

KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors

Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2001

1 **Supervisors Present:** Bill Niccolls, Chair, Lynn Sullivan, Secretary/Treasurer, Nancy Ahern,
2 Member.

3 **Associate Supervisors Present:** None.

4 **Guests Present:** Paul Nee, Pierce Conservation District Supervisor, George Jaquish, Farm
5 Services Agency.

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

7 **NRCS Staff Present:** Pedro Ramos.

8 Meeting called to order at 6:03 with Bill Niccolls, Chair, presiding. The agenda was reviewed
9 and no changes were made.

10 The board reviewed meeting minutes from September 12th and no changes were proposed.

11 **H (Hansen), S (Sullivan) P a motion to approve the September 12, 2001 minutes as read.**

12 Paul Nee made a presentation to the board about the Upper Puyallup Watershed Plan. He wanted
13 to go over the plan with the KCD board because the watershed is contained in both King and
14 Pierce counties. He would like the Board to sign a letter of concurrence with the plan's
15 objectives, which means that the KCD agrees with the plan and will support it as much as
16 staffing and funding allows, but the KCD is not obligated in any way to provide support for
17 implementation.

18 The plan includes the following activities:

19 1. Comprehensive inventory of farms. Small farms need to be identified so they can be
20 included in conservation programs. Most commercial farms are dairy farms that have
21 been involved with the CD's due to the water quality requirements placed on them. Both
22 Pierce and King would be taking the lead on this activity.

23 2. Create a database of the farms inventoried in Step 1 above. The counties would lead on
24 this, and the CD's would help.

25 3. Increase the use of Best Management Practices on small farms identified in Step 1. CD's
26 would lead on this.

27 4. Pass a special assessment for PCD funding support. Pierce could use support from KCD
28 to accomplish this.

29 5. Maintain enforcement of King County Livestock Management Ordinance, and consider
30 creating one for Pierce County. Ahern suggested that there should be discussion with

"Promoting sustainable uses of natural resources through responsible stewardship"

31 King County regarding the content of the ordinance, as it has been difficult to enforce its
32 provisions.

33 6. Establish an interdisciplinary team to re-establish riparian zones- the Watershed Council
34 and South Sound Enhancement group would be responsible for this.

35 7. Pierce Conservation District would facilitate restoration projects with volunteers. Nee
36 asked what resources KCD had available for restoration, and B. Reed said that King
37 County does in-stream restoration, and that KCD does stream buffer restoration. Nee
38 discussed PCD's Stream Team program. Sullivan stated that this kind of program would
39 be something the district could do to assist citizens other than farmers.

40 8. Support programs for manure exchange such as KCD's manure exchange program list.
41 Direct more towards dairy farms.

42 9. Enhance water quality monitoring in Ag areas, as is being done by Stream Team in
43 Pierce. Ahern stated that King County DNR does not do monitoring, but that it might be
44 possible to get a grant or expand the PCD Stream Team work.

45 10. Hold workshops on hobby farm management and effects on water quality, such as
46 shellfish closures in Puget Sound. A discussion ensued regarding farm plan demand in
47 Pierce County.

48 B. Reed said that the KCD does many of these things already, that the issue would be
49 targeting them to the Upper Puyallup watershed. Nee reiterated that he wanted the District to
50 sign a "concurrence" letter, which states that the KCD agrees with the items contained in the
51 watershed plan.

52 11. Create demonstration farms. Further discussion ensued about the fact that Pierce County
53 cannot purchase development rights on farmland.

54 12. Support and expand the CREP program. Jaquish offered clarification of the CREP
55 program rules as they apply to Christmas tree farms.

56 Nee said that these were the items in the Upper Puyallup Watershed Plan where the Districts
57 had been named as leads or co-operators on the items in the plan.

58 Niccolls distributed a letter from the new NRCS State Conservationist.

59 Jaquish gave the Farm Service Agency report to the board.

60 Hamilton Lucas distributed the monthly expenses for September and noted that there was a
61 large amount of dairy waste cost share checks being distributed to farmers during the month.
62 These payments will be reimbursed by the current Dairy Waste grant.

63

64 **A (Ahern) S (Sullivan) P a motion to approve check numbers # 6159-6200 in the amount of**
65 **\$117,173.00 for the month of September.**

66 Hamilton Lucas then distributed the Budget Tracking Report for the year to evaluate the
67 accuracy of the projected budget. She explained the difference between fixed budgets and
68 unrestricted assessment funds. Niccolls asked to see the original budget figures so he could relate
69 that to the budget reallocation. B. Reed further explained the reallocation and footnotes that
70 explains each item and budget adjustment. Ahern agreed that it might be useful to have the
71 original budget figures from January in order to compare where we are currently. Hamilton
72 Lucas said we would be under budget probably by year-end since we were able to use grants to
73 pay for some expenditures originally budgeted as assessment expenses.

74 The District is still planning to get a new server installed by year-end. Ahern thought that the
75 Board should approve any reallocations between line items and there was general agreement.

76 **A (Ahern) S (Sullivan) P a motion to approve the September 2001 reallocated budget as**
77 **shown in the September Budget Tracking Report.**

78 The board reviewed the Balance Sheet for September.

79 **S (Sullivan) A (Ahern) P a motion to approve the September 2001 Balance Sheet.**

80 B. Reed presented the City of Seattle non-competitive grant agreement – the City asks for their
81 “Grant Central” program money as a reimbursement after they’ve distributed funds under the
82 program. Ahern stated that she could vote to approve the agreement as long as she is not
83 supervising the distribution of the funds.

84 **A (Ahern) S (Sullivan) P a motion to approve the application and award the non-**
85 **competitive grant for City of Seattle.**

86 B. Reed presented the City of Woodinville non-competitive grant application for a wetland
87 delineation project. The city wants to be able to manage wetlands under their critical areas
88 ordinance. Discussion ensued regarding the other sources of funding contained in the application.

89 **A (Ahern) S (Sullivan) P a motion to approve the application and award the non-**
90 **competitive grant for City of Woodinville pending additional information on the other**
91 **funding sources identified in the contract.**

92 B. Reed presented the 3rd quarter report of accomplishments to allow board review. She needs
93 information from the board on their meeting attendance during the quarter to include in the
94 report.

95 The District’s Advisory committee will have it’s meeting on October 17th. B. Reed will send
96 summary of the 3rd quarter accomplishments to the committee.

97 G. Reed said that the election issue is still up in the air and that there’s no cohesive voice
98 regarding a solution from the districts statewide. At this time it appears that an options bill has
99 the most support. The lawsuit that Stevens County brought on the elections issue has been
100 thrown out.

101 Ramos presented the NRCS report. He said that there's a new nutrient standard that has been
102 adopted that is based upon phosphorus content rather than nitrogen content.

103 The Agriculture group has left the Agriculture, Fish and Forests meeting process because they
104 did not like the proposals for modified stream classification for agricultural ditches. The big
105 concern is the "V" shaped ditches in Skagit County.

106 New Riparian buffer standard is being presented, a minimum 15-foot buffer. Ramos said that it
107 probably wouldn't be enough for Western Washington. He said that the most likely width would
108 be 75% of average tree height.

109 AFW will continue to work on the Agricultural watercourse manual. Farmers will still be able to
110 get farm plans.

111 G. Reed said that the WACD Annual Meeting would be November 26th and 27th in Bellingham.
112 He attended the Area meeting and Clare Flanagan was given an award for turning in her grant
113 paperwork on time.

114 **S (Sullivan) A (Ahern) P a motion to adjourn at 7:50pm.**

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116 _____

117 Authorized Signature

_____ Date

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Summary of Motions

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127 **competitive grant for City of Seattle.**

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