

GRAYS HARBOR CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES – November 20, 2015 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: 330 PIONEER AVENUE WEST

MONTESANO, WA 98563

The Grays Harbor Conservation District (GHCD) meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chair Carl Waara. Grays Harbor Conservation District Supervisors in attendance were Steve Hallstrom; Vice-Chair, Gary Waltenburg; Auditor, Janet Strong and Brady Engvall. PCD/GHCD Staff members present included Mike Nordin; District Manager, Megan Martin Aust; Agriculture Planner, David Houk; Service Forester, Jim Getchman; CREP Technician, and Janice Wetterauer; Administrative Assistant. Partners in attendance were Stu Trefry; WSCC, Stephanie Zurenko; DOE, and Susan Hoey Lees; NRCS.

MOTION(S) The Grays Harbor Conservation District Board of Supervisors reviewed the October regular Board Meeting minutes. Steve Hallstrom made a motion to accept the October 16, 2015 meeting minutes and a second was made by Carl Waara. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Grays Harbor Conservation District Board of Supervisors reviewed the November 20, 2015 financial report. A motion was made by Carl Waara to accept the November 20, 2015 financial report and was seconded by Steve Hallstrom. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Grays Harbor Conservation District Board of Supervisors reviewed the November 20, 2015 financial statement. Steve Hallstrom moved to pay check # 7083-7093, and 4 EFTs for a total of \$6704.52. A second was made by Carl Waara. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Grays Harbor Conservation District Board of Supervisors discussed setting a date for the next election. A motion was made by Carl Waara to set a date for the next election at the December board meeting and was seconded by Steve Hallstrom. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Grays Harbor Conservation District Board of Supervisors discussed approval of a landowner agreement. A motion was made by Steve Hallstrom to approve signing of the landowner agreement. A second was made by Janet Strong. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Grays Harbor Conservation District Board of Supervisors held an executive session from 11:35 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Upon return to the regularly scheduled meeting, a motion was made by Janet Strong to increase David Houks hourly wage from \$18.00hr to \$22.00hr. Brady Engvall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

NRCS REPORT

Susan Hoey-Lees reported there has been 1 Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) contract so far for Fiscal Year 2016. Susan also reported how NRCS is working with FSA to reduce the impact of timelines for application eligibility due to computer system capability. Susan reported that the November LWG meeting has identified 8 top resources. The LWG is asking the state to add two more categories: soil health and shellfish categories. Susan reported on building construction. Work has been delayed due to contractor changes, and work will not be completed by the Dec. 1 deadline. Work will begin the beginning of December and should be completed by the end of December.

Vehicle REPORT

Jim Getchman reported that the Chevrolet Equinox is running well and reports no issues. David Houk reported the Chevrolet P/U is running well with no issues.

Projects REPORT

David Houk reported on forestry work for the previous month. Dave reported on working on two forest management plans: one in Pacific Co. and one in GH Co. Dave reported on the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) site visits. Dave provided ATFS forestry technical site visits at two sites: a property near Chinook and a property at Smith Creek. Dave reported on site visits with Nick Sommero. Dave reported assisting with CREP site visits and CREP GIS. Dave reported on a field visit with Ken Bevis (DNR Wildlife Biologist) who provides additional knowledge related to forestry and wildlife topics and issues.

Jim Getchman reported working on a CREP project along the Mox-Chehalis Cr., and will be sending map files to FSA for approval and cultural resources review. Jim reported working on a GIS project to develop a contact list for potential CREP clients. Jim reported working on a CD outreach letter to spark interest in CREP along with other programs available through CD. Jim is working with current contract holders with site visits and maintenance adjustments.

Megan Martin-Aust reported on farm plans along the Chehalis River. Soil samples were taken at four farms. Megan reported on attending CPDS training at SCC. Megan reported that a landowners overdue reimbursement payment has recently been paid.

Mike Nordin reported on the application for the Pollution Identification Program (PIP). GHC has filed the application and is awaiting a decision. Mike reported on the positive response from GHC at the VSP meeting. Mike reported on a Climate Change Conference in Coeur d'alene, Idaho. Mike learned of a number of tools that will be available in the future to help our projects better succeed. Mike reported he will be attending a meeting on Dec. 9 with the cities of Hoquiam and Aberdeen about city water and water drainage. Mike reported on the Wishkah Rd. project. Mike stated the possibility that the state may ask the CD to take on the project. Mike reported that the director for the WA Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership is stepping down, and the CD will be helping interview for a replacement. Mike reported that the Delezene and Newshkah projects are nearly complete. Pictures of the projects will be posted on Facebook and the CD website. Mike reported that two supervisors will be attending the WACD Conference on Nov.30 – Dec. 3rd. Mike reported meeting with the new engineer and introducing engineering projects for Gavin.

Stu Trefry reported on the Community Planning Meeting. Stu created a comments page that will be used for upcoming planning meetings scheduled for Dec. 16, and Jan. 20, 2016 from 9am to 12:30pm. Meeting location will be at GHCD Montesano office. Stu reported on a process that the SCC is working with NRCS funding to provide task orders allowing NRCS to fund the CDs who work on NRCS projects.

DISCUSSION

Stephanie Zurenko reported no news from DOE.

A discussion was held in regards to Mason County CD and Thurston County CD request for David Houk to provide forestry assistance. At this time, each county is seeking assistance to one landowner in each county. The board decided to allow assistance to Mason County CD and Thurston County CD with the stipulation that future assistance will require some type of compensation.

A discussion was held in regards to beginning the process for upcoming elections. The board decided to post a newspaper announcement informing the public of the upcoming elections. The board decided to set a date for the elections at the December 18 board meeting.

A discussion was held regarding payment for use of the Montesano Fire Department conference room for the long range planning meeting.

A discussion was held regarding approval of a landowner agreement. The board decided to approve signing the landowner agreement.

The board of supervisors held an executive session to discuss employee compensation. The session began at 11:35am and ended at 11:45am.

MOTION(S) SUMMARY.

Motion #1: Steve Hallstrom made a motion to accept the October 16, 2015 meeting minutes and a second was made by Carl Waara. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Motion #2: A motion was made by Carl Waara to accept the November 20, 2015 financial report and Steve Hallstrom seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Motion #3: Steve Hallstrom moved to pay check #7083-7093, and 4 EFTs for a total of \$6704.52. Carl Waara seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Motion #4: A motion was made by Carl Waara to set a date for the next elections at the December board meeting. Steve Hallstrom seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Motion #5: A motion was made by Steve Hallstrom to approve a landowner agreement for a critter pad. A second was made by Janet Strong. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Motion #6: A motion was made by Janet Strong to increase David Houks hourly wage from \$18.00hr to \$22.00hr. Brady Engvall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

NEXT MEETING 10:00 a.m. Friday, December 18, 2015 at 330 Pioneer Avenue West, Montesano, WA 98563

MEETING ADJOURNED 11:50 a.m.

Mike Nordin, Manager

Chair, Carl Waara