

Regular Business Meeting ~

The Washington State Conservation Commission (Commission/SCC) met virtually as well as in- person on Thursday, March 20, 2025, in Grays Harbor, Washington. Chair Larry Cochran called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

Note: All meeting materials can be found on our [meetings webpage](#). You will find the meeting packet with background information, presentations and past meeting information.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Larry Cochran, Chair, Elected eastern region rep. (online)
Cherie Kearney, Vice-chair, Governor Appointee
Brook Beeler, Department of Ecology
Dani Gelardi, Department of Agriculture
Dean Longrie, Elected west region
Wade Troutman, Elected central region (online)
Jim Kropf, Washington State University (online)
Amy McKay Washington Association of Conservation Districts (online)

A quorum was present.

COMMISSION STAFF PRESENT

James Thompson, Executive Director
Alicia McClendon, Administrative Assistant
Amy Martin, RGP Coordinator
B'Elanna Rhodehamel, RPPP Coordinator
Courtney Woods, Grants Manager
Dani Madrone, Legislative Director
Josh Giuntoli, SW Regional Manager
Kate Delavan, Policy Director
Lori Gonzalez, Executive Assistant
Paige DeChambeau, Communications Director
Sarah Groth, Chief Financial Officer
Sarah Wilcox, Communications
Shana Joy, District Operations Manager
Thomas Schienbein, Chief Information Officer

PARTNERS REPRESENTED

Angie Reseland, Dept of Fish and Wildlife (online)
Sarah Moorehead, WA Association of Conservation Districts
Nick Peak, EPA Region 10 (online)
Tom Salzer, WA Association of Conservation Districts
Heather Wendt, WA Association of Conservation Districts

All other guests are listed in the following attachments:

Attachment A - in-person sign in sheet
Attachment B – online attendance sheet

ACTION MINUTES TAKEN

Meeting opened with Lori Gonzalez taking commissioner roll call. A quorum was announced as present. Following commissioner roll call, introductions were done for guests who attended the meeting in person as well as online.

Chair Cochran asked if there were any additions or corrections needed to be made to the agenda. There were none.

CONSENT AGENDA

December 5, 2024 Draft Meeting Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Longrie to approve the December 5, 2024, draft meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Beeler. Motion carried.

Executive Director and Commission Member Out of State Travel

Motion by Commissioner Longrie to approve the SCC executive director and a commission member to travel to Washington D.C. to attend the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Legislative Spring Fly-in, March 2025, and the Puget Sound Day on the Hill events April 28-May 2, 2025. Seconded by Commissioner Gelardi. Motion carried.

COMMISSION OPERATIONS

Community Engagement Plan

Motion by Commissioner Longrie to adopt the Community Engagement Plan per the requirements of RCW 70A.65.030 and for any future changes to be made at the discretion of SCC's executive director. Seconded by Commissioner McKay. Motion carried.

Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) Statewide Advisory Committee (SAC) Appointment

Motion by Commissioner Beeler to appoint Yakima County Commissioner, LaDon Linde to a two-year term to the Voluntary Stewardship Program Statewide Advisory Committee. Seconded by Commissioner Gelardi.

DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Kittitas County CD Mid-term Appointment

Motion by Commissioner Longrie to appoint Brian Cortese to the Kittitas County Conservation District Board of Supervisors. Seconded by Commissioner McKay. Motion carried.

POLICY, BUDGET AND FINANCE

2025-2027 Grants and Contracts Policy and Procedure Manual

Motion by Commissioner Longrie to approve the revised draft Grant and Contract Policy and Procedure Manual to go out for a 45-day review and comment period. Seconded by Commissioner Gelardi. Motion carried.

Multi-year contracts

Motion by Commissioner McKay to direct staff to develop multi-year, multi-biennial contract mechanisms so that projects in general may be funded for terms exceeding two years. Seconded by Commissioner Beeler. Motion carried.

PROGRAM GUIDELINE DRAFT REVISIONS

Disaster Assistance Program (DAP) Draft Revised Guidelines

Motion by Commissioner Beeler for SCC staff to distribute the draft revised guidelines for comment. CDs would have a period of 45 days in which to comment. Comments would be received, reviewed, and processed by Commission staff. Any changes made to the proposed guidelines based on comments received would be presented to the Commission for adoption at the May Commission meeting. The newly adopted guidelines would be effective July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027. Seconded by Commissioner Longrie. Motion carried.

Riparian Plant Propagation Program Draft Revised Guidelines

Motion by Commissioner Gelardi to authorize the release of the revised draft Riparian Plant Propagation Program guidelines to conservation districts and partners for a 45-day review and public comment period. Seconded by Commissioner Longrie. Motion carried.

Sustainable Farms and Fields Draft Revised Guidelines

Motion by Commissioner McKay to authorize the release of the draft revised draft Sustainable Farms and Fields programmatic guidelines to conservation districts and partners for a 45-day review and public comment period. Seconded by Commissioner Gelardi. Motion carried.

Riparian Grant Program Draft Revised Guidelines

Motion by Commissioner Longrie to authorize the release of the updated Riparian Grant Program Guidelines to conservation districts and partners for a 45-day review and public comment period. Seconded by Commissioner McKay. Motion carried.



Washington State Conservation Commission

ATTACHMENT A

Please Sign In

Conservation Commission Business Meeting
Thursday, March 20, 2025

	NAME	ENTITY/DISTRICT
1.	James Thompson	SCC
2.	Tom Sauer	WAED
3.	Josh Gwizda	WSCC
4.	Mark Craven	Sho.
5.	David Marcell	GHCD
6.	Whitney Jones	TWG
7.	Dani Madhore	SCC
8.	Loren Mayher	EKCD
9.	Zach Oppenheimer	Chuk CD
10.	Ryan Williams	Crescent CD
11.	SARAH MOOREHEAD	TCD
12.	Craig Nelson	Okanogan CD
13.	Courtney Woods	SCC
14.	Evan Bauer	MCD
15.	Julie Ulrich	TWG
	Alicia McCreath	SCC



Washington State Conservation Commission

Please Sign In

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	NAME	ENTITY/DISTRICT
1.	Sarah Groan	SCC
2.	Lori Gonzalez	SCC
3.	DeAn Longoie	SCC
4.	Paige DeMaunbeen	SCC
5.	Heather Wender	WACD
6.	Shana Jay	WSCC
7.	BROOK Beiler	Ecology
8.	B'Elan na Rhodhamel	WSCC
9.	Amy Martin	SCC
10.	Kate Delavan	SCC
11.	Samal Wilcox	SCC
12.	Ryan Baye	WACD
13.	Tom Salzen	
14.	George Silley	Jeff Co
15.	Joe Holthrop	Jeff Co
	Thomas Schenck	SCC

March 20, 2025 Conservation Commission Meeting

Zoom Registration Attendee Details

First Name	Last Name
Nichole	Hanson
Jodi	Prout
Brandy	Reed
Alan	Chapman
Mike	Poteet
Nick	Peak
Karen	Hills
Karla	Heinitz
Hilary	Aten
Bill	Eller
Angie	Reseland
Lorenzo	Churape
Jennifer	Coe
Ashley	Wood
Emma	Greenwood
Amy	McKay
Mike	Mumford
Jesse	Walker
Tova	Tillinghast
Kara	Kaelber
Robbie	Soltz
Wade	Troutman
Jim	Kropf
Allisa	Carlson
Mike	Baden
Larry	Cochran
Victoria	Fischella
Jennifer	Boie
Jean	Fike
Kris	Neely
Brian	Cochrane
Jan	Thomas
kittitasinfo@gmail.com	
Joy	Garitone
Ash	Roorbach
Rosa	Mendez-Perez
W	Gang
Tom	Salzer
Virginia	Shogren