

KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors

Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2001

1 **Supervisors Present:** Bill Niccolls, Chair, Scott Wallace, Vice Chair, Max Prinsen, Member,
2 Nancy Hansen, Member.

3 **Associate Supervisors Present:** None

4 **Guests Present:** Mark Clark, Washington Conservation Commission

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

6 **NRCS Staff Present:** Pedro Ramos

7 Meeting called to order at 6:00 with Bill Niccolls, Chair, presiding.

8 **P (Prinsen), W (Wallace) P a motion to approve the August 8, 2001 minutes as read.**

9 Agenda revisions were the rescheduling of Paul Nee's presentation to next month, and changing
10 the budget revision to a budget review.

11 Hamilton Lucas presented the August expenses for approval. Niccolls asked for clarification on
12 payments to dairymen, Hamilton Lucas responded that they were for cost share on various pieces
13 of manure handling equipment required as part of the implementation of dairy waste plans. She
14 also reported that the District had received all the grant reimbursements due to the District as of
15 June 20, 2001.

16 **S (Wallace) P (Prinsen) P a motion to approve check numbers # 6121-6158 in the amount of**
17 **\$114,101.20.**

18 Hamilton Lucas then presented the August Financial Statements. B. Reed mentioned that
19 watershed forum requests would need to be in by October to minimize the amount of interest
20 accruing on those forum assessment balances.

21 Hamilton Lucas distributed the budget tracking report; the District has not been spending funds
22 as quickly as anticipated. She passed out a worksheet that showed what anticipated spending
23 would be for the remainder of 2001 as part of the budget review process. B. Reed stated that the
24 total operating budget won't change, but staff will be reallocating budget categories in the near
25 future. Prinsen asked to see detail of any items that aren't done within the budget this year to
26 plan for next year.

27 **H (Hansen) P (Prinsen) P a motion to approve the August 2001 Financial Reports.**

28 B. Reed outlined the Snoqualmie Watershed forum applications, identifying each of their
29 proposed projects. Prinsen and Sullivan review applications as a subcommittee, but had not had
30 the opportunity to review these applications yet. B. Reed stated that the majority of the project
31 proposals are for habitat acquisition. Prinsen stated he had concerns regarding the "Restoration

"Promoting sustainable uses of natural resources through responsible stewardship"

32 Project Design” application. The dollar amount requested does not cover the complete project
33 and is contingent upon receiving additional funding. Prinsen and Hansen wanted to receive more
34 information on the other funding sources to complete the project before making the decision to
35 approve the grant application.

36 **P (Prinsen) W (Wallace) P a motion to accept all of the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum**
37 **Non-Competitive Grant Applications with the exception of Project # 5 “Habitat**
38 **Restoration Project Design”.**

39 B. Reed presented a request by North Bend for an extension on the completion of the Flood
40 Hazard Project previously approved by the board. She said that although request would have not
41 triggered board review under normal conditions, she felt that due to the extensive discussions on
42 this particular project the board should be informed of the extension request. The reason for the
43 request is delays in coordination with FEMA, North Bend and King County.

44 Guest Jean White, Project Coordinator for WRIA 8 arrived at this time.

45 **W (Wallace) P (Prinsen) P a motion to approve an extension of time to complete the North**
46 **Bend Flood Hazard Project.**

47 Jean White gave a presentation on the various projects that have been completed with
48 Snoqualmie/Sammamish Watershed Forum (now WRIA 8) assessment funds. She said that the
49 WRIA would be looking for synergies with completed projects in determining their funding
50 requests for year 2001 assessment funds.

51 B. Reed distributed a copy of Resolution 01-03 for board review and approval. The resolution
52 appoints an agent to receive claims for the District, as required by recent legislation. This agent
53 will be registered with the King County Recorder’s Office. The purpose of the legislation is to
54 ensure there is a contact for the filing of lawsuits/claims against the District.

55 **W (Wallace) P (Prinsen) P a motion to approve Resolution 01-03.**

56 G. Reed asked the board to adopt the approved the Dairy Nutrient Plan for Van Beek. He said
57 that the plan had been approved at the last board meeting but had not been listed on the approved
58 plan list adopted by the Board for transmittal to the Washington State Department of Ecology.

59 **W (Wallace) H (Hansen) P a motion to adopt the previously approved Dairy Nutrient Plan**
60 **for the Van Beek Dairy.**

61 The Foster Plan, originally to be approved at this meeting, is not ready and will be presented for
62 approval at next month’s meeting.

63 G. Reed gave an update on the Stevens CD lawsuit regarding District elections. At this time,
64 there are 12 CD’s supporting the suit against the Washington Conservation Commission.

65 Mark Clark said that the Commission has tried to get Stevens’ attorneys to explain why they are
66 suing the Commission when it is the Legislature that has changed the wording of the law
67 authorizing Conservation Districts, putting them under the Elections Law. The Stevens attorneys

68 have not been able to answer this question. The Commission agrees with the AG's office, that
69 CD's are required to hold elections. The issue must be decided by this Friday, as primary
70 elections are occurring during September.

71 The majority of Puget Sound area CD's are not involved in the lawsuit.

72 There was a discussion between Niccolls and Clark regarding the reason and goals of the Stevens
73 lawsuit.

74 Clark encouraged the board to determine what their position was and to let the directors and
75 officers of the WACD and WCC know. Wallace said we should call and lobby the other districts
76 regarding support for the options bill (no election, or election but allow assessment to pay for it
77 without county approval). Prinsen said the board needed to make a recommendation on the issue.

78 **H (Hansen) W (Wallace) P a motion to support the "options" bill addressing CD election**
79 **issue.**

80 Pedro Ramos gave the NRCS report. The new state conservationist will be visiting field offices
81 all over the state. Niccolls asked if he would be interested in coming to a CD board meeting.
82 Ramos said he would arrange it, Niccolls asked if a bio could be provided.

83 Fish and Ditch- the Turner project is a mess. Ramos gave King County technical information on
84 ditch design and it was not well received.

85 Ramos is on a committee for compliance with the new farm policy that has been discussed at the
86 federal level. The policy could have a significant effect on Western Washington. One of the
87 issues is the definition of an agricultural commodity, and what is a farm. The effect would be to
88 widen the farm population eligible for conservation programs. Ramos expects a huge workload
89 increase for the NRCS as a result.

90 He also talked about the Resource Conservation Development Area, which is community
91 development based upon resource conservation.

92 G. Reed discussed the Annual Awards (to be presented at the WACD Annual Meeting) and
93 called for nominations. There are meetings coming up- the NW Area meeting on October 9,
94 which Wallace, Niccolls and Prinsen announced their intention to attend, and the WACD Annual
95 Meeting held in Bellingham on the first Monday after Thanksgiving.

96 A letter from Don Stewart was included in the supervisor packets. G. Reed asked if he should put
97 an item on the agenda for the next meeting to discuss the letter, and there was discussion about
98 inviting Mr. Stewart to a board meeting.

99 **W (Wallace) P (Prinsen) P a motion to adjourn at 8:15pm.**

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102 _____
Authorized Signature

_____ Date

103

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Summary of Motions

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