

KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors

Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2005

1 **Supervisors Present:** Max Prinsen, Chair, Scott Wallace, Vice Chair, Matt Livengood, Sec/Treas  
2 Richard Gelb, Member, Bobbi Lindemulder, Member.

3 **Associate Supervisors Present:** none

4 **Guests Present:** Doug Osterman, WRIA 9 coordinator, Shelley Sutton, King County, Sara  
5 Hemphill, Sustainable Solutions, Eric Fremodt, District Counsel.

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

7 **NRCS Staff Present:** None

8 Chair Prinsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Introductions were made.

9 The agenda was reviewed and Gelb asked to add the NRI under Ongoing Discussion and  
10 Updates, Prinsen asked to have a conversation about changing the board meeting day at that time  
11 as well.

12 **Wallace Moved, Lindemulder Seconded; Passed Unanimously a motion to accept the**  
13 **November 2005 meeting minutes.**

14 The board revisited two non-competitive grants that were first presented at the November board  
15 meeting.

16 **Livengood Moved, Wallace Seconded; Passed Unanimously a motion to approve the City of**  
17 **Sea-Tac Non-Competitive Grant application for \$23,000 from 1999-2002 assessment**  
18 **collections for the City of SeaTac 188<sup>th</sup> Street Landscape Project.**

19 Doug Osterman presented changes to the WRIA 9 application for the King County Capital  
20 Projects and Funding Implementation Project. The project proposal would fund the WRIA 9  
21 Project Manager position as well as fund activities to leverage additional funding for WRIA 9  
22 priority salmon recovery projects. A portion of the KCD grant would fund overhead associated  
23 with the Project Manager position. He estimated that the overhead expense recouped would be  
24 \$10,000. B. Reed asked if the \$10,000 would be a budget revision or put into a project.  
25 Osterman responded that the funds would be used on a project. Gelb asked what project, as the  
26 project list for the application has not been developed yet, as Salmon Recovery Funding has not  
27 been allocated. Wallace asked about SRF board funding, and Hansen analyzing the plan. Hansen  
28 is the only staff supported by this grant. Wallace asked about how many full time employees are  
29 in WRIA 9 and Osterman responded that there are 3 plus a half time position from the SRF  
30 board. There was more discussion about RIA 9 and the Inter-local agreement between the cities  
31 included in the WRIA, and the length of term of the ILA.

32 Hemphill arrived at 6:18.

33 G. Reed asked about other WRIA operations and how they compared with WRIA 9. Osterman  
34 said that WRIA 9's arrangement was unique. The Snohomish Recovery Forum for example is  
35 completely funded by Snohomish County, and not billed to the cities, as the County is the lead  
36 entity. The WRIA 9 funding scheme came out of the Tri-County negotiations. Wallace asked  
37 why WRIs 8 and 9 oppose equal shares with WRIA 7. Osterman responded that there were  
38 political and technical reasons for the current 40/40/20 allocation between the three King County  
39 WRIs. ESA requires recovery where species are depressed, and it is necessary to keep money  
40 flowing to areas to keep people involved in the process, using the Federal Way situation as an  
41 example. WRIA 7 is mostly in Snohomish County and under the Snohomish Recovery Forum.

42 **Wallace Moved, Lindemulder Seconded; Passed Unanimously a motion to table the WRIA**  
43 **9 Watershed Forum non-Competitive grant application for the King County Capital**  
44 **Projects and Funding Implementation Project until a revised application is submitted.**

45 Wallace stated that January would be a good time to look at this grant as the Board would be  
46 looking at revised non-competitive grant procedures at that meeting. Livengood wanted to see  
47 what projects would be funded by the grant, and Gelb wanted to see the project implementation  
48 timeline. B. Reed said that the usual policy is not to process non-competitive grant applications  
49 during the November, December and January due to budget and workplan deadlines, but as the  
50 policy was not sent out soon enough this year, there are about 30 applications waiting.

51 Nothing has been finalized since November regarding the grant funding policy with the  
52 exception of new criteria that replaces RCW 89.08 and funding guidelines. Comments were  
53 requested for use in subcommittee meeting. Livengood wanted to schedule a subcommittee  
54 meeting shortly after the first of the year, but it was decided to meet in the next week.

55 Hamilton Lucas presented the finance report. The list of checks for November were reviewed.  
56 Gelb asked about moving towards electronic copies of the newsletter. Staff will work on this.  
57 Gelb asked about the medical reimbursements that staff are receiving. Hamilton Lucas explained  
58 how the program works.

59 **Livengood Moved, Wallace Seconded; Passed Unanimously a motion to approve the**  
60 **November Monthly Expenses, Check Numbers 8866-8925 in the amount of \$ 136,703.63.**

61 Hamilton Lucas distributed the budget tracking report through November. She reported that the  
62 assessment collected by King County was received by the District. Hamilton Lucas discussed  
63 that we are waiting for some payments and some expenses have been lower than expected. The  
64 balance sheet was reviewed along with the unrestricted and restricted fund balances.

65 **Wallace Moved, Livengood Seconded; Passed a motion to approve the November financial**  
66 **report.**

67 Hamilton Lucas reported that the State Auditor is done with the yearly audit and the report  
68 should be done soon. She didn't think he had any issues with the District's finances. He may  
69 request a list of the District funded projects.

70 District Counsel Eric Fremodt arrived at 6:30.

71 G. Reed presented the procedure for the election of Supervisor Position 3 (Lindemulder's  
72 position). There is a staff recommendation on the form, once the form is turned in, it can't be  
73 changed. Prinsen and Wallace had questions about the proposed polling locations, especially the  
74 King County Fairgrounds in Enumclaw. The polling place can not be in the city limits of  
75 Enumclaw as it is not part of the District. Discussion ensued about alternate polling places and  
76 times. It was decided to add King Feed as an "or" in the form, depending upon its availability,  
77 and change polling hours from 11:30am to 7pm.

78 **Wallace Moved, Livengood Seconded; Passed a motion to approve the Notice of Election**  
79 **with respect to the Enumclaw area location being either the King County Fairgrounds or**  
80 **King Feed subject to availability. The polling hours were changed to 11:30am to 7pm.**

81 Prinsen will need to sign the form before it is sent to the Conservation Commission.

82 Prinsen introduced Shelly Sutton from the King County Executive's office and she explained  
83 how she got involved with the workplan certification process. B. Reed distributed the latest  
84 version of the 2006 Program of Work and the Board discussed it, after having a discussion about  
85 communication issues.

86 There was a discussion about the options available to the board regarding submitting the 2006  
87 Program of Work. Prinsen said that a decision was needed so discussion was ended at this point.

88 Gelb moved to approve the 2006 Program of Work as amended. Wallace seconded and stated he  
89 reluctantly supports the program of work as it currently exists.

90 Prinsen stated that he was disappointed with the assessment authorization process, that the  
91 process left the District "behind" in terms of the partnership with King County, that in the  
92 upcoming months we hope to create a stronger air of cooperation and move forward to resolve  
93 the issues involved.

94 Livengood expressed his appreciation for the staff work on the program of work but didn't  
95 support submitting the Program of Work in its current form.

96 Lindemulder stated her support for the original Program or Work as submitted by the District  
97 last summer. She felt the 6/2/2 split of the assessment revenues was disrespectful of the District  
98 and resource conservation priorities, and does not support the District's entire program of work.

99 Prinsen expressed appreciation for the board members frank opinions. He felt that the District  
100 worked hard for a successful assessment proposal both at the state legislature and the local level.

101 The hand has been dealt to the District by the County and the Board must make a decision at this  
102 point.

103 Wallace asked Sutton to carry a message to King County that the District mandates differ from  
104 the King County mandates, as the District has both state and local mandates. Wallace would like  
105 to move the District forward and not backward, and a number of votes in support of submitting  
106 the Program of Work were cast under protest.

107 Subsequent to the discussion of the motion proposed by Gelb:

108 **Gelb Moved, Wallace Seconded; Passed 3 to 2 a motion to approve the 2006 King**  
109 **Conservation District Program of Work including a 6/2/2 allocation of assessment revenue**  
110 **and approving submittal of the document as amended to the King County Executive for**  
111 **certification and transmittal to the King County Council. (Lindemulder and Livengood**  
112 **opposed).**

113 Prinsen moved the discussion to reviewing the draft 2006 Work Plan and Budget. Discussion  
114 ensued on whether to aim for a balanced budget or a budget built on an income level that would  
115 require additional sources of revenue or utilization of District reserves. The staff wages/ benefits  
116 and contracted services line items were discussed. The topic of a board retreat was brought up  
117 for a budget item. Line items for District strategic initiatives were discussed. The board felt it  
118 should be spelled out in detail in the Attachment B to the Program of Work submittal.  
119 Intergovernmental coordination and strategic initiatives are not ready to be approved but will  
120 still be included in the budget. B. Reed reviewed the analysis that staff went through in order to  
121 come up with appropriate salary numbers. Discussion ensued on how much increase in staff  
122 salaries was justified. Gelb said he was concerned about raises at this time. Wallace said he  
123 thought the raises were justified to keep staff morale high and staff in place at the District.

124 **Wallace Moved, Livengood Seconded; Passed a motion to approve the draft 2006 Work**  
125 **Plan and Budget with the understanding that more discussion is needed before large**  
126 **expenditures are made.**

127 A discussion ensued on whether to pursue legislative initiatives immediately but no decision was  
128 forthcoming.

129 G. Reed said that this years' Washington Association of Conservation Districts meeting was very  
130 worthwhile attending.

131 Lindemulder will be attending the National Association of Conservation Districts meeting in  
132 Houston in 2006.

133 Gelb gave the board an update on the Natural Resources Inventory. He has received two  
134 proposals. Prinsen asked if the scope of the project has been identified.

135 Discussion ensued regarding the NRI and having King County participate in its creation.  
136 Wallace expressed his concerns about the project. Discussion ensued.

137 Prinsen asked the board if a change in the meeting day could be arranged. The Board decided  
138 that the regular Board meeting time would change to the second Monday of each month, starting  
139 in February 2006.

140 **Wallace Moved, Lindemulder Seconded; Passed Unanimously to change the monthly King**  
141 **Conservation District Board of Supervisors meeting schedule from the second Wednesday**  
142 **of each month to the second Monday of each month beginning February 13, 2006.**

143 G. Reed asked reported that District would like to hire Annmarie Magnochi as a farm planner as  
144 detailed in the approved draft 2006 Work Plan and Budget. The Board told him to proceed.

145 The District Holiday Party will be held at noon on December 20<sup>th</sup> at the District office.

146 **There being no more business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:27pm.**

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150 \_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

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**Summary of Motions**

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