

KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors

Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2015

1 **Supervisors Present: By Phone Only:** Dick Ryon-Chair, Bill Knutsen- Vice Chair, Auditor Max
2 Prinsen,

3 **Associate Supervisors Present: None**

4 **Staff Present:** Ava Souza – Clerk & Brandy Reed

5 **Guests Present:** Shawn Bunney

6 Chairman Dick Ryon called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

7 Introductions were made and the agenda was set.

8 **Knutsen moved; Prinsen seconded passed unanimously a motion to approve the agenda. (3**
9 **ayes, 0 nays)**

10 **New Business:**

11 **Knutsen then spoke about AI 15-087 Resolution No 15-006 Request to Create a WACD Rules,**
12 **Procedures, and Bylaw Committee**

13 Knutsen spoke about the resolution and the framework of the request to act as related to public
14 entity requirements. The Board discussed the resolution in detail at the last Board meeting so no
15 additional comments were made and the following was set.

16 **Knutsen moved; Prinsen seconded passed unanimously a motion to approve Resolution No**
17 **15-006 Request to Create a WACD Rules, Procedures, and Bylaw Committee. (3 ayes, 0 nays)**

18 **WACD Dues for King Conservation District**

19 Knutsen then spoke about the WACD dues and that KCD has until November 2015 to pay those
20 so that we continue to have a voice. In the meantime we need to request to hold dues, then ask for
21 a meeting and release to all CD's.

22 Ryon stated there was a lot of support at the NW Area Meeting to support this type of request, and
23 that there is general support. It is possible to write a check and bring it to the NW Area Meeting if
24 we need to in November.

25 Prinsen stated he would like to see other CD's, perhaps Whatcom's, approach on the resolution
26 and that we hold dues payment. Knutsen stated he would ask around.

27 **Election Resolutions**

28 There was then a discussion on election resolutions for all districts statewide and seeking feedback
29 from the NW Area Meeting. It must be decided if there should be a coordinated statewide election-
30 day or election-week. Whatcom has proposed to allow alternative on general ballot.

31 Knutsen stated he likes the idea of a coordinated statewide election-week and that it suits our
32 election process. Ryon stated he likes the idea of an election day, with moving closer to a general
33 election, and would like it to be aligned with November general ballot election. Ryon and Prinsen
34 agree in wanting a CD Election Day. Prinsen asked if we should go for gusto to be on the primary
35 ballot, but is unsure. We need to structure the election week in a way that places us on the primary
36 ballot election process. The time now is not good, the current approach is unpopular. Knutsen
37 suggested we talk to the elections office across the parking lot.

38 There was then a discussion over using County Auditors to run CD elections. Knutsen stated he
39 generally does not have a problem with this idea, but cost is the issue. Chop notified us that primary
40 election day means no charge. KCD should inquire further by posing the questions to King County
41 elections and get it on the record or in a letter. Shawn Bunney then made a comment stating there
42 are changes that can be made by the commission versus changes via statute. Bunney stated we
43 should explore this, for example the first quarter election-day is the prerogative of the WSCC and
44 does not require statute change. Bunney said we must look in to the comparison of January special,
45 primary, and general election costs.

46 Ryon then stated that regarding elections to not turn this into a big open ended task, and that Shawn
47 Bunney could work on it. He discussed the cost to participate in the three different elections from
48 auditors. Bunney agreed to take on the project. Shawn Bunney stated he would put together a
49 matrix on policy. Reed discussed reporting to the Advisory Committee, and stated we should have
50 Shawn Bunney to keep us up to date on these issues.

51 Next, the Board was asked what they thought about having an alternative pathway to CDs to
52 conduct elections on the general ballot. No additional comments were made on this point at this
53 time.

54 There was then a discussion regarding having all positions elected. Prinsen stated the Charter
55 School issue has implications for CDs with boards not elected and it is not okay to spend public
56 funds when not elected. Prinsen said he generally thinks this is a good proposal. Ryon then stated
57 it is proper to have all elected positions, but he does not want to undermine the WSCC roll in
58 appointments. Ryon stated people spending tax-payer funding should be accountable. Knutsen said
59 he expects a lot of resistance from rural conservation districts, who may have an anti-government
60 sentiment. Knutsen does not want all appointed positions. Prinsen said public disclosure processes
61 are hard enough with three elected supervisors.

62 Building and space needs and capacity

63 There was then a discussion on building and space needs and capacity. Ryon stated all conservation
64 districts need a house to work in. Knutsen stated the options to address the “co-housing” issues are
65 important and a bucket of funding would be helpful to address complications where CDs are being

squeezed out of their co-housing arrangement. Prinsen stated this is an effort to put the issue on the WACD/WSCC radar and we should support it.

Knutsen moved; Prinsen seconded a motion to adopt resolution and move forward with Snohomish as a co-sponsor (3 ayes; 0 nays)

There was then a discussion on the Whidbey/Jefferson sponsored resolution, WACD net assets. Prinsen stated the PMC has the ability to spend funding in a different way to WACD, which means we want to be careful about the proposed resolution. Prinsen stated he is not in favor of a raw redistribution, but if we had a process to prioritize an endeavor, project, etc. more desirable, and at the heart of this issue is the flexibility of this funding source.

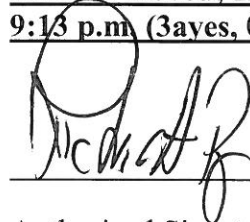
There was then a discussion on the San Juan Conservation District resolution, WACD vote by proxy. Prinsen and Knutsen stated they appreciate the difficulty some conservation districts have in attending meetings, but are not in support of the proposal. The main issue is the process that leads to amendments of the Resolutions at the Annual Meeting. Ryon stated the proxy is duty bound to cast a vote as the voting member specified and the potential for interpretation is too problematic.

Regarding Whatcom Conservation District there was a conversation about how the commission appoints the two appointees and three are elected.

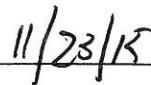
Knutsen moved; Prinsen seconded a motion to support Whatcom Conservation District capacity building (3 ayes, 0 nays)

There was then a discussion regarding Snohomish Conservation District to address and direct the WACD action plan. Prinsen stated we should support and move forward and see what comes of it.

Prinsen moved; Knutsen seconded passed unanimously a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m. (3 ayes, 0 nays)



Authorized Signature



Date

Summary of Motions

Knutsen moved; Prinsen seconded passed unanimously a motion to approve the agenda. (3 ayes, 0 nays)

Knutsen moved; Prinsen seconded passed unanimously a motion to approve Resolution No 15-006 Request to Create a WACD Rules, Procedures, and Bylaw Committee. (3 ayes, 0 nays)

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99 Snohomish as a co-sponsor (3 ayes; 0 nays)

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