

## **Consolidated Diking Improvement District No. 1**

### **Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Minutes**

**CDID No. 1 Office, 5350 Pacific Way, Longview, Washington**

**January 27, 2026**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Consolidated Diking Improvement District No. 1 was called to order by Chair, Tim Kilmer, at 9:00 a.m., January 27, 2026.

**Present:**

**Board of Supervisors:**

Tim Kilmer, Chair  
Ken Hash, Secretary

**Staff:**

Amy Blain, District Manager  
Chance Cox, Operations Foreman  
Morgan Atkins, Admin. Finance Assistant

**Legal:**

Dave Nelson

**Guest:**

Steve Haubner, City of Longview

### **Agenda**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as published. Motion carried.

### **Minutes**

On a motion made, seconded and carried, the reading of the minutes of the CDID No. 1 Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting, held on January 13, 2026, copies of which have been submitted to the Board, were waived and approved as if read.

### **Stormwater Manager's Report**

Steve Haubner, City of Longview Stormwater Manager, reported the City's new Stormwater Utility rate became effective January 1, 2026. The Stormwater Department is reviewing its 2026 Stormwater Management Plan. Under the permit requirements, a Stormwater Management Action Plan basis is required and existing projects within the current basin, Ditch No. 4 are being researched. The City is evaluating Best Management Practices (BMPs) and additional management measures to improve water quality and is working with a consultant to develop potential solutions. An alternative option under consideration is Ditch No. 3, which serves both south downtown and the industrial corridor, for possible water quality improvements.

Development review for the Sires Lane subdivision is nearing completion. The originally proposed bioretention swale for the development was redesigned to use a Filterra system along the street, which is expected to be more efficient.

Hinton Development is exploring the acquisition of an advance grading permit for a proposed development located between 42<sup>nd</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue, south of Ocean Beach Highway. The project is currently in the comment phase, and Cowlitz County is involved due to the project location.

Cowlitz Clean Waters (CCW) held its recognition event for the 2026 calendar contest winners at Longview City Hall on January 21, 2026. The event was well attended, and feedback is welcomed to help improve future events.

### **Engineer's Report**

Ms. Blain reported that a fatal vehicle accident occurred in the ditch along Industrial Way near Memorial Park Drive on January 18, 2026. Ms. Blain noted local law enforcement typically notifies the District of such incidents; however, this accident was handled by the Washington State Patrol and the District was not notified. Ms. Blain stated she will report the incident to the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), noting the District has previously attempted to engage WSDOT regarding a guardrail project for this section of Industrial Way, but the project was not advanced due to insufficient crash history. The District will continue efforts to move the project forward.

Project No. 26-10, Drone Sprayer Program: Staff met with Aerial Vegetation Management (AVM) to develop a scope of work for the District's 2026 drone purchase. Ms. Blain reported the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has restricted the authorization of new foreign-made drones due to national security concerns, limiting their import and sale in the United States. She clarified the restriction does not affect drones already purchased or models that have previously received authorization. Ms. Blain recommended proceeding with the purchase of a like-new foreign-made DJI drone that has superior flight technology and is significantly less expensive than comparable drones manufactured domestically.

Ms. Blain noted that availability or spare parts is not anticipated to be an issue, as the proposed equipment is still compatible with manufacturers who continue to support and sell authorized models.

Ms. Blain presented justification for sole sourcing the drone purchase through AVM, citing the inclusion of classroom and field training, support for Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) certification requirements, and compatibility with existing flight maps developed during 2025 District operations.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize the District Manager to sole-source the purchase of a drone from Aerial Vegetation Management. Motion carried.

### **Operations Foreman Report**

Chance Cox, Operations Foreman, reported the following maintenance activities:

- Aquatic vegetation removal along Ditch No. 6, with approximately 40 loads removed to date between the Glenwood Drive outfall and 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Annual servicing of District equipment. The Kenworth dump truck was sent to Olympia Alignment for alignment and axle repairs.
- Ongoing cleanup activities related to the December 2025 storm event.

### **Attorney's Report**

**Professional Services Agreement, Aerial Vegetation Management:** An agreement with AVM for purchase of a turnkey drone vegetation management program was presented to the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Blain explained the program provides the District with the necessary hardware, training, and regulatory framework to establish a self-sustaining, in-house aerial spraying capability for ditch and vegetation control.

Dave Nelson, Legal Counsel, reviewed and recommend approval of the agreement, nothing he added an indemnity clause, which was accepted by AVM.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the purchase and agreement with Aerial Vegetation Management for the Drone Sprayer Program as presented. Motion carried.

**Independent Contract, Eastridge Excavation and Mowing:** A contract for Independent Services with Eastridge Excavation and Mowing was presented for approval, reviewed by Legal Counsel.

Following review, a motion was made and seconded, to approve the Independent Contract between Eastridge Excavation and Mowing and CDID No. 1, effective January 27, 2026. Motion carried.

**Black River LLC – Contract Extension:** An extension for 2026 of the Hay Lease and Harvesting Agreement between CDID No. 1 and Black River, LLC reviewed by Legal Counsel and recommended for approval.

Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded to execute the Hay Lease and Harvesting Agreement between CDID No. 1 and Black River LLC subject to Black River, LLC providing insurance. Motion carried.

### **Old Business**

**Cowlitz River Update:** Ms. Blain reported the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) awarded a contract to Anvil Builders, Inc. to raise the 184' tall Mount St. Helens

Sediment Retention Structure (SRS) by 10-feet. Ms. Blain explained the project is intended to manage flood risk for downstream communities by increasing the sediment retention capability. The contract value is \$35.9 million and construction is expected to begin this summer with completion anticipated by October 2027. The SRS was originally completed in 1989 to prevent sediment from flowing downstream, which would reduce river channel capacity and increase flood risk for more than 50,000 residents in the Cowlitz River communities. The crest raise is a critical step to ensuring the structure can continue to effectively trap sediment in the future.

Ms. Blain reported in October 2025, several local legislators sent a letter to the USACE Portland District and Washington, D.C. requesting improvements and identifying dredging as an option along with other alternatives. The USACE responded negatively, declining all dredging operations in the Cowlitz River and citing funding limitations and budget cuts.

Ms. Blain also provided an update on the county-wide Comprehensive Flood Management Plan created in 2023. The plan was rejected by the Commissioners due to objectionable language regarding climate change, but was resurrected in the weeks following the December 2025 storm event, and the revised version has been approved. Ms. Blain stated she will present the final plan to the Board of Supervisors once it has been reviewed and approved by all regulatory agencies, namely the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE).

Ms. Blain noted a private citizen who relocated to Longview, Washington from Texas is donating flood monitoring equipment for a pilot study. The equipment is manufactured by AWARE Monitoring Systems, and provides advanced early warning flood system using low-power sensors, satellite connectivity and real-time data transmission. Four deployable units are being provided to Cowlitz County, and the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments (CWCOG) is determining the best location for installation. Ms. Blain suggested placing the equipment at the Hall of Justice, where the current Cowlitz River level sensor has been inoperable for an extended period.

### **Approval of January 27, 2026 Claim Summary**

After review of District claims, a motion was made and seconded by the Board of Supervisors to approve and execute the January 27, 2026 Claim Summary submitted in the amount of \$66,510.51. Motion carried.

### **Approval of the January 2026 Bank of America Claim Summary**

After review of the District claims, a motion was made and seconded by the Board to approve and execute the January 2026 Bank of America Claim Summary submitted in the amount of \$9,976.41. Motion carried.

**Ratification of January 15, 2026 Payroll and Benefits**

Upon a motion made and seconded, by the Board of Supervisors, the payroll and benefits expenditures for the pay period ending January 15, 2026 were reviewed in the amount of \$62,958.07. Motion carried.

**Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

The next Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2026.

The next Advisory Committee Meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2026.

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Tim Kilmer, Chair

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Ken Hash, Secretary

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Bill Hallanger, Vice Chair