

Thurston Conservation District Board of Supervisors

Work Session Minutes

July 22, 2026

Hybrid: In-Person and Virtual on Zoom

Originally Scheduled: 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Actual Meeting Time: 5:00 p.m. – 5:59 p.m.



Present at Work Session:

TJ Johnson, TCD Board Chair

Marianne Tompkins, TCD Board Vice Chair

Doug Rushton, TCD Board Supervisor

Sarah Moorehead, TCD Executive Director

Sophia Barashkoff, TCD Staff

Jae Townsend, TCD Staff

Ben Cushman, TCD Legal Counsel

Leslie Melnyk, SuSeLi, LLC

- 1 1. Topic List Review, *All*
- 2 2. Community Partner Presentation: Biocellulose as an Alternative to Plastic, *Leslie Melnyk*
- 3 3. Staff Presentation: Firewise USA, *Jae Townsend*
- 4 4. Board Recruitment Updates, *All*
- 5 5. Rates and Charges Update, *All*
- 6 6. Local Jurisdiction Presentations Update, *Chair TJ Johnson and Executive Director Sarah*
- 7 *Moorehead*
- 8 7. TCD Policies and Procedures Update, *Executive Director Moorehead*
- 9 8. Important Updates & Announcements
- 10 a. Board of Supervisors, *All*
- 11 b. Executive Director, *Executive Director Moorehead*

Respectfully,

Signed by:

TJ Johnson

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TJ Johnson, TCD Board Chair

Thurston Conservation District Board of Supervisors

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

July 22, 2026

Hybrid: In-Person and Virtual on Zoom

Originally Scheduled: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Actual Meeting Time: 6:30 pm – 7:22 p.m.



Present at Board Meeting:

TJ Johnson, TCD Board Chair

Marianne Tompkins, TCD Board Vice Chair

Doug Rushton, TCD Board Supervisor

Sarah Moorehead, TCD Executive Director

Sophia Barashkoff, TCD Staff

Ben Cushman, TCD Legal Counsel

Josh Giuntoli, Washington State

Conservation Commission (WSCC)

Lora Liegel, Washington State

Conservation Commission (WSCC)

Leah Perkel, Washington Association of

Conservation Districts (WACD)

Summary of Action Items

Summary of Motions Passed

- 1
- 2 ***Supervisor Rushton moved to approve the amended Agenda. Supervisor Tompkins seconded.***
- 3 ***Motion passed unanimously, (3-0).***
- 4 ***Supervisor Tompkins moved to approve the amended Consent Agenda. Supervisor Rushton***
- 5 ***seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (3-0).***
- 6 ***Supervisor Rushton moved to approve TCD Resolution #2026-05: Mid-Term Elected Seat***
- 7 ***Appointment. Supervisor Tompkins seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (3-0).***
- 8 ***Supervisor Tompkins moved that Thurston Conservation District will pay \$4,000 to the***
- 9 ***Washington Association of Conservation Districts to cover legal expenses that support Rates***
- 10 ***& Charges statewide. Supervisor Rushton seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (3-0).***
- 11 ***Supervisor Tompkins moved to adjourn the July 22, 2026 TCD Board Meeting. Supervisor***
- 12 ***Rushton seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (3-0).***

Full Version of the Minutes

Welcome & Introductions

- 13
- 14 At 6:30 p.m., TCD Board Chair TJ Johnson called the July 22, 2026 Regular Board Meeting to
- 15 order. TCD Board, staff, members of the public, and legal counsel were introduced by Board
- 16 Chair Johnson. He announced that the meeting was being video recorded. TCD Supervisors,
- 17 Johnson, Tompkins, Rushton, and Executive Director Moorehead attended the meeting in
- 18 person at the TCD office.

19 **Agenda Review**

20 The Board of Supervisors added to the Consent Agenda the *FY26-27 Dept of Commerce Scatter*
21 *Creek Irrigation Funding Agreement* and the *FY26-27 Dept of Commerce Skookumchuck*
22 *Irrigation Funding Agreement*.

23 ***Supervisor Rushton moved to approve the amended Agenda. Supervisor Tompkins seconded.***
24 ***Motion passed unanimously, (3-0).***

25 **Consent Agenda**

- 26 A. June 24, 2026, Board Work Session & Meeting Minutes
27 B. July 2026 Financial Report
28 C. FY26-27 WSCC Sustainable Farms and Fields Funding Agreement
29 D. FY26 WSCC Implementation Funding Agreement
30 E. FY26-29 Western SARE-Montana State University Funding Agreement
31 F. FY26 Simmons & Sons Contracting Inc. Vendor Agreement
32 G. FY26-29 Greenprint Vendor Agreement
33 H. TCD Policy & Procedures – Section 1: Establishing Policies and Procedures
34 I. TCD Policy & Procedures – Section 2: Organizational Structure
35 J. TCD Policy & Procedures – Section 3: Board Meetings
36 K. TCD Policy & Procedures – Section 4: Board of Supervisor Elections
37 L. FY26-27 Dept of Commerce Scatter Creek Irrigation Funding Agreement
38 M. FY26-27 Dept of Commerce Skookumchuck Irrigation Funding Agreement

39 ***Supervisor Tompkins moved to approve the amended Consent Agenda. Supervisor Rushton***
40 ***seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (3-0).***

41 **Public Comment**

42 No member of the public gave comment.

43 **Partner Reports**

- 44 A. National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Update, Tara Donohoe
45 • Ms. Donohoe was not present.
46 B. Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) Update, Josh Giuntoli
47 • Mr. Giuntoli was present and gave an update.
48 • Mr. Giuntoli introduced WSCC's new Puget Sound Regional Manager, Lora Liegel.
49 C. Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) Update, Sarah Moorehead
50 • Executive Director Moorehead gave an update.

51 **TCD Resolution #2026-05: Mid-Term Elected Seat Appointment**

52 ***Supervisor Rushton moved to approve TCD Resolution #2026-05: Mid-Term elected Seat***
53 ***appointment. Supervisor Tompkins seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (3-0).***

54 **Governance**

55 A. Mid-Year Budget Review

56 B. August 26, 2026 Work Session Topic List and Meeting Agenda Development

57 **Work Session**

- 58 • Topic List Review, *All*
- 59 • Community Partner Presentation: *TBD*
- 60 • Staff Presentation: *TBD*
- 61 • Board Recruitment Update, *All*
- 62 • Rates and Charges Update, *All*
- 63 • Local Jurisdiction Presentation Update, *Chair TJ Johnson and Executive Director*
- 64 *Moorehead*
- 65 • Important Updates & Announcements
 - 66 ○ Board of Supervisors, *All*
 - 67 ○ Executive Director, *Sarah Moorehead*

68 **Board Meeting Agenda**

- 69 • Welcome, Introductions, Audio Recording Announcement
- 70 • Agenda Review
- 71 • Consent Agenda
 - 72 ○ July 22, 2026 Board Work Session & Meeting Minutes
 - 73 ○ August 2026 Financial Report
- 74 • Public Comment
- 75 • Partner Reports (if present)
 - 76 ○ National Resources Conservation Service
 - 77 ○ Washington State Conservation Commission
 - 78 ○ Washington Association of Conservation Districts
- 79 • Governance, *All*
 - 80 ○ September 23, 2026 Work Session Topic List & Meeting Agenda
 - 81 Development
- 82 • **Executive Session:** to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real
- 83 estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration
- 84 would cause a likelihood of increased price.
- 85 • **Executive Session:** to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency
- 86 litigation or potential litigation.

87 **Executive Session: To consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate**

88 RCW 42.30.110 (1b) To consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease

89 or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of

90 increased price.

91 The Executive Session opened at 6:53 pm to last for no more than 15 minutes and concluded at
92 7:08 pm. In attendance: TCD Board Members Johnson, Tompkins, Rushton, and Executive
93 Director Moorehead and legal counsel Ben Cushman.

94 **Executive Session Report Out**

95 No action was taken.

96 **Executive Session: To discuss potential litigation**

97 RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential
98 litigation.

99 The Executive Session opened at 7:10 pm to last for no more than 10 minutes and concluded at
100 7:20 pm. In attendance: TCD Board Members Johnson, Tompkins, Rushton, and Executive
101 Director Moorehead and legal counsel Ben Cushman.

102 **Executive Session Report Out**

103 ***Supervisor Tompkins moved that Thurston Conservation District will pay \$4,000 to the***
104 ***Washington Association of Conservation Districts to cover legal expenses that support Rates***
105 ***& Charges statewide. Supervisor Rushton seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (3-0).***

106 ***Supervisor Tompkins moved to adjourn the July 22, 2026 TCD Board Meeting. Supervisor***
107 ***Rushton seconded. Motion passed unanimously, (3-0).***

108 **Adjourn 7:22 pm**

Respectfully,

Signed by:



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TJ Johnson, TCD Board Chair

Certificate Of Completion

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Signer Events

TJ Johnson
olyurbanagrarian@gmail.com
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Security Level: Email, Account Authentication
(None)

Signature

Signed by:

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Viewed: 8/29/2026 5:30:57 AM
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Accepted: 8/29/2026 5:30:57 AM
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In Person Signer Events	Signature	Timestamp
Editor Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Agent Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
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Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp
Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	8/27/2026 12:18:07 PM
Certified Delivered	Security Checked	8/29/2026 5:30:57 AM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	8/29/2026 5:31:16 AM
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You may contact us to let us know of your changes as to how we may contact you electronically, to request paper copies of certain information from us, and to withdraw your prior consent to receive notices and disclosures electronically as follows:

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To let us know of a change in your email address where we should send notices and disclosures electronically to you, you must send an email message to us at TCDadmin@thurstoncd.com and in the body of such request you must state: your previous email address, your new email address. We do not require any other information from you to change your email address.

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