



Pend Oreille Conservation District  
Regular Board Meeting MINUTES: 3/21/2023

Meeting Start – 4:02 p.m.

In attendance at Camas Center - George Stuivenga, Board Supervisor – Chair; Randall Leestma, Board Supervisor; John Floyd, Board Supervisor; Jon Paul Driver; Board Supervisor; Corey Brenner, POCD Resource Tech; Alex Case-Cohen, POCD District Manager; Mike Baden, WSCC; Becky Walrath, WaFD

In attendance via “GoToMeeting,”: Mike Mumford, Board Supervisor; Mary Malone, Education and Outreach; Mark Simpson, NRCS; Stan Janowicz, NRCS District conservationist

Official Action Items					
Motion	Motion made by:	Motioned seconded by:	Abstained	Decision	Attachment
Motion to approve agenda and take items out of order	John Floyd	Jon Paul Driver		Carried	A
Motion to approve the February 21 regular meeting minutes	Randall Leestma	John Floyd		Carried	B
Motion to extend offer to Corey Brenner for the Natural Resource Specialist position at \$47,500 plus applicable benefits	Jon Paul Driver	Randall Leestma		Carried	C, D, E
Motion to extend offer to Stephen Allen for the Admin & Education/Outreach position at \$50,000 plus applicable benefits	Jon Paul Driver	John Floyd		Carried	F, G, H
Motion approve contract for Indian Creek Community Forest Nursery Expansion Project	John Floyd	Jon Paul Driver	Mike Mumford	Carried	J, K, L
Motion to approve pumping plant for livestock water well	Jon Paul Driver	John Floyd		Carried	M, N
Motion to approve SRF Board Skookum Creek FFE RFQ	Jon Paul Driver	John Floyd		Carried	O
Motion to approve February Treasurer’s Report	Randall Leestma	John Floyd		Carried	P
Meeting Adjourned at 6:15 PM					

## **Partner Reports**

### **Mike Baden, WSCC**

Mike B. noted the executive director of WSCC was let go. They have a very temporary interim director, but are looking for a more long-term interim director. In the legislature, the elections bill died, but there will likely be a budget to have a study conducted. Riparian legislation is also dead, but still expected to show up in the budget. Budgets are starting to show up – It looks like expected revenues are down just a hair, less than 1%. Mike also noted that a number of final reports are coming due – annual reports, etc. Training is set up for bidding and contracting at the end of April.

### **Mark Simpson, NRCS**

Mark noted he has been taking a lot of EQUIP & IRA applications and is working on getting those into the system by the March 31 deadline. He handed it over to stan to discuss more updates.

### **Stan Janowicz, NRCS**

Stan said the local work group meeting has been set – it will be in person only at Stevens County CD on April 7 12-3 p.m. Stan noted they have had a very difficult time trying to fill the vacancy for the Colville Forester. April 28 there will be a partners meeting regarding staffing/building needs with Roylene, time and location to be determined (likely at Spokane CD around 10 a.m.) and there will be a virtual option.

### **John Floyd, Area Director**

John noted WACD had a meeting the previous evening. WACD is concerned with funding and managing money with everyone's best interest in mind.

### **Mike Mumford, WACD**

Mike noted that the plant material center is done lifting plants this year – they are happy because they had a record year. There is talk about expanding that operation. This week is the NACD Fly-in in Washington D.C. Mike M. also briefly discussed that the executive director was let go. It was a difficult decision. The commission has hired a couple other positions and is in the process of hiring two more.

**Mary Malone, POC Weed Board**

Mary discussed the Weed Board's Neighborhood Cost Share workshop that was held on March 11. Alex was scheduled to speak and was joined by Chris and Gregg who helped fill in the last hour talking about regenerative ag. It was a successful event – huge turnout with 80 people in person and 30 online. She also attended the Coordinator's Conference in Chelan attended by Weed Board Coordinators from across the state as well as representatives and speakers from other agencies such as Department of Ecology. Following up on CD3s mentioned at the last meeting, Seattle City Light was awarded two of the smallest units. Mary and Loretta were able to discuss with Justin from RCO about possibly getting one larger unit.

**Executive Session**

The Board moved into executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (g) at 4:38 p.m. The Board returned to regular session at 5:09 p.m.

**Old Business**

**Hiring Natural Resource Specialist –**

See attachments C, D, E. Jon Paul moved to extend an offer to Corey Brenner for the Natural Resource Specialist position at \$47,500 with applicable benefits, second by Randy. Motion Carried.

**Hiring Admin & Education/Outreach position–**

See attachments F, G, H. Jon Paul moved to extend an offer to Stephen Allen at \$50,000 with applicable benefits, second by John. Motion Carried.

**Letter to commission regarding SCC executive director –**

Alex discussed briefly to give context as to why it was on the agenda, noting that it is no longer relevant.

### **Indian Creek Community Forest Nursery Expansion Project –**

See attachments J, K, L. Alex and Corey discussed. Mike M. noted a discrepancy regarding POCD staff hours – it will be corrected in the grant application. John moved to approve the contract, seconded by Jon Paul. Mike M. abstained. Motion Carried.

### **Pumping Plant for Livestock Water Well –**

See attachments M, N. Alex briefly discussed, noting it will be a separate contract from the well. Jon Paul moved to approve, John seconded. Motion Carried.

### **New Business**

Action Item: RCO SRF Board Fish and Farm/Skookum Project RFQ – See attachment O. Alex and Jon Paul briefly discussed the project and why it is important. Jon Paul moved to approve, seconded by John. Motion Carried.

**Treasurer’s Report for February** – *See attachment P.* Randy moved to approve the Treasurer’s report. John Floyd seconded. Motion carried.

**Operations Report** – *Alex Case-Cohen, See Attachment*

### **To Do List:**

- NA

Meeting Adjourned: 6:15 p.m.

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Alex Case-Cohen, POCD District Manager

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George Stuvenga, POCD Board Chair