

MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2024

The meeting of the Mason Conservation District Board of Supervisors was called to order by Larry Boltz, Vice-Chair, at 4:01 pm.

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

Board Members absent: Jason Ragan

Staff present: Evan Bauder, Margaret Kreder, Colin Tierney, Jacob Murray, Rhonda Nydegger

Members of the public present: Josh Giuntoli (WSCC) and (via Zoom) Molly Paige (ECY).

Introductions: None.

Public Comment: None

Meeting Minutes, December 21, 2023: The minutes were reviewed. Minutes were approved as presented.

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

Financial Report – December 2023: Michael O'Day reviewed the financial report with detail of balances for all funds and checks (20365-20392 + EFT) executed during period. Michael also reported information on the annual cash basis activity report.

(M – Miller, S – Echeverria, Passed – Unanimously)

PROGRAM & STAFF UPDATES

WSCC Update –

Josh updated the board on activities at the SCC as well as briefly talked about his implementation monitoring visits with Nick. Legislative session is under way, week three, with January 31st being the cut off for anything to come out of committee to the floor and February 13th for anything to move from one house to the other. There is an agency request bill to codify one of the SCC seats being an appointed Tribal seat. WACD Legislative Day is January 25 – reach out to Ryan Baye if you'd like to know more. Josh reminded the board that the District is hosting SCC in March.

WACD Update –

No report.

NRCS Update –

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No report.

ECY Update –

Molly reported there is one ERTS in the county. There is a new supervisor, who comes to DOE from Public Transit. Someone from ECY will be reaching out to each district regarding their experiences with applying for ECY funding.

Staff Update –

Colin introduced himself to the board and the board introduced themselves to Colin.

Jacob reported on the kickoff of the WRIA 14 grant round.

Margaret reported on her and Alex's activities including participation in the Mason County Community Risk Reduction group regarding wildfire risk. In addition, she reported on a mailer going to Jefferson, Kitsap, Pierce, and Mason county residents regarding wildfire risk reduction.

Colin reported on his activities with Keith including activity on grants for Upper Skokomish and Vance Creek.

Evan reported the District has purchased a full size, crew cab truck that will have a canopy in order to be used to haul items while keeping them dry. This was purchased through the state DES contract. He reported that the District would likely be looking to surplus the Ranger which is the last 2 wheel drive vehicle. In addition, he reported on progress for the office including the ordering of furniture as well as getting electrical and lighting upgrade quotes.

OLD BUSINESS –

None.

NEW BUSINESS

PSP Technical Support Funding Contract

Jacob presented information on the contract with Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) to receive technical funding support for the WRIA 14 Salmon Habitat Protection and Restoration Plan. Agreement number 2024-58 provides \$30,000 in capacity funding for staff to complete activities related to the WRIA Plan Update. Motion to approve and authorize the chair to sign Agreement 2024-58 with the Puget Sound Partnership as presented. Motion carried.

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

Cascadia CD Cooperative Agreement

Evan presented the cooperative services agreement between the District and Cascadia Conservation District. This agreement allows both districts to have an ongoing association to provide services pertaining to conservation planning, technical assistance, implementation of BMPs and program

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support. The need for this agreement is related to the amount of time to get cultural resources completed. Cascadia CD has an archeologist on staff who is able to provide cultural resources services in a timely, relatively inexpensive manner. Motion to approve and authorize the chair to sign the cooperative agreement between Mason CD and Cascadia CD as presented. Motion carried. (M – O’Day, S – Echeverria, Passed – Unanimously)

Snohomish CD Forest Stewardship Subaward

Margaret presented information on funding that has been awarded to the District through the Habitat Strategic Initiative Lead (HSIL) for Puget Sound’s National Estuary Program (NEP) funding pool. This would result in \$186,001.91 for 34 months funding for the District. Motion to approve and authorize the chair to sign the subaward contract with Snohomish CD for the Forest Stewardship Expansion Project as presented. Motion carried. (M – O’Day, S – Miller, Passed – Unanimously)

Cultural Resources Contract – RM 6.5

The Skokomish RM 6.5 habitat enhancement project requires a cultural resources survey. This went out to bid with seven coming back. The lowest bid at \$5,417 was significantly lower than the next lowest bid by approximately \$10,000. After confirming with the bidder that they understood what was being asked, staff is asking to be able to enter into negotiations. Motion made to allow staff to enter into negotiations with Legacy Anthropology and, if that fails, to enter into negotiations with the next lowest bidder as well as authorize the chair to sign the contract with the successful bidder. Motion carried. (M – Miller, S – O’Day, Passed – Unanimously)

Wetland Delineation Contract – RM 6.5

Skokomish RM 6.5 habitat enhancement project requires a wetland delineation survey. This went to bid with several coming back. The lowest bidder is Soundview Consultants. Motion made to allow staff to enter into negotiations with Soundview Consultants and, if that fails, to enter into negotiations with the next lowest bidder as well as authorize the chair to sign the contract with the successful bidder. Motion carried. (M – O’Day, S – Echeverria, Passed – Unanimously)

Stantec Contract Amendment

Due to too much ambiguity at the time of the board meeting, this was tabled for a later date.

Stormwater Strategic Initiative Grant Contract

Mason CD was awarded a grant through the Stormwater Strategic Initiative (SI) for Puget Sound’s National Estuary Project (NEP) funding pool. This project will focus on Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) sources owned by the city of Shelton. This would result in \$208,875 of funding for the district. Motion made to approve and authorize the chair to sign the grant contract with the

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Department of Ecology for assisting the City of Shelton with stormwater retrofit planning as presented. Motion carried.

(M – Echeverria, S – Miller, Passed – Unanimously)

Public Comment Period –

None.

With no further business on the meeting agenda the meeting adjourned at 5:06 pm.

James Rago

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