

MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes
December 21, 2023

The meeting of the Mason Conservation District Board of Supervisors was called to order by Jason Ragan, Chair, at 4:00 pm.

Board Members present: (in person) Jason Ragan, Andrea Miller, Michael O'Day, Larry Boltz

Board Members absent: Carmen Echeverria

Staff present: Evan Bauder and Jacob Murray

Members of the public present: Josh Giuntoli (WSCC)

Introductions: None.

Public Comment: None

Meeting Minutes – November 16, 2023: The minutes were reviewed and approved.
(M – Miller, S – O'Day, Passed – Unanimously)

Financial Report – November 2023: Michael O'Day reviewed the financial report with detail of balances for all funds and checks (20342-20364 + EFT) executed during period.
(M – Echeverria, S – Miller, Passed – Unanimously)

PROGRAM & STAFF UPDATES

WSCC Update –

New executive director, James Thompson, was hired at the Nov. 30 Commission meeting. Now is the time to prepare for elections. Soil conference coming up and scholarships are available. Governors' budget has been released. CTA is included at 3.5 million, but surprisingly included in the capital budget. SFF coming in the new year along with the new riparian grant program.

WACD Update –

No Report

NRCS Update –

No report.

ECY Update –

NO Report

MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes
December 21, 2023

Staff Update –

Jacob: Updated the board on recent work: Preparing for lead entity grant round. This will be the largest grant round in history. Also, has been working on Chehalis basin project proposals.

Evan: Provided staffing update. Habitat project manager has been filled, and a new Engineering Tech position has been posted.

OLD BUSINESS –

None.

NEW BUSINESS

2024 Annual Budget

Evan presented a proposed 2024 annual budget and associated salary schedule. Some discussion around revenues and expenses occurred. Discussion about investments in updating office furniture also occurred. Motion made to approve the 2024 annual budget and updated salary schedule as presented. Motion Carried.

(M – O’Day, S – Boltz, Passed – Unanimously)

2024 Election Resolution

Evan presented the proposed resolution. In the fourth quarter of each year, the District is required to adopt a board resolution for an election to be held the 1st quarter of the following year for any positions on the board that will expire. For 2024, staff is proposing the election date be held during conservation month. Motion made to approve and authorize the board to sign Resolution #2023-6 allowing the District to move forward with the 2024 election date of March 20, 2024. Motion carried.

(M – Miller, S – O’Day, Passed – Unanimously)

Office Lease Renewal

Evan presented the proposed lease renewal. Staff has been searching for and investigating alternative office space including within the Port of Shelton but has been unsuccessful in finding a suitable alternative. This addendum will extend the lease for three years, through December 31, 2026. A three-year lease is preferred because staff included substantial office upgrades in the 2024 operating budget. Motion made to approve and authorize the board to Chair to sign Lease Addendum 4 with the Port of Shelton. Motion carried.

(M – O’Day, S – Miller, Passed – Unanimously)

Forest Health Grant Partner ILA Addendums

Evan presented the proposed ILA addendums. Mason CD partnered with Jefferson CCD, Kitsap CD, and Pierce CD in a proposal for the Forest Health and Community Wildfire Resiliency funding and we were successfully awarded a total of \$675,570, effective September 22nd, 2023. In order to formalize the award and working partnership, three addendums were created under the current PSCD Caucus ILA to outline funding, deliverables, and responsibilities between each district. Motion made to

Jonas Ruge

1-19-24

MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes
December 21, 2023

approve and authorize the board chair to sign the ILA addendums with Pierce, Jefferson County, and Kitsap CDs for the Forest Health and Community Wildfire Resiliency funding. Motion carried.
(M – Miller, S – Boltz, Passed – Unanimously)

Shore Friendly Pierce CD ILA Addendum

Jacob presented the proposed addendum. Proposed addendum would amend Pierce Conservation District and Mason Conservation District Interlocal Agreement for the Shore Friendly South Sound Initiative (19-1703) adding \$780,633.76 in ESRP funds for a contract total of \$2,203,556.76. Motion made to approve and authorize the chair to sign Amendment 3 to Shore Friendly South Sound Initiative Interlocal Agreement with Pierce Conservation District as presented. Motion carried.
(M – O’Day, S – Boltz, Passed – Unanimously)

Public Comment Period –

None.

With no further business on the meeting agenda, the meeting adjourned at 5:04 pm.

Arnon Rago

1-19-24