



**Grant County Conservation District  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
February 13, 2018 - 1:00 PM  
1107 S. Juniper Drive, Moses Lake, WA 98837**

**Attendance:**

**Supervisors** – Dave Stadelman (Chair), John Preston, Glenn Burkholder, Richard Leitz

**Guests** – Ryan Poe

**Staff** – Marie Lotz (Manager), Lyle Stoltman (Recorder)

**Call Meeting to Order:**

A quorum was established. Dave Stadelman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM.

**Public Input:**

Stadelman asked for any public input, there was none.

**Approval of January 10, 2018 Monthly Board Meeting Minutes:**

There weren't any suggested changes or additions to the previous meeting's minutes. Motion by Burkholder to accept the January 10, 2018 minutes as presented, second by Preston. Motion carries.

**Approval of February 13, 2018 Financial Reports:**

The financial report was presented by Lotz. Financial items discussed included: Bur permits, DOE, vineyards, FCD, Wheat Week, IMP grant, TS grant, Soil Health, Livestock, VSP, and sick and annual leave. Also, payroll liabilities, grant remaining amounts, NRI (Formally NS). Other financial report items included NACD grant for new employees, transactions, deposits, burn permits, advertisements, and money markets. Motion by Preston to accept the February 13, 2018 financial report, second by Leitz, motion carries. Checks #8695-8734 dated January 11, 2018 to February 13, 2018 were totaling \$36,324.14. Payroll checks #8697-8699 totaling \$6,289.28 and #8712-8715 totaling \$7,207.15 included in total above.

**Agency Reports:**

**NRCS Report** – In the packet, Local Working Group (LWG) meeting is February 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Windfarm near Vantage. Discussion ensued, it was stated that Rep. Tom Dent will be invited and a letter of thanks will be sent out to Dent as well. More discussion ensued regarding LWGs, hiring freezes, NRCS money, staffing, and resource concerns.

**WSCC Report** – Included in packet.



### **Old Business:**

**Rates & Charges Updates** – Lotz stated she hasn't heard anything so she is assuming all is good and the first funds should be coming in April.

**Election** – Dave Stadelman is the only person running, so an election is not needed. Discussion ensued. All notices were done according to the procedures, Stadelman was the only one to submit the necessary paperwork, a notice on the door and paper/website to notify there would be no election was complete. Stoltman will complete the final paperwork tomorrow online to the WSCC and all the paperwork will be kept here in the office.

**VSP Meetings** – Growers meetings at McGregor's and Wilbur Ellis recently. Good meetings and some have contacted the District to get plans. Lotz attended the Adams VSP public meeting, in which GCCD is named as one of the implementers for their plan. Lotz put out a notice for a consultant to give a quote on outreach activities for VSP. A quote from a marketing firm was received to do press releases, media contacts, twitter, mass mailings and other things. Estimate was for \$28,000. We will probably be doing our own outreach with the hopes the new hire will be able to do those efforts.

**Legislative Days** – Met with 5 of the 6 scheduled appointments, 1 appointment had mis-communication on their part. After meeting with Rep. Tom Dent, he said he'd like to meet more often on a regular basis. He said he would make a call to some Big Bend College reps regarding the old Moses Lake nursery property that was given back to the college. Discussion ensued about other things related to the old nursery building. Thank-you letters was passed around for all to sign for the representatives and Senators.

Preston reported that the O&D (Officers & Directors WACD) meeting the new Executive Director has had some challenges but seems to be doing a good job so far.

### **New Business:**

**Job Interviews and Offers for the 2 Technician Positions** – 58 people applied for the planner positions that were open. 12 of the applicants were interviewed. Tom English was offered the VSP Coordinator position and accepted. He will be moving from Omaha and report to work the beginning of March. Several other applicants were considered for the NRCS position Leah Uhl from Mukilteo was offered the position. An update will be given to Supervisors once her decision is made.

**Board Approval Addendum for Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) Cost Share** – Two dairies were approved for Capital NRI funding after being on the waiting list since 2014. Stoltman stated that Mendonca and Freeman original applications forms were no longer valid and new ones were now needed. Mendonca was approved for \$50,000 and Freeman was approved for \$30,000. Both are for waste treatment structures. Because space is limited at the Mendonca dairy he may go with a mechanical separator instead of an excavated concrete structure. The cultural resources process has been completed for both projects. Leitz made the motion to approve the Mendonca revised cost share application for \$50,000 and \$12,500 for technical assistance, second by Preston, motion carries.



Motion by Burkholder to approve the Freeman dairy revised cost share application for \$30,000 and \$7,500 for technical assistance, second by Preston, motion carries.

**Long Range Plan/Rates & Charges Workshop** – Lotz proposes that a workshop is needed to update the Long Range Plan and a new plan for Rates & Charges. The Board agreed to meet February 21<sup>st</sup>, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Lotz will remind everyone.

**Eco-Gardening Symposium** – Lotz handed out brochures to supervisors. All speakers are set up and are ready to go soon. The event will take place on April 21<sup>st</sup> at the Technical Skills conference center by the High School.

**MOA with Okanogan CD for Dairy Nutrient Training** – Okanogan CD contacted the GCCD for consultation on a small dairy near Twisp that is fairly new. They need help with Nutrient Management Plan development. Stoltman will do the training. Motion by Leitz to approve the MOA with Okanogan CD to help with the NMP, second by Burkholder, motion carries.

**MOA with NACD for Technical Planner** – The MOA with NACD was presented for review and approval for the new technical planner position. Motion by Leitz to approve the MOU with NACD to hire a new technician to help with NRCS workload. Second by Preston, motion carries.

**New Office Building** – Lotz and Stadelman met with Keith Rupprecht recently to look at a vacant building over by the high school. A lot of work is needed, has/had water damage. \$245k is the asking price. Much discussion ensued regarding renting vs owning, moving, locations, and District needs. The old ML nursery site was like by all. Lotz will pursue and find out more about this site's possibility.

**Other New Business** – Helen Preston requested speakers for the Daughters of Revolution upcoming lunch meeting. She was interested in the Urban Ag for Seniors Grant that the District is currently working on. The District agreed to make a presentation and confirmed the time and place.

**Executive Session:**

**Employee Review** – An executive session was called for 20 minutes to discuss employee evaluation and compensation. Preston made the motion to go into executive session for 20 minutes starting at 2:58 PM, Burkholder seconded, motion carried. Burkholder made the motion to reconvene into regular session at 3:18 PM, seconded by Preston.

Leitz made the motion to approve the Lotz employee evaluation/review, increase her salary by 3% retro to January 1, 2018 to present, Burkholder seconded, motion carried.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business the Board adjourned at 3:21 PM. The next monthly board meeting will be March 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.



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Chair Approval

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Recorder Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Summary of Motions:**

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