



Walla Walla County Conservation District  
November 2024 Special Board Meeting

Date: Nov. 14, 2024

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Place: In person and via Microsoft Teams

**Presiding Officer:** Jeff Schulke, Chair

**Supervisors Present:** Jim Kent, Don Schwerin, Jesse McCaw

**Supervisors absent:** None

**Other Agencies:** None present

**Also present:** Renee Hadley, Jenny Freer, Annie Byerley, Joanna Cowles-Cleveland (MS Teams)

**Members of the Public:** Derrick, Dan (both by MS Teams)

*The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Jeff Schulke.*

Schulke invited the public to comment. No public comments were made.

**Minutes:** The Board reviewed the October 15<sup>th</sup> special board meeting minutes. **Motion by Jesse McCaw and second by Jim Kent to approve the October 15<sup>th</sup> special board minutes as presented, no discussion, motion passed.**

**Financial Reports:** The board reviewed the October Financial Reports. **Motion by Jim Kent and second by Jesse McCaw to pay the bills, motion passed.**

**As of this date November 14th 2024 the Board reviewed the October financial reports with no further discussion: Checks 15045 to 15066, revenues \$443,795.40 and expenses \$405,301.15; total of bank accounts \$186,974.80.**

**(Total Matches Springbrook)**

**New Business:**

- 1. Partner Reports: Hadley** gave an update on behalf of NRCS sharing that the local workgroup meeting will be held in Dayton, WA on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Renee will be attending and board members are welcome to attend as well. Hadley also shared that the WACD meeting is December 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 4<sup>th</sup> at Northern Quest Casino in Spokane which includes one full day and two partial days. The SCC announced their new VSP coordinator position has been filled. Hadley also wanted to remind the board that WWCCD's annual meeting will be held on January 21<sup>st</sup> at the Water and Environmental Center at Walla Walla Community College.

- 2. Review and Approve 2025 Calendar Year Budget:** Freer shared the 2025 proposed budget changes. These changes are estimates of revenues and expenses based on projects that have contracts in the works and annual funding from the SCC.

**Motion by Jesse McCaw and second by Jim Kent to approve the 2025 Calendar Year Budget as presented: motion passed.**

- 3. Discussion of additional Irrigation Funds available:** Hadley/Byerley shared that there is a current pot of funding available for Irrigation Efficiencies. WWCCD has completed three of the four pivots that have been previously funded. The point of having pivots revolves around water savings. We are asking for \$81k for an upcoming project. Joanna had mentioned the irrigation funding is also available for Heritage Gardens.
- 4. Discussion of requests to complete Walla Walla County mitigation plans:** Hadley shared that Walla Walla County has sent out notices to landowners stating that they are in violation of buffers and this letter lists WWCCD as a contact for mitigation plans. After discussion, the board would like us to provide a letter stating that WWCCD will provide technical assistance but we are staying away from the enforcement/regulation as that is not our role as voluntary stewardship is our mission. A list of contractors and plants should also be provided to landowners.
- 5. Review Summary of WACD Southeast Area Meeting:** Hadley shared that Joanna and Grant received awards for their professionalism and uplifting programs. Next year the Southeast area meeting will be held in Dayton, WA. NRCS RCPP program is available for conservation districts and WWCCD is preparing an application for Gardena Farms.

#### **Program Updates:**

**A.) Community Outreach and K-12 Education efforts:** Hadley shared on behalf of Crowley that Wheat Week is in progress with three out of five schools have been taught. Crowley participated with the WW Basin Advisory Committee for their open house and Whitmans stream team for plantings. Future partner plantings are upcoming.

**B.) District Operations:** Hadley reviewed district operations including staff updates, outreach efforts, and upcoming partner meetings.

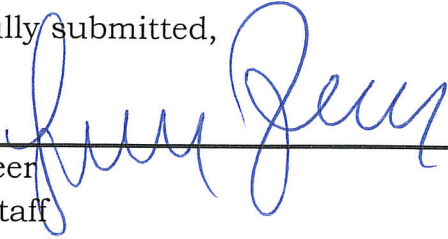
**Joint Agency Meetings:** Save the dates for December 2-4<sup>th</sup> is the WACD annual meeting in Spokane. January 21<sup>st</sup> WWCCD annual meeting. February 13<sup>th</sup> 2025 for NRCS Work Group Meeting in Dayton, WA.

**Misc. Discussion and Public Comments:** Hadley shared that our website needs to be ADA compliant and we will be reaching out to the IT at the SCC and Whatcom CD's Staff.

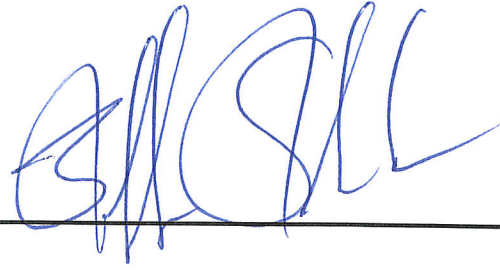
**Executive session began at 5:25 and ended at 5:45. Meeting adjourned without a formal motion at 5:45 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Freer  
District Staff



Board member



**Next meeting: Monday, Dec. 9, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.**

Motions:

To approve the October 15<sup>th</sup> board meeting minutes as written,

Motion: McCaw  
Second: Kent  
Motion passed

To review the October Financial Reports and approve paying the bills, as presented

Motion: Kent  
Second: McCaw  
Motion passed

To approve the 2025 Proposed Budget as presented

Motion: McCaw  
Second: Kent  
Motion passed