

KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors

Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2002

1 **Supervisors Present:** Bill Niccolls, Chair, Scott Wallace, Vice-Chair, Lynn Sullivan,
2 Secretary/Treasurer, Max Prinsen, Member.

3 **Associate Supervisors Present:** Pat O’Hanley

4 **Guests Present:** Linda Hansen, Laura Blackmore, King County Department of Natural
5 Resources Parks and Watershed Resources. Tom Hanly, Interrasoft.

6 **Staff Present:** Geoff Reed, Brandy Reed, Marla Hamilton Lucas

7 **NRCS Staff Present:** Pedro Ramos

8 Meeting called to order at 6:00PM with Bill Niccolls, Chair, presiding. Introductions were made
9 around the table. Agenda was reviewed and it was decided to start with Hanley’s presentation
10 first and then move to Hansen and Blackmore’s.

11 Minutes were reviewed.

12 **Sullivan moved, Prinsen seconded, Passed unanimously a motion to approve the March**
13 **13th minutes.**

14 Ahern arrived at this time.

15 Hanly began his presentation about the Interrasoft XML project. He has been working with the
16 EPA and NRCS on creating a prototype for a system to assimilate information from different
17 software platforms onto a web server that can convert the information into an XML object that
18 can then be downloaded and used in various types of software applications. He emphasized that
19 security in the system would be very strong and that the owners of the data would have control
20 over the security. The goal would be to have a national environmental/ agricultural database that
21 could be used, for example, to get soil test information out to farmers so they can properly apply
22 fertilizer. There was much discussion and many questions from the board members so it was
23 decided to table discussion until after Hansen and Blackmore’s presentation, and possibly have
24 Hanley back for another board meeting after members had had a chance to digest the materials
25 distributed to them.

26 Hansen and Blackmore distributed progress reports for WRIA 9 projects funded with assessment
27 funds. They discussed the various projects that had been completed as well as ones that are still
28 in progress or need changes to their scope. Discussion ensued about one project, the “Upper
29 Watershed Culvert”, where the City of Tacoma wants to apply for the assessment funds to do the
30 project, as it is on land owned by the City. As the City does not pay the assessment fee on the
31 land, there was a question of the propriety of Tacoma being able to apply for the assessment
32 funds. Wallace stated that he didn’t understand why Tacoma should be allowed to apply when

33 they don't pay the assessment and other landowners in King County do and should get the
34 money.

35 Hansen and Blackmore acknowledged that the lessons learned by the WRIA in working on these
36 projects is that they need to be more realistic in scheduling, realize that permitting takes time and
37 to have jurisdictions besides King County be leads on the projects. More discussion ensued
38 regarding Tacoma's project and the results of some of the research projects. Prinsen stated that
39 the District is trying to make it easier to make needed changes to project scope. More discussion
40 ensued regarding the Kanaskat project. B. Reed stated that she needs physical evidence in
41 addition to written reporting about project completion for the District's files.

42 Niccolls left about this time.

43 The Board took a 5-minute break.

44 Hamilton Lucas presented the financial report to March. The board reviewed the list of checks
45 for March.

46 **Prinsen moved, Ahern seconded and Passed unanimously a motion to approve check**
47 **numbers 6468 thru 6523 in the amount of \$147,283.79.**

48 The balance sheet was reviewed along with the budget tracking report. Annual dues and
49 membership are over budget due to increasing amounts that the District is being asked to pay to
50 NACD and WACD.

51 **Sullivan moved, Ahern seconded Passed unanimously a motion to de-surplus the yellow**
52 **truck and put a used motor in it.**

53 **Prinsen moved, Wallace seconded, Passed unanimously a motion to accept the March**
54 **financial statements.**

55 G. Reed said that the King County Council would need to amend the Assessment ordinance to
56 accept Tukwila into the district, and while the Council is making the changes, there are two other
57 issues that need to be addressed: The State of Washington has not paid the assessment on their
58 timber, shoreline and open spaces parcels, stating that they are exempt as they receive no benefit
59 from the CD's services. Wallace said the state should pay and to refer the issue to the District's
60 attorney.

61 The second issue is the Muckleshoot Tribe believes that the county has no right to collect the
62 assessment on their parcels as they are a sovereign nation and do not pay King County property
63 taxes in any case. Discussion ensued that as members of the WRIA forums, they should be
64 contributing. The County has no authority to enforce payment. It was decided to refer this issue
65 to the District's attorney as well.

66 Sullivan wanted to continue the discussion regarding the XML server project. There was
67 discussion about how to decide what the next step is. Ahern suggested that Ramos of NRCS be
68 involved in any decision making on the project.

69 Ahern asked about the possibility of conflict of interest with Chair Bill Niccolls and his ties to
70 Interrasoft. Discussion ensued regarding the mechanics of rolling out the prototype. NRCS and
71 King County want to be involved. As a side note, Microsoft's Office 2000 is XML ready.

72 A committee was formed by the board to review the proposal by Interrasoft. The committee will
73 consist of Prinsen, Sullivan, Ramos, District staff and a member of the farming community. The
74 board would receive a recommendation on continuing the project at the June board meeting.

75 G. Reed then brought up the Supervisor election issues. As no one signed up to run against
76 Sullivan during last year's general election and so there was no election held, it has been
77 determined that there must be an election for her position. The date of the election will be
78 Tuesday June 25th. Discussion ensued regarding where the polling places should be, how they
79 should be staffed and how long they should be open. Prinsen suggested getting some county
80 election volunteers to supervise the polling places. It was decided to have three polling places:
81 Snoqualmie area, Enumclaw area, and the District office.

82 Wallace told the board he had reviewed the Koopman Dairy Nutrient Management Plan, found it
83 complete and signed it.

84 **Ahern moved, Sullivan seconded Passed unanimously a resolution to approve the**
85 **Koopman Dairy Nutrient Management Plan.**

86 Discussion resumed on the Green- Duwamish WRIA 9 Forum project presentation and the
87 propriety of Tacoma being able to apply for a Forum sponsored project. In addition, there was
88 discussion about how the project has been changed without specific information regarding the
89 changes on the project application. There are new figures, but no additional explanation, and the
90 County seems reluctant to provide additional information.

91 There was discussion about the various details of the application.

92 **Prinsen moved, Sullivan seconded, Passed unanimously a motion to approve the Tacoma**
93 **upper watershed project application contingent upon receiving additional information to**
94 **answer the Board's questions about the project.**

95 Discussion ensued regarding King County coming to the board after the fact for changes in
96 projects. Per the District's attorney, this is a breach of the contract that is signed when
97 assessment funds are authorized for distribution. The board should not be approving changes in
98 this way. B. Reed is working on a process for King County for non-competitive grant revisions.

99 Discussion ensued regarding the passing through of assessment funds and that the changes to
100 WRIA 9 projects won't be approved at this meeting. B. Reed felt that the board should give
101 feedback to the Forum that we need more documentation of changes.

102 Prinsen felt that rules should be given out to the Forums so they know our policy on changes to
103 non-competitive grant projects. Sullivan wondered that if we don't get progress reports or other
104 information on projects, we might be able to get the grant money returned, as the grantee would
105 be in breach of contract. This does not seem to be a realistic option, as the funding is ultimately
106 for distribution to the forums. King County was not current in their reporting, and discussion

107 ensued regarding a reprimand for them. Ahern felt that a strong letter would be appropriate.
108 Additional discussion ensued regarding how to get forums to document their progress on projects
109 and how to make changes to those projects so as to not be in breach of contract.

110 G. Reed reported that the Washington Conservation Commission has reappointed Wallace to
111 another three-year term on the Board.

112 Ramos gave the NRCS report. As of May 6, NRCS has a new chief, Bruce Knight. There is an
113 Agriculture Fish and Water meeting for the District Conservationists on April 23rd to see where
114 the process can go from where it is now.

115 Prinsen asked B. Reed to check into if his non-profit organization, Shadow, could get a
116 sponsorship for a grant and will make sure no conflict of interest exists with the state.

117 B. Reed distributed the 1st quarter reports and asked board members about their meeting
118 attendance during the first quarter.

119

120 There being no further business,

121 **Passed unanimously a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15pm.**

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123 _____

124 Authorized Signature

_____ Date

125

126

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Summary of Motions

128 **Sullivan moved, Prinsen seconded, Passed unanimously a motion to approve the March**
129 **13th minutes.**

130 **Prinsen moved, Ahern seconded and Passed unanimously a motion to approve check**
131 **numbers 6468 thru 6523 in the amount of \$80,783.97.**

132 **Sullivan moved, Ahern seconded Passed unanimously a motion to de-surplus the yellow**
133 **truck and put a used motor in it.**

134 **Prinsen moved, Wallace seconded, Passed unanimously a motion to accept the March**
135 **financial statements.**

136 **Ahern moved, Sullivan seconded Passed unanimously a resolution to approve the**
137 **Koopman Dairy Nutrient Management Plan.**

138 **Prinsen moved, Sullivan seconded, Passed unanimously a motion to approve the Tacoma**
139 **upper watershed project application contingent upon receiving additional information to**
140 **answer the Board's questions about the project.**

141

142 **Passed unanimously a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15pm.**

143