

KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes

REGULAR MEETING

September 12, 2011

APPROVED

1 **Supervisors Present:** Bill Knutsen - Chair, Jeanette McKague – Vice Chair, Max Prinsen –
2 Auditor, Preston Drew, Eric Nelson

3 **Associate Supervisors Present:** None currently on the board.

4 **Staff Present:** Sara Hemphill, Susan Wermus - Clerk, RobRoy Erickson, Brandy Reed, Jessica
5 Saavedra, Marcie Myers, Lou Beck, Paul Borne

6 **Guests Present:** Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz – WRIA 8, Margaret Macleod, City of Issaquah, Julie
7 Crittenden, Seattle Public Utilities, Mike Mactutis, City of Kent, Elizabeth Walker, Snoqualmie
8 Watershed Forum, Yvette Lizee-Smith, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum

9 Chair Knutsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

10 Introductions were made and the agenda was reviewed. The request was made for a couple of
11 staff related items to be added to the agenda.

12 **Prinsen Moved; Nelson Seconded, Passed unanimously a motion to approve the meeting**
13 **agenda. (5 ayes, 0 nays)**

14 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

15 The following items were requested to be pulled off the consent agenda for further discussion:
16 Checks/Payments AI 11-082, AI 11-094, AI 11-095, AI 11-097, AI 11-098, AI 11-099, AI 11-
17 100, and AI 11-103.

18 Thanks were made to Susan Wermus for her work at the District over the last three years. Her
19 last day with the District is September 15th. She is relocating to Virginia.

20 Many thanks, applause and a plaque were presented to Paul Borne to recognize his 10 year
21 service to the District. Borne has spent untold hours of work on farm planning, CREP services
22 and the education program with the District. He is a valuable team member, always volunteers
23 for extra work, and he built the CREP program into the successful and vital program it is today.

24 **Drew Moved; Prinsen Seconded, Passed unanimously a motion to approve the consent**
25 **agenda. (5 ayes, 0 nays) [KCD LIP Applications AI 11-077, AI 11-083 - AI 11-091, Member**
26 **Jurisdiction and WRIA Forum Grant Applications AI 11-092, AI 11-093, AI 11-096, AI 11-**
27 **070, and Opportunity Fund Grant Applications AI 11-101, AI 11-102, AI 11-104, AI 11-**
28 **105.**

29 PUBLIC COMMENT:

30 None

31 PULLED CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

32 King County – 2012 Chinook Spawning Ground Surveys and Outmigrant Trapping [AI 11-094]

33 Board concerns about this grant application were that the project's cost, at \$500,000, is not in
34 line with the stated deliverables and that there is no direct on the ground work entailed. The
35 applicant response was that counting fish and continuing the longstanding fish in / fish out
36 monitoring program is the best way to track data that is vital to funding sources and scientists as
37 it relates to the overall program impact on fish returns. The project is estimated at \$314,000 and
38 not \$500,000. King CD has funded this project for many years and the sophistication of the
39 technology is effective. Drew asked that the minutes show that he will vote against funding this
40 project due to the excessive price for its deliverables.

41 Nelson Moved; Prinsen Seconded, Passed a motion to approve the Lake Washington-
42 Cedar-Sammamish Watershed Forum (WRIA 8) grant application for \$314,122 from 2011
43 funds for the King County 2012 Chinook Spawning Ground Surveys and Outmigrant
44 Trapping project. (4 ayes, 1 nay = Drew) [AI 11-094]

45 King County – 2012 Snoqualmie Restoration and Protection Assistance Program [AI 11-095]

46 Board concern was that any approved funding would be applied to staffing costs with no on the
47 ground work associated, which has been a board concern for grant applications generally. Also,
48 concern was voiced about some of the application language related to regulations and sensitivity
49 of landowners to this language.

50 Prinsen Moved; Nelson Seconded, Passed a motion to approve the Snoqualmie Watershed
51 Forum (WRIA 8) grant application for \$99,800 from 2011 funds for the King County
52 Snoqualmie Restoration and Protection Assistance Program. (4 ayes, 1 nay = Drew) [AI
53 11-095]

54 Western Academy of Beaux Arts – Beaux Arts Shoreline Restoration Construction Phase 1 [AI
55 11-097]

56 Board concern was in regards to language in the application related to the shoreline master
57 program which is seen as controversial across the state. Several current lawsuits are in progress
58 relating to culvert replacement. Reed responded to a Supervisor question as to what "equity"
59 means in the application by saying that a former King CD Supervisor wanted to draw out from
60 applicants why King CD should apply its funding towards an identified demographic.

61 Prinsen Moved; Nelson Seconded, Passed a motion to approve the Lake Washington-
62 Cedar-Sammamish Watershed Forum (WRIA 8) grant application for \$50,000 from 2011

63 **funds for the Western Academy of Beaux Arts (WABA) Shoreline Restoration**
64 **Construction Phase 1. (4 ayes, 1 abstain = Drew) [AI 11-097]**

65 **City of Issaquah – Confluence Parks/Issaquah Creek Restoration Phase 1 [AI 11-098]**

66 Board concern was for the necessity of multiple design phases and their related costs. The
67 response was that the several stages of design phases (30%, 60%, 90%) is to ensure receipt of
68 input and proper planning in order to have a fully vetted and complete design before moving
69 ahead with implementation. Another board concern was the number of required permits and the
70 related costs and paperwork when budgets are tight. The response was that permits are reviewed
71 altogether by a team of professionals to ensure cost efficiencies.

72 **Nelson Moved; Prinsen Seconded, Passed unanimously a motion to approve the Lake**
73 **Washington-Cedar-Sammamish Watershed Forum (WRIA 8) grant application for**
74 **\$110,000 from 2011 funds for the City of Issaquah Confluence Parks/Issaquah Creek**
75 **Restoration Phase 1 project with the contingency that funds will not be released until SRFB**
76 **funding for Phase 2 is secured. (5 ayes, 0 nays) [AI 11-098]**

77 **Cherry Creek NE 157th Place Culvert Replacement [AI 11-099]**

78 Board concern was that this is a retroactive application. Reed responded by saying that
79 retroactive funding approval is within the Opportunity Fund's program guidelines and that it is
80 not common. The landowners took on the project voluntarily, worked with Wild Fish
81 Conservancy before moving to the permitting stage, and hired consultants to create the design.
82 The culvert was installed before the grant application was submitted. Planting in the project area
83 is the stage, hence the grant application.

84 **McKague Moved; Prinsen Seconded, Passed unanimously a motion to approve the KCD-**
85 **Snoqualmie Watershed Forum 2011 Opportunity Fund grant application for \$30,000**
86 **(\$15,000 from the 2011 KCD general operating budget and \$15,000 from 2011 special**
87 **assessments allocated to the WRIA 7 Watershed Forum) awarded to the Rick Wood for the**
88 **Cherry Creek NE 157th Place Culvert Replacement Project. (5 ayes, 0 nays) [AI 11-099]**

89 **Raging River Side Channel Fish Passage Design Project [AI 11-100]**

90 Board concern was the amount of funding requested given the project parameters. Reed
91 responded to say that the cost includes the original design as well as four additional designs for
92 additional landowner projects, one of which is "shovel ready." Wild Fish Conservancy was used
93 as a contractor to identify the barrier as a fish passage barrier. Four other area landowners
94 showed interest in the project.

95 **McKague Moved; Nelson Seconded, Passed a motion to approve the KCD-Snoqualmie**
96 **Watershed Forum 2011 Opportunity Fund grant application for \$30,000 (\$15,000 from the**
97 **2011 KCD general operating budget and \$15,000 from 2011 special assessments allocated to**

98 **the WRIA 7 Watershed Forum) awarded to the Wild Fish Conservancy Raging River Side**
99 **Channel Fish Passage Design Project. (4 ayes, 1 nay = Drew) [AI 11-100]**

100 **Meyer-Hurley Property Riparian Restoration along Raging River [AI 11-103]**

101 Board concern was cost and if perhaps the ivy and knotweed could be removed using small
102 machines. Reed responded to say that the ivy will be removed manually and the knotweed
103 chemically. For this project, mechanical removal is not recommended due to lack of access for
104 small machinery. She added that she has some new information on a possible pilot project this
105 fall using mechanical removal methods.

106 **Nelson Moved; Prinsen Seconded, Passed unanimously a motion to approve the KCD-**
107 **Snoqualmie Watershed Forum 2011 Opportunity Fund grant application for \$23,014.16**
108 **(\$11,507.08 from the 2011 KCD general operating budget and \$11,507.08 from 2011 special**
109 **assessments allocated to the WRIA 7 Watershed Forum) awarded to the Earth Corps for**
110 **the Meyer-Hurley Property Raging River Riparian Restoration Project. (5 ayes, 0 nays)**
111 **[AI 11-103]**

112 **Checks/Payments [AI 11-082]**

113 The document detailing checks and payments for August was handed out.

114 **Prinsen Moved; McKague Seconded, Passed unanimously a motion to approve ratification**
115 **of King Conservation District Checks 14022 - 14093 in totaling \$256,273.91. (5 ayes, 0**
116 **nays) [AI 11-082]**

117 PRESENTATIONS:

118 **Seattle Public Utilities, Mapes Creek Mouth Restoration – Julie Crittendon, SPU [AI 11-106]**

119 Julie Crittendon with Seattle Public Utilities provided the board with a presentation detailing the
120 Mapes Creek proposed project in hopes of funding approval. The goals of the project are 1)
121 increased juvenile salmon rearing habitat and 2) increased environmental amenity in one of
122 Seattle's lowest income areas. Board question: what does the amenity have to do with King CD?
123 Response: more communities involved with targeted environmental educational outreach.
124 Crittendon showed the conceptual plan and explained that she was able to cut project costs by
125 working to have the stream pipe installed at the same time as a sewer pipe is planned to be
126 installed. She provided the board with a handout detailing the Grants Subcommittee questions
127 and her answers to those questions. Board concern: daylighting the stream? Response: we are
128 unable to do as much of this as we would like. Storm water from nearby Safeway will enter the
129 storm water pipe and will exit at the same location as the creek exit but the storm water exit there
130 tends to plume out into Lake Washington away from the more coastal areas that juvenile salmon
131 prefer. Board comment: so much more could be done for salmon with this level of funding on

132 the Snoqualmie River. Funding is not flowing out to rural landowners from Seattle as promised
133 to cover the costs of regulations.

134 **Nelson Moved; Prinsen Seconded, Passed a motion to approve the Lake Washington-**
135 **Cedar-Sammamish Watershed Forum (WRIA 8) grant application for \$180,000 from 2011**
136 **funds for the Seattle Public Utilities for the Mapes Creek Mouth Restoration project with**
137 **the contingency that funds will be held until other funding sources are secured. (4 ayes, 1**
138 **nay = Drew) [AI 11-106]**

139 **City of Kent, Downey Farmstead Restoration, Final Design Plans 2012 – Mike Mactutis, City of**
140 **Kent [AI 11-107]**

141 Mike Mactutis with the City of Kent provided the board with a presentation detailing the final
142 design plan for the Downey Farmstead. The project aims to recreate salmon habitat in an
143 increasingly urbanized area and in the process reduce flood levels. The Salmon Recovery
144 Funding Board has already approved funding and Mactutis is hoping King CD will also
145 contribute funding. Board question: would the project be located in incorporated Kent and is the
146 project within the Agricultural Production District (APD)? Response: the project is located in
147 unincorporated Kent and is within the APD. As a result of this project, it is expected that flood
148 levels will decrease 6 inches. Board question: has the Flood District contributed any funding?
149 Response: not yet. He shared the consultant's 30% design for the project. Board question: are
150 there trees in the flood storage area? Response: yes, but the flood storage area is not full year
151 round. He added that they are planning to save costs by using as much of the materials on site as
152 possible, specifically in the case of relocation of the road. He also shared cross sections of the
153 channel. The goals of the project are: 1) floodplain storage and salmon habitat creation 2) three
154 inlet channels to provide complexity 3) invasive plant removal and native riparian re-vegetation
155 and 4) wood debris structures and engineered log jams. Approximately 146 yards of material
156 will be moved. The project cost is estimated \$6.1 million but Mactutis is hoping for lower once
157 they go out to bid in the coming weeks. The project is recommended by WRIA 9. The existing
158 bridge for Mullen Slough will remain in place. Board question: replacement land tied to the
159 APD, as required? Response: no replacement land is tied to the project given that it is located
160 within the APD boundaries, but the project will have a positive effect on lowering flood levels.
161 The Agriculture Commission's Storm Water Subcommittee is supportive of this project. King
162 County Agricultural Department staff members have been consulted and the project has been
163 grandfathered so is not held to the newest requirements. The land will not be used as farmland
164 since the land must be kept as salmon habitat under the funding requirements for the Salmon
165 Recovery Funding Board. Drew requested that the minutes show that according to the project,
166 the river is expected to decrease by 6 inches.

167 **Drew Moved; McKague Seconded, Passed a motion to approve the Lake Washington-**
168 **Cedar-Sammamish Watershed Forum (WRIA 8) grant application for \$180,000 from 2011**
169 **funds for the Seattle Public Utilities for the Mapes Creek Mouth Restoration project with**
170 **the contingency that funds will be held until other funding sources are secured. (4 ayes, 1**
171 **abstain = Nelson) [AI 11-107]**

172 Knutsen called for a break at 7:32 pm and he reconvened the meeting at 7:42 pm.

173 REGULARLY SCHEDULED ITEMS:

174 Advisory Committee Report

175 Hemphill reported that she and other King CD staff members have had meetings and
176 conversations with Don Fiene, Chair, and Brad Gaolach, Vice Chair, regarding the number of
177 committee and subcommittee meetings to be planned for 2012, an assessment year, as well as the
178 efficiency of committee meetings. The current ILA requires at least four full committee meetings
179 per year. Fiene and Gaolach are hoping for at least three full committee meetings prior to July
180 2012 due to assessment renewal preparations.

181 Implementation Report – Reed

182 Reed reported that the Rural Forest Commission met on September 8th and discussed King
183 County comp plan updates including rezoning options for forest, agriculture and resources land
184 sections. At the meeting, DDES reported on the new fixed fee rate ordinance revising hazard
185 tree removal permitting. King CD provided a letter of support for a Department of Ecology grant
186 funding request on behalf of the Puget Sound Conservation Districts. This grant, requesting
187 funding over 5-6 years to key watersheds identified on an annual basis, could be another grant
188 that WSCC receives to provide funding to conservation districts.

189 Finance Report – Erickson

190 Erickson provided the board with regular balance sheet and profit and loss statements. The next
191 influx of assessment collections will come in October and November. New this month on the
192 balance sheet is the inclusion of a breakdown of restricted funds by member jurisdictions and
193 WRAs. Analysis of the profit and loss statement shows that we are on target for the year and
194 included as part of the document is a “burn rate” for salaries for the remainder of the year.
195 Salaries are projected to be under budget for the year.

196 Administration, Budget and Policy Subcommittee Report – no report

197 Grants Subcommittee – Prinsen reported that all is moving ahead smoothly. He was pleased to
198 see a grant applicant providing answers to direct subcommittee questions, as Julie Crittendon did
199 this evening.

200 Outreach Subcommittee – Hemphill reported another successful meeting today with the City of
201 Sammamish regarding using volunteers as opposed to city staff to provide some maintenance for
202 city parks. Hemphill pointed out the Fall Harvest Farm Tour advertisements put together by
203 King CD staff member Jessica Paige. Paige is continuing to work on an updated general King
204 CD brochure. Hemphill also pointed out the bookmark that was recently developed for outreach
205 purposes. The FY 2010 – 2011 Report of Accomplishments due to the Washington State

206 Conservation Commission is complete. This one pager is shared with legislators for all 47
207 conservation districts in the state. The board suggested preparing more inclusive
208 accomplishment numbers in the report.

209 Program Development, Science and Engineering Subcommittee – no report

210 Board Chair Report – Snohomish CD is holding a Farm Breakfast which we are invited to. The
211 WACD Northwest Area Meeting is scheduled for October 13th. If the board has any resolutions
212 to submit, please talk with staff soon. In regards to the Stout ditch project, there has been an
213 accord between King County Roads Department and URS, the King CD contracted engineering
214 firm. On Friday, the fish counting biologist will be out at the ditch for observation. A recent
215 farm pad was completed with many thanks to Christie True.

216 Drew – no report

217 Nelson – He is working on the Cherry Creek project helping landowners to understand potential
218 contingency plans, such as dedicated grant funding or advocating for a performance bond, if the
219 project does not go as planned and results in a detriment to the landowners.

220 Prinsen – The recent Frog Frolic was a great success. He reported that there were booths at the
221 recent Black Diamond Days addressing the changes to the King County comp plan.

222 McKague – Conservation districts are being seen as having an impact with the Puget Sound
223 recovery effort. She reported that conservation districts can have a great impact on the Puget
224 Sound Action Agenda by their involvement with agriculture and forestry issues. There is
225 potential for a special session this fall on the state budget and committee days are scheduled for
226 December of this year at the legislature.

227 Executive Director Report – Hemphill reported successful meetings and conversations regarding
228 the 2012 King CD Supervisor election. A more simplified approach will be employed for online
229 voting: if a voter is already registered from last year's election then he/she will simply receive
230 online balloting information and if a voter is not yet registered, he/she will be able to register and
231 vote within the same online session. The time span for online voting will be changed from 30
232 days last election to 14 days for the next election. A recent meeting with King County library
233 staff was successful and they plan to offer up computer space, but we will have to use our own
234 volunteers. The schedule for development of the 2012 budget has been aggressive but we are
235 making progress and will soon have a draft to the Administration, Budget, and Policy
236 Subcommittee, who will plan to meet on 9/26 around noon tentatively. Nothing new is
237 happening on the legal front. Recently Hemphill submitted a memo to Mike Reed with King
238 County providing clear detail regarding dedicated funding. Three candidates have been
239 interviewed so far for the Executive Assistant position. Soon the Board will revisit
240 subcommittee assignments and schedules.

241 UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

242 Albro Alluvial Fan Study and Maintenance Project

243 Knutsen reported that he had a successful conversation recently with King County regarding the
244 Albro Alluvial Fan Study and Maintenance project. The berm is deflecting water and the stream
245 is carrying more material and has more velocity than expected. Beck reported that they finally
246 found the right combination of permitting and we have been given an extended fish window of
247 September 30th. Now, the project is going to contract.

248 NEW BUSINESS:

249 Resolution 11-007: Appointment of Agent to Receive Claims for Damages

250 Erickson reported that Eric Frimodt, King CD's attorney, declined to serve in this role and a new
251 name will have to be identified. This resolution will be tabled until it can be addressed again.

252 Knutsen adjourned the meeting at 9:25 pm.

253

254

255 William M. Knutsen

12-12-2011

256 Authorized Signature

Date

257

258

259

Summary of Motions

260 **Prinsen Moved; Nelson Seconded, Passed unanimously a motion to approve the meeting**
261 **agenda. (5 ayes, 0 nays)**

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298 the Meyer-Hurley Property Raging River Riparian Restoration Project. (5 ayes, 0 nays)
299 [AI 11-103]

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302 nays) [AI 11-082]

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305 funds for the Seattle Public Utilities for the Mapes Creek Mouth Restoration project with
306 the contingency that funds will be held until other funding sources are secured. (4 ayes, 1
307 nay = Drew) [AI 11-106]

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311 **the contingency that funds will be held until other funding sources are secured. (4 ayes, 1**
312 **abstain = Nelson) [AI 11-107]**

313