

KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors

Meeting Minutes

July 14, 2004

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

3 **Associate Supervisors Present:** None

4 **Guests Present:** Perry Falcone, KC DNRP WLRD WRIA 8 Project Coordinator; Laura Reed,
5 Seattle Public Utilities; Nat Scholz, NOAA Fisheries

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

7 **NRCS Staff Present:** None

8 Prinsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Introductions were made and the agenda was
9 reviewed. B. Reed said that the 6:10 item would have to be moved to a subsequent meeting.

10 The previous meeting minutes were reviewed and there were a few changes proposed. Line 39,
11 Mountains to Sound Greenway was supposed to be Stilly Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement
12 Group, Line 68 seemed out of context and was removed, Line 72 needed a word added to make
13 sense, and on Line 100, “did not” was removed.

14 **Wallace moved, Gelb seconded, Passed Unanimously a motion to approve the minutes as**
15 **read subject to the changes noted above from the June 2004 King Conservation District**
16 **Board of Supervisors meeting.**

17 Laura Reed made a presentation to the board regarding the Salmon Pre-Spawn Mortality project
18 scope revision. The project was started in an attempt to determine what is causing the premature
19 death of Coho salmon as they enter Longfellow Creek in Seattle. The project includes collecting
20 geomorphologic information, collecting additional data and reviewing the literature. The dollar
21 amount of the budget will remain the same but some additional items will be added, as other
22 agencies contributed funding to complete the previously approved scope of work. She turned the
23 presentation over to Nat Scholz, who explained that fish are dying in all urban creeks and at this
24 time there are three hypotheses as to the cause of the die-off – these include the possibility that
25 Coho salmon may be particularly sensitive to pollutants as they transition from salt to fresh
26 water, that there’s a harmful chemical that has not been identified nor tested for, or that the fish
27 are susceptible to a combination of chemicals that result in death. Currently there are two
28 research approaches being pursued – a bio-analysis approach and comparing different watershed
29 conditions and correlating these with fish mortality. It appears that the weather conditions are a
30 major factor – the mortality increases during rainstorms, which increases runoff from impervious
31 surfaces. The dogma regarding watershed conditions has been physical habitat conditions drive
32 watershed improvements, but in this case, the mortality is occurring in an “enhanced” stream and
33 would not have been discovered had it not been for post restoration monitoring. Lindemulder
34 asked about other funding sources, and Scholz stated that there’s a lot of work being done on the
35 part of the NOAA Fisheries Department, which is responsible for the investigating the health of

*“Promoting sustainable uses of natural resources
through responsible stewardship”*

36 fish. Gelb asked if it was possible to determine Coho sensitivity in the lab, and Scholz responded
37 that most of the toxicity work has been done on rainbow trout, not Coho. Prinsen mentioned that
38 there was no estuary for these streams, which would provide more gradual transfer from salt to
39 fresh water. Currently there is research ongoing to determine the difference between juveniles
40 and adults in reaction to urban stream water, and there appear to be significant development
41 problems for young fish in the stream water. In answer to the concern about spending assessment
42 funds in other areas of Puget Sound, B. Reed clarified that compiling research information
43 collected from other geographic areas is ok, but collecting new data outside the boundaries of the
44 District is not.

45 B. Reed presented the Non-Competitive Grant applications/revisions for approval:

46 **Revisions/Agreement Amendments:**

47 **Wallace Moved, Livengood Seconded; Passed a motion to amend the *Seattle Public Utilities***
48 ***Salmon Pre-spawn Mortality Investigation Project* grant agreement, revising the scope of**
49 **work as submitted.**

50 **Snoqualmie Watershed Forum Grant Application Packet:**

51 **Gelb Moved, Livengood Seconded; Passed a motion to approve the Snoqualmie Watershed**
52 **Forum non-competitive grant application for \$15,000 from 2004 Assessments for the**
53 ***Chinook Bend Floodplain Revegetation Completion Project*. Wallace voted no.**

54 **Wallace Moved, Gelb Seconded; Passed a motion to approve the Snoqualmie Watershed**
55 **Forum non-competitive grant application for \$71,970 from 2002 & 2004 Assessments for**
56 **the *Staff Support for WRIA 7 Forum & Implementation of Salmon Conservation Plan***
57 ***Project*. The board stated that although it approved this application, it does not want set a**
58 **precedent for future funding of ILA fees and will continue discussions regarding this issue.**

59 The Snoqualmie Watershed Forum non-competitive grant application for \$6,586 from 2004
60 Assessments for the *City of Carnation Wetland Inventory Project* was tabled until next month as
61 the application was not yet ready for presentation.

62 **Revisions/Agreement Amendments:**

63 **Wallace Moved, Lindemulder Seconded; Passed a motion to amend the *King County***
64 ***Snoqualmie/Skykomish Habitat Acquisitions Project* grant agreement, extending the project**
65 **completion date to December 31, 2004.**

66 **Gelb Moved, Livengood Seconded; Passed a motion to amend the *King County Bear***
67 ***Creek/Sammamish Tributaries Chinook Spawner Surveys* grant agreement, extending the**
68 **project completion date to April 30, 2004 and revising the budget as submitted. B. Reed**
69 **stated that this project has now been completed except for the final report, so it was**
70 **suggested that the completion date be moved to September 30, 2004 to allow for completion**
71 **of the file. It was also noted that the overhead rate was greater than 25%, as the original**
72 **grant was approved before the current overhead policy was in place.**

73 The Board discussed the latest version of the Critical Areas Ordinance and recapped the June 25
74 meeting with Watershed Forum managers. The Forum managers suggested another meeting, and
75 several county council members requested that G. Reed give a presentation to the three
76 Watershed Forums.

77 The CAO is expected to pass the full County Council on July 27th. It was decided to explore
78 ways that the District could do outreach to the Ag community regarding the effects of the CAO
79 on them.

80 It was mentioned that follow up was necessary with Darryl Grigsby of King County to determine
81 how to pay for the District's increased role in the CAO process. Discussion ensued.

82 G. Reed presented the Annual Meeting agenda and awards for discussion. He is looking for a
83 keynote speaker for the event, to be held concurrently with the annual Frog Frolic at Shadow
84 Lake Bog. Prinsen suggested that the Board approve the list, but it was decided this was not
85 necessary.

86 The Board discussed the proposed revision to the District's health care benefits policy.

87 **Wallace moved, Lindemulder seconded; Passed a motion to revise the District health care**
88 **benefits policy as submitted in the Board Agenda Packet and amend the Employee King**
89 **Conservation District Employee Handbook.**

90 Hamilton Lucas presented the total monthly expenses and deposits for June 2004.

91 **Livengood Moved, Gelb Seconded, Passed Unanimously a motion to approve checks**
92 **numbered 7946-8007 in the amount of \$ 584,471.22.**

93 The balance sheet was distributed and reviewed by the Board. Approx \$1.3 million remains in
94 the unrestricted fund balance. The budget tracking report was reviewed and Hamilton Lucas
95 explained the 11 major deviations from budget that were itemized on the report.

96 **Gelb Moved, Wallace Seconded, and Passed Unanimously a motion to accept the June**
97 **Finance Report as presented.**

98 Further discussion ensued regarding the ramifications of the new health benefit plan on the
99 budget.

100 **Gelb moved Wallace seconded; Passed a motion to appoint Livengood as Secretary/Auditor**
101 **for the KCD Board of Supervisors, replacing former Secretary/Auditor Lynn Sullivan.**

102 Prinsen presented his proposal to the Washington Association of Conservation Districts for
103 raising the limit on conservation district assessments from \$5 per parcel to \$8 or \$10 per parcel.
104 Under the proposal, if a District's Basic Funding allotment is less than 5% of its total yearly
105 revenue, the Basic Funding Grant will be redistributed to other conservation districts. Discussion
106 ensued about possible allotments between the Forums, Municipalities and the District if the limit
107 is raised.

108 Ray Ledgerwood is visiting Districts to help them complete their strategic plans. B. Reed asked
109 to receive another copy of Gelb's introduction letter for the current draft of the plan.

110 There was no NRCS report, but G. Reed said that District Dairy Planner Clare Flanagan would
111 become the new Resource Conservationist in the Renton office. G. Reed said he would start
112 advertising for her replacement as soon as possible.

113 Lindemulder will attend a meeting for the Livestock Task Force regarding the Animal Feeding
114 Program.

115 The District will host the Northwest Area meeting at the Woodland Park Zoo on September 30th.
116 Gelb said he might be able to chair the meeting and suggest making a resolution regarding the
117 proposed change in the assessment dollar limit.

118 The Pacific area CD meeting will be held in Anchorage Alaska in September.

119 There was a horse logging demonstration held by the District last weekend and it was well
120 attended. This weekend, a Firewise workshop will be presented. The District is presenting a
121 Groundwater class August 12th in Maple Valley.

122 B. Reed distributed a copy of an advertisement for the District in the "Chinook Book" which is
123 similar to other coupon books sold by fundraisers. There were a couple of suggestions on
124 improving the advertisement; B. Reed said she would see if those could be incorporated. The
125 advertisement is intended to help reach a wider urban audience.

126 **The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm.**

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130 _____
Authorized Signature

_____ Date

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Summary of Motions

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