

MASON CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes  
April 23, 2024

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

Board Members present: Carmen Echeverria, Larry Boltz, Michael O'Day, Jason Ragan

Board Members absent: Andrea Miller

Staff present: Evan Bauder, Keith Underwood, Rhonda Nydegger

Members of the public present:

In Person: Nils Bekke

Via Zoom: Molly Paige (ECY), Sean McDonagh (NRCS).

Introduction: None

Public Comment: None

Meeting Minutes, March 21, 2024: The minutes were reviewed. Minutes were approved as presented.

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

Financial Report – March 2024: The financial report was held for the May meeting for review due to timeliness of completion.

**PROGRAM & STAFF UPDATES**

**WSCC Update –**  
No report.

**WACD Update –**  
No report.

**NRCS Update –**  
Sean provided information on NRCS activities including information on the CREP audit and the potential future of CREP in the county and state.

**ECY Update –**  
Molly reported that ECY is hiring one more nonpoint staff person so there will be a new face in Mason County. Also, there were three complaints with one already contacted by Nick, one referred to the county and one being watched.

*Jason Ragan 6/20/24*

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**Staff Update –**

Keith reported on the Skokomish Valley Road projects including permits and future activities.

Rhonda updated the board on work within the accounting department.

Evan updated the board on staffing (new Forester starting May 6<sup>th</sup> – Colin) as well as kudos for the Earth Day Veteran's Village event and all the work put into it by Nick. Evan also discussed the de-escalation training provided by the Sheriff's Office.

**OLD BUSINESS –**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Stantec RM 6.5 Contract Update**

Keith presented information on the updated contract with Stantec for previously approved scope and fee addition. Original contract was with Cardno in 2019. When Cardno was purchased by Stantec, an assignment of contract was approved by the board. With the recently approved expansion of the scope and fee, staff felt an updated contract made more sense than a fourth change on a five year contract. Motion to approve and authorize the chair to sign the Stantec Skokomish RM 6.5 Habitat Enhancement professional services contract of \$280,335 as presented. Motion carried.

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

**The Russell Family Foundation Grant Agreement**

Evan presented information on the Russell Family Foundation environmental education grant that helps to provide outdoor field education on natural resource topics to 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students in Mason County. This will be used to reach approximately 1,400 students. Motion to approve and authorize the chair to sign the grant contact with The Russell Family Foundation as presented. Motion carried.

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

**Annual Plan of Work**

Evan presented the annual plan of work prepared using staff input to the board. Because staff has meticulously gone over the annual plan of work for the past two or three years there weren't many changes. In addition, the District is still carrying out the same book of work. Motion made to approve the annual plan of work as presented. Motion carried.

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

**Public Comment Period –**

None.

With no further business on the meeting agenda the meeting adjourned at 4:41 pm.

*Jim Rowe*

6/20/24