



# Walla Walla County Conservation District

## July 2023 Board Meeting

Date: July 10, 2023

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Place: In person and via Zoom

**Presiding Officer:** Jesse McCaw

**Supervisors Present:** Don Schwerin, Alyson Buckley (via Zoom)

**Supervisor absent:** Jim Kent, Jeff Schulke

**Other Agencies:** Corrie Thorne-Hadley, WDFW; Allisa Carlson, SCC; Lindsey Williams, WWCC

**Also present:** Renee Hadley, Audrey Ahmann, Grant Traynor, Jenny Freer, Joanna Cowles-Cleveland, Eila Chin, Cat Garza

**Members of the Public:** Dan Milden

***The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Jesse McCaw.***

McCaw invited the public to comment; there were no comments.

**Minutes:** The Board reviewed the June 12th board meeting minutes. **Motion by Don Schwerin and second by Alyson Buckley to approve the June 12<sup>th</sup> board minutes as presented, motion passed.**

**Financial Reports:** The board reviewed the July Financial Report. **Motion by Alyson Buckley and second by Don Schwerin to approve the June financial reports and pay the bills, motion passed.**

**As of this date July 10th 2023 the Board by a majority vote does approve for payment checks included in the April financial reports and further described as follows: Checks 14732 to 14760, revenues 109,207.67, and expenses 184,735.43; total all accounts \$94,000.09**

- 1. Partner Reports: Carlson** relayed the passing of Ron Shultz to the board. SRF riparian grants will have extra funds available this upcoming year. SFF is reviewing projects every other week. Renee is in contact with NRI regarding funding capabilities. **Thorne-Hadley** captured hawks last week to track flight patterns. Guzzlers around the county need to be replaced due to age or burnt land. **Williams** noted that president Hitchcock is reinvesting into AG at WWCC. The CDL program is back and course is at max capacity.

2. **NRCS Office Lease Quarterly Update: Cowles-Cleveland** presented the update and said some NRCS cultural resource reviews have started at accost of around- \$2,000 per cultural resource review.
3. **Approval of Biennial WWCCD Cost-Share Policy: Hadley** shared the policy updates including increased landowner rates from \$22 per hour to up to \$25 per hour. Another change included minor labor rates of an age under 18 shall be at the minimum state wage rate. Continuation of the 85% eligible expenses to complete BMPs. **Alyson Buckley moved and Don Schwerin seconded to approve the Cost-Share Resolution for 2023 as presented, motion passed.**
4. **Review & Approval of VSP Contract with WW County for 23-25 Biennium:** Hadley explained that a new contract must be signed with Walla Walla County. There are new changes regarding 2- and 5-year plans and there are plans specific to each county. Traynor discussed progress on VSP and maintaining the proof and monitoring evidence that the state is asking for. **Don Schwerin moved and Alyson Buckley seconded to approve the VSP Contract with the county as presented, motion passed.**
5. **Self-evaluation of the WWCCD Board and Annual Rotation:** Hadley explained Capp compliance and the importance of self-evaluations for the board. This item has been put off until September Board Meeting to offer the board enough time to review the CAPP and self-evaluation requirements. Annual rotation of the board is as follows:  
**Jim Kent: Chairman**  
**Alyson Buckley: Vice Chair**  
**Jeff Schulke: Secretary**  
**Don Schwerin: Treasurer**  
**Jesse McCaw: Member**  
**Don Schwerin moved and Alyson Buckley seconded to approve the rotation of the board as presented, motion passed.**
6. **Signature page for Fiscal Authority to sign checks and Time Sheets:** Board members in attendance signed new form.

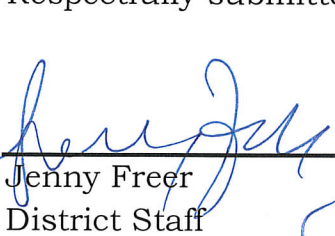


**Program Updates: Hadley** discusses the need for more clarification of soil reports in our annual plan of work. Split season applications through edge of field monitoring. Trying to get additional funds to make monitoring more accessible. The WWCCD is considering a no-till drill that is 4-6ft wide. Two options were shown to the Board and the Dew Drop Drill won the consensus.

Williams is going to look into a maintenance program at the community college for the drill. New riparian projects are not ready for approval but will be shortly. Alison Crowley was on NBC for an interview pertaining to the Tree of Heaven, working with the city of Walla Walla on a stretch located at Melrose and Clinton. Ahmann confirmed the board would like to continue to see quarterly in-depth budget position records.

Dan Milden would like to add a topic to the next meeting about buffer zones around the watershed.

With no further business on the agenda, at 6:25 the meeting was adjourned without a formal motion.

Respectfully submitted,

		
Jenny Freer District Staff	Jesse McCaw Chair	Jim Kent Vice-Chair

Next meeting: September 11, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Motions:

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| To approve the June 12 <sup>th</sup> board meeting minutes as written, | Motion: Schwerin<br>Second: Buckley<br>Motion passed |
| To approve the July financial report,                                  | Motion: Buckley<br>Second: Schwerin<br>Motion passed |
| To approve the Cost-Share Resolution for 2023 as presented             | Motion: Buckley<br>Second: Schwerin<br>Motion passed |
| To approve the VSP Contract with the county as presented               | Motion: Schwerin<br>Second: Buckley<br>Motion passed |
| To approve the rotation of the Board                                   | Motion: Schwerin<br>Second: Buckley<br>Motion passed |