

SPOKANE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
210 N. Havana, Spokane, WA 99202
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 9, 2019

Attendees

Supervisors: Jerry Scheele, Randy James, Tom Miller, Jaki Shrauger, Wendy Knopp

Absent: None

Associate Supervisors: None

SCD Staff: Vicki Carter, Cori Turntine, Jeannie Jesseph, Hilary Sepulveda, Charlie Peterson

Guest: Rich Edlund from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Governance Culture

Chair Scheele called the meeting to order at 5:01 and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Scheele scheduled an Executive Session to the agenda in accordance with RCW 42.30.110 regarding the performance of a public employee. It was estimated to take 10 minutes.

Acceptance of Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda was previously distributed. The Board accepted the Consent Agenda consisting of:

- April 9, 2019 Board Agenda
- March 12, 2019 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- March 2019 Treasurer's Report
- April Payables

Motion James/Shrauger to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Prior to the meeting Supervisor Shrauger verified all the adjusted balances and all accounts matched on the Treasurer's Report. She noted that a check was endorsed by the payee and expressed concern that this would stand out to an auditor. The District internal controls were reviewed. Separation of duties and check points were explained. It was noted that a check for a DOE payment required two signatures, but only had one. After discussion it was authorized as a legitimate payment. She noted that the First Interstate MMA account has a monthly \$11 withdrawal service charge. Turntine had already contacted bank about charges and they have been credited back into our account. Turntine took steps to prevent this from happening in the future.

Chairman Scheele asked about an article published from the Commission regarding PayPal. The policy used by the SCD was recommended by the State Auditor's Office and has gone through multiple audits without problems. Turntine will verify the policy with the State Auditor's Office to see if their requirements have changed.

Supervisor James inquired about checks 47205 and 47209 to verify the vendor.

New Business / Linkage to Community

Introductions

Chairman Scheele made introductions.

Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) Report

Carter reviewed some of the state budget issues the WSCC is working on.

WSCC Tour and Meeting

The Spokane Conservation District will host the Commission for three days beginning May 14, 2019. This will be the first meeting with the new Executive Director, Carol Smith.

- May 14 Tour of District projects in south Spokane County
- May 15 Strategic Planning Session at SCD office
- May 16 Commission Meeting at SCD office

Board/Director

Property Update

A team is working on a feasibility study for new building using CERB funding.

Intrinium inquired about bringing in modular offices at their expense to meet their expanding needs until new office building is built.

Dept. of Ecology (DOE) is working on a 3 point process to improve the property:

- Scope of work is being developed
- Testing and assessment to determine if there is any brown fill
- Redevelopment follows if tests are approved

The scale house has been looked at for costs of re-roofing. Vicki will continue to work with Old Castle Materials on payment.

Goats will be brought in to control noxious weeds. Written notification will be sent to closest neighbors.

Garth and his crew are cleaning up the property.

Director's Report

Rates and Charges presentation will be made to Spokane County Commissioners on April 15.

The Commission asked districts to submit three year end requests. We asked for:

- Water testing kits
- ATV for 8th Property
- Office chairs

The River Mile 17 project is 85% done. Expect to have it completed in early June.

South Spokane Corridor will kickoff on May 18 at Moran Prairie Grange Strawberry Festival. A Lovingly Grown logo has been chosen and signs are being made. Work continues on website and materials for events.

Operational Expectations

2018 Annual Financial Report

Turntine reported that work is beginning on the 2018 Annual Financial Report. Schedule 22 should be ready for the Board to review at the May Board Meeting.

RCPP/VSP Update

Peterson reported on RCPP Incentive projects and VSP implementation for 2019.

Motion James /Knopp Approve 2019 VSP implementation and RCPP Incentive payments for projects 1-32.
Motion carried.

SRF Update

Carter reported there could be RCPP extended agreements. The District wants to work with NRCS to pursue the best way to proceed with new Farm Bill.

There may be some contingency SRF money available.

The DOE Non Point Source Committee asked Ty Meyer to give input to their program.

Vets on the Farm (VOTF) Update

VOTF will have a team at Bloomsday. Talk to Vicki if you would like to join them.

This summer a Farm to Table fundraiser dinner will be served at the farm in conjunction with Rich Henning from Find Your Way. Rich is a motivational speaker and survivor of PTSD. He will be walking from Seattle to Coeur d'Alene this summer as part of his awareness campaign. His kickoff will be on Bloomsday with VOTF and Wounded Warriors.

Flower baskets are being grown in the greenhouse and will be featured for Mother's Day and our opening farmstand on May 22. Plant sales will also take place at the Spokane Community College Garden Show on May 11.

Multiple speaking engagements are lined up in the next few months and Vicki will be hosting a DAR farm tour on May 11. Scott Gail will host the SCC farm program students at the farm to learn about our cooler and washroom conversions.

VOTF and SSFC will be at the Moran Prairie Grange Strawberry Festival on May 18.

Correspondence & Announcements

Carter announced the following dates:

- May Board Meeting start time to 10:00 on May 14, 2019
- WSCC Partnership Meeting and Tour, May 14-16, 2019 – Hosted by Spokane CD
- WADE Conference June 10-12, 2019
- June Board Meeting moved to Wednesday, June 12

WADE Conference

The WADE Conference is June 10-12 in Leavenworth. This is a great training opportunity for supervisors and staff.

Executive Session

Chairman Scheele recessed the regular meeting at 6:00 for the executive session in accordance with RCW 42.30.110 regarding the performance of a public employee. It was estimated to take 15 minutes. The regular meeting reconvened at 6:15pm. No further action was taken.

Closing of the Meeting & Reading of the Motions

Motion James/Shrauger to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Motion James /Knopp Approve 2019 VSP implementation and RCPP Incentive payments for projects 1-32.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Jeannie Jesseph

Gerald A. Scheele, Chair

Thomas J. Miller, Member