill Niccolls suggested the Board also review the need for a land-use attorney.

Stu Trefry discussed the Puget Sound Action Plan, Dollars for Conservation Districts. This program is non profit and enables people interested in farming to take over the farms of people who desire to get out of farming. The Board had many questions and Stu agreed to get back with the Board with any further information.

George R. Jaquish from the USDA Farm Service Agency requested some time to speak at the board meeting. He informed the Board that he has been asked to review the soil rental rates under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). He is reviewing rental rates to determine if they are significant to attract producers to participate in the program. Sandi informed George that the District's database of Assessed Valuation of Agricultural Lands in King County was available to assist him in obtaining this information.

Stu Trefry informed the Board of \$111 million in the State's Capital Budget for funds that are available for salmon restoration to be divided among 12 different conservation districts.

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss personnel issues

138 *The Board came back into Regular Session at 9:30.*

139 There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

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Authorized Signature

Date

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Summary of Motions

149 **M(Tiffany)/S(Sullivan)/P a motion to approve the March 10, 1999 minutes as presented.**

150 **M(Hansen)/S(Wallace)/P a motion to approve the April 5, 1999 minutes as presented.**

151 **M(Tiffany)/S(Hansen)/P a motion to appoint Bruce Harpham, Patricia O'Hanley, and Max**
152 **Prinsen as Associate Supervisors of the King Conservation District.**

153 **M(Tiffany)/S(Sullivan)/P Resolution 99-05 Establishing the Year 2000 Program of Work as**
154 **Required by King County Ordinance 12959, Attachment A, with the amended language to**
155 **accept the Year 2000 Work Plan as noted in lines 57-59 above.**

156 **M(Tiffany)/S(Wallace)/P Resolution 99-06 establishing a Deferred Compensation Plan for**
157 **King Conservation District employees.**

158 **M(Tiffany)/S(Hansen)/P a motion (passed by a vote of three to one, Scott Wallace opposed)**
159 **to accept the letters as amended by Lynn Sullivan and send them to Ron Sims and Louise**
160 **Miller concerning recreational use of agricultural lands.**

161 **M(Wallace)/S(Sullivan)/P a motion (with Chris Tiffany abstaining) to give to Cascadia**
162 **Quest one surplus computer from and sell the remaining five at no less than \$70 each.**

163 **M(Tiffany)/S(Hansen)/P a motion to authorize the Chair to sign a contract between the City**
164 **of Lake Forest Park and the District for the performance of conservation services.**

165 **M(Tiffany)/S(Sullivan)/P a motion to authorize the Chair to sign the customer service**
166 **agreement with the State of Washington Department of Information Services.**

167 **M(Wallace)/S(Tiffany)/P a motion to submit a grant application to the EPA for the**
168 **Wetland Plant Cooperative.**

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