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**Official Minutes of the January 11, 2023, Pierce Conservation District Board Meeting – *Via Zoom AND In-Person:***

**Present:**

***Supervisors:***

Jeanette Dorner, Chair  
Cindy Haverkamp, Vice-Chair  
John Hopkins, Auditor  
Mark Mauren, Member  
Stu Trefry, Associate Supervisor

***District Personnel:***

Dana Coggon, Executive Director  
Cynthia Ross, Finance Manager  
Mehgan Nishiyama, Administrative Assistant  
Rene' Skaggs, Farm Planning & Agricultural Assistance Program Director  
Alison Nichols, Crop Farm Manager  
Robb Krehbiel, Green Stormwater Program Manager  
Melissa Buckingham, Water Quality Program Director

***Other Attendees:***

Jean Fike, Washington State Conservation Commission  
Casey Vaughn, Department of Ecology  
Alan Chapman, Washington Association of Conservation Districts

**The January 11, 2023, meeting of the Pierce Conservation District was called to order at 5:05 pm. The meeting was held via Zoom video conference and in-person.**

**Land Acknowledgement:**

*"We recognize that we are gathered on the traditional and current homelands of the Coast Salish Tribes. We acknowledge their Sovereign governments that have stewarded the lands, Water, and air throughout time immemorial."*

**Introductions:**

All attendees introduced themselves.

Dana pointed out the changes to the agenda:

- Remove Item D from the Consent Agenda.

- Move Item E from the Consent Agenda to New Business.

*John moved to approve the change to the agenda. Cindy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Public Comment:**

N/A

**Green Stormwater Mini-Grant Update:**

Robb presented the 2022 End of Year Report.

John mentioned whether looking into industrial/commercial paving is something the District is looking at. Robb responded, saying that this is something dealing with regulations and codes, but is not what this program is geared toward, but something concerned citizens should voice to elected officials. Jeanette spoke on the same idea, giving an example. She also stated that the Spanaway/Parkland area is an underserved area. She recommended rethinking the priority designation areas that the District focus is on. The Board would like the District to look into becoming a resource or influencer for the community, to include organizations, not just personal properties. Cindy commented that if Robb needed help with environmental health disparities that she is available. Melissa pointed out that the data that the water quality team is using is dated and we may be putting resources into areas that the City of Tacoma is already funding. A new data coordinator has been hired as a contractor to work with equity layers, with whom Robb will be working with to establish current equity issues, and not historic data.

**Please see Exhibit A: [..\Attachments\1 January\A - GSI Mini-Grant EOY Report 2022.pdf](#)**

**Consent Agenda:**

- a) Approval of December 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
- b) Approval of December 22nd Special Meeting Minutes
- c) ILA with King Conservation District
- d) Puget Sound Processing

**Please see Exhibit B: [..\2022\Draft Notes\12-14-2022 Draft Notes.pdf](#)**

**Please see Exhibit C: [..\2022\Draft Notes\12-22-2022 Special Meeting Draft Notes.pdf](#)**

**Please see Exhibit D: [..\Attachments\1 January\D - KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT ILA - Board Memo.pdf](#)**

**Please see Exhibit E: [..\Attachments\1 January\E - KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT Financial, Budgeting, HR Assistance, 2022.pdf](#)**

**Please see Exhibit F: [..\Attachments\1 January\F - KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT Financial, Budgeting, HR Assistance, 2022.pdf](#)**

**Please see Exhibit G: [..\Attachments\1 January\L - Puget Sound Processing 2022 Q4 Report.pdf](#)**

**Please see Exhibit H: [..\Attachments\1 January\M - Puget Sound Processing Letter from the Director.pdf](#)**

Cindy pointed out an error on the Special Board Meeting minutes.

*Cindy moved to approve the consent agenda. John seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Treasurer's Report – December 2022:**

Cynthia presented the financial activities for the month of December 2022. She provided an overview of revenues and expenses, highlighting specific items. There were no missing checks.

Items to note:

- Tree Sale: pre-orders are coming in, they close on....
- Miscellaneous Revenue: in 2021, the District received a PWI direct deposit
- District Rental Expenses: housing for NCCC group, new printer, office plant rentals

Cindy asked about the training expense. Cynthia explained that since folks are working in the office more, they have been taking on more training opportunities, including certifications.

Mark asked about the interest rates and income. Cynthia said she would get back to the Board with further clarification.

**Please see Exhibit I: [..\Attachments\1 January\N - Treasurer's Report Jan 11.pdf](#)**

*John moved to approve the December 31<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Treasurer's Report as presented. Cindy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**2022 Cover Crop Cost Share Program & 2023 Request:**

Ali gave background on the request, essentially allocating \$8,000 from Farm Rates to specifically use for the cover crop cost share program.

**Please see Exhibit J: [..\Attachments\1 January\K - PCD Farm Rates 2022 Cover Crop Cost Share Report - memo to the board for consent agenda.pdf](#)**

*Cindy moved to approve the 2022 cover crop cost share report and the designation of \$8,000 in PCD farm rates for the 2023 cover crop cost share program. Mark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Legislative Update:**

Dana shared the WACD spreadsheet of items. She also asked for some Board members to help guide her during the sessions. Cindy and Mark volunteered, and Stu volunteered some of his time to be present.

**Top 5 Items for Focus in 2023:**

Dana presented the Board with the outlook for 2023.

Mark asked Dana if there is a specific background quality the Board is looking for. Dana brought up programmatic focuses. Cindy and Jeanette brought up equity focuses to look for.

Please see Exhibit K: [..\Attachments\1 January\2023 Board update DC.pptx](#)

### **2023 Board Calendar:**

Dana presented the current calendar for the year and asked members what they would like to add to it. She also mentioned moving the equity training with consultants to March.

John requested adding the legacy fund, mini retreat, and facility issues to the calendar for Board discussion. Stu also requested a discussion on the long-term plan for the mobile meat unit.

Please see Exhibit L: [..\Attachments\1 January\O - 2020- 2023 Board Calendar.pdf](#)

### **Committees:**

Dana asked the Board to think about which committees to move forward with and start utilizing going forward.

### **Department of Ecology Update:**

Casey briefed the Board on the Ecology Nonpoint Summary Update. He will also add Dana and Mehgan to the email list.

### **SCC Update:**

Jean informed the Board that the Governor's budget for salmon recovery has \$100 million. The Governor's riparian bill just came out and presents a different role for the Commission. The SCC meeting is coming up next week in Renton.

### **WACD Update:**

Alan informed the Board that the WACD Board meeting is on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, due to the holiday next Monday. At the Puget Sound Caucus meeting, the topic of elections came up. Jean clarified that Rep. Gregersen was planning to bring back the bill that would put everyone on the general ballot. A compromise was proposed where those wanting to be on the ballot could do so, but more discussion is needed. A study will be conducted on how all elections for all districts are conducted and how they can be financed.

### **Chair's Report:**

Jeanette informed the Board that the resolution on changing the statute on the rate cap passed at the Annual Meeting, but more discussion is needed, so it will be worked on more for next year's legislative session. She also brought up Selena's farewell celebration.

Mark voiced his concern over increasing rates and the recession.

### **Executive Director's Report:**

- MLK Day is one of the District's largest volunteer events. There are four events that will be happening. An AmeriCorps member, Marlie, has been filling a lot of volunteer slots by reaching out to her contacts.
- Tet Lunar New Year is on Sunday.

**Board Member Comments:**

John mentioned the wraps for traffic controllers that was an agenda item during the Puyallup City Council meeting. There is one next to the District office and he pitched an idea to the council. He suggested that the District send a message to the City Manager supporting that idea.

Stu sat in on the NACD Policy Book Task Force and applauded Larry Davis on his work. He also asked about his award from the WACD. Jeanette mentioned that Ryan Baye has been sick and he may be the one that has the award.

**There being no further business, the Pierce Conservation District Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM**

**SUMMARY OF MOTIONS:**

1. *John moved to approve the change to the agenda. Cindy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
2. *Cindy moved to approve the consent agenda. John seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
3. *John moved to approve the December 31<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Treasurer's Report as presented. Cindy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
4. *Cindy moved to approve the 2022 cover crop cost share report and the designation of \$8,000 in PCD farm rates for the 2023 cover crop cost share program. Mark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Mehgan Nishiyama, Administrative Assistant

Reviewed by,  
Dana Coggon, Executive Director

Accepted:  \_\_\_\_\_ Chairperson.