Attendees
Supervisors: Jerry Scheele, Randy James, Jaki Shrauger, Wendy Knopp, Tom Miller
Absent:
Associate Supervisors:
SCD Staff: Vicki Carter, Cori Turntine, Ty Meyer, Erica Johnson, Josie Bjordhal, Jake Clements, Walt Edelen
Guests: Chad Greif, BIAS; Luke Cayer, citizen; Shanna Joy, WSCC; Rich Edlund, NRCS.

Chair Scheele called the meeting to order at 5:00pm with Executive Session to follow at 6:45pm.

Motion Shrauger/James to accept the agenda. Motion carried.

Previous Meeting Minutes
Minutes from the March 14 meeting were previously distributed for review.
Motion James/Knopp to approve the March 14 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT

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Auditor Jaki Shrauger presented the March Treasurer’s Report and summarized her verification of account balances and cancelled checks. She read the account balances and treasurer’s report figures aloud. Treasurer’s Report: Claims: 44909-44988; Receipts: 14397-14401, 14404-14408, 14421-14572, 14585, 14587; EFTs: 621, 623, 629, 630, 719-733, 762-763, 872-892, 934; Voids: 44989-44999, all printer error; Refunds: 707, 856, 925, 992. Accounts Payable: $276,699.47.

Motion James/Knopp to accept the March Treasurer’s Report and the April Accounts Payable as presented. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS / LINKAGE TO COMMUNITY

Public Comments/Introductions
Chair Scheele introduced Shana Joy from Washington State Conservation Commission. She is the Puget Sound Regional Manager, but will be working remotely from the SCD office for a period of time. Chair Scheele then introduced Luke Cayer, a West Plains property owner who is a Planner and is involved in social services; he is interested in learning more about what we do.

Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) Report:
Shana Joy filled in for Mike Baden and gave several legislative budget updates. The biggest concern is a lack of RCPP funding to use as match; Walt Edelen suggested that the shellfish/non-shellfish funding be used to help fill the match hole. The new version of CPDS will be completed by the end of the month and Joy says it’s very promising; users must attend training to get a new login. Good Governance and Schedule 22 deadlines are coming in May.
Vicki Carter introduced RCPP payments for board approval and Fire Recovery Projects from our WSCC funding.

**Motion James/Knopp to approve the 23 cost share agreements for RCPP totaling $503,687.14. Motion carried.**
In the 23 agreements, the value to a participant ranges from less than $1,000 to more than $55,000. It includes payouts for no-till and commodity buffer.

**Motion Knopp/Shrauger to approve the three Fire Recovery Projects totaling $214,460. Motion carried.**
The three projects will include 25% cost-share by the landowner in addition to the WSCC funding.

Chair Scheele introduced Rich Edlund from NRCS who is available to answer any questions from his report.

**GOVERNANCE CULTURE**
**2017 Election Update**
Erica Johnson reminded the board that Tom Miller’s appointment will be completed at the May 16 WSCC meeting.

**Board/CEO Relationship**
**Financial Review**
Chad Greif explained some discrepancies on the balance sheet including a software issue with interest on an SRF loan, and the addition of our auto loans, our Kiva loan, and our uncompensated leave of absence. Greif will recreate the Jan-Feb balance sheets to create a better timeline of our overall finances. He cautions staff to be prepared for a tough ag market. Our tier 1 capital ratio has decreased for the first time in a long time. Greif will talk to Cori Turntine and Carter about making budget adjustments in May to keep budget projections on track. The RCPP and Utility Services budget lines don’t have expected expenditures in place and reporting will be cleaner when that is amended.

**Property Update**
Carter notified the board that 2,500 postcards were sent to neighbors of our potential new property. We will be hosting informational meetings from 5pm-6pm on April 24 and April 26 here in Upstairs Conference Room.

**OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**
**Annual Report**
Turntine is working on the Annual Report due May 30.

**RCPP Update**
Jake Clements described the RCPP funding motion the board approved. It includes 41 miles of stream representing 90-120 acres of buffer land in each project. The fire recovery projects include fencing, critical area reforestation, and aerial seeding. Shrauger asked some clarifying questions on the RCPP cost-shares. The initial aerial seeding project will be followed up on soon to check results and we have another post-fire landowner interested in aerial seeding following a salvage logging operation. The original language for the RCPP match only included the initial four RCPP projects; there is a movement to open those funds up to all RCPP projects, but that would spread the funding even thinner. The state legislative budget for conservation has improved from $1 million to $2 million, but we need $500-600,000 per year in order to keep our incentives and commodity buffer program sustainable as planned.

**VSP Update**
Walt Edelen described VSP progress. Thurston and Chelan plans have been submitted to the Technical Panel which includes WSCC; we will be watching and learning from the review of these plans. We have site visits coming up with landowners who are farmers that have experience with critical areas.
SRF Update
Ty Meyer said we have had a few loans recently and we are able to rent our Direct Seed Drill to a local farmer. We have a few loans that we have trouble with and legal counsel is involved. Some of these operators were sincerely impacted by low ag prices and have cash flow issues. One loan was resolved when the customer received an operation line of credit. Farmers are stressed right now to meet their insurance dates of planting eligibility. It’s too wet to plant, but if they plant after the deadline, they won’t have insurance coverage. The Fall Wheat looks good in the Palouse and across Central Washington, but prices are very low and surplus is high. The Midwest has been so dry that some farmers may not plant, and that could help the supply and demand.

Vets on the Farm Update
Carter announced that the Learning Farm greenhouse is fully operational and a field planting date is penciled in, to be finalized by the weather. CasaCano Farms has continued to be a great resource to our Learning Farm. Knopp and Carter will take a trip to visit Senator James Manning in Oregon on May 1 to talk Vets on the Farm and talk about opening a state chapter of Farmer Veterans Coalition.

Correspondence & Announcements
Carter is working with staff on our Long Range Plan and Annual Plan of Work. We will be including ideas for our “Conservation Campus” at the new location. Miller and Knopp will attend WADE. Miller gave updates on WACD staff.

Dates:
- April 18-19 – Water Catchment Certification Course
- June 12-14 – WADE in Leavenworth

At 6:10pm the meeting recessed to executive session in accordance with RCW 42.30.110 regarding a real estate matter. At 6:50pm the regular meeting reconvened. There was no further Board action.

READING OF THE MOTIONS
Motion Shrauger/James to accept the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion James/Knopp to approve the March 14 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion James/Knopp to accept the March Treasurer’s Report and the April Accounts Payable as presented. Motion carried.

Motion James/Knopp to approve the 23 cost share agreements for RCPP totaling $503,687.14. Motion carried.

Motion Knopp/Shrauger to approve the three Fire Recovery Projects totaling $214,460. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.
Respectfully submitted by: Erica Johnson

Jerry Scheele, Board Chair

Randy James, Vice Chair