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Dear weblinx,

Here are 5 Things from WACD in brief:

1. [Governor Inslee signs the budget!](#)
2. [Please welcome 16 new conservation district supervisors.](#)
3. [Thank you to outgoing supervisors for your service.](#)
4. [Terry Cosby becomes the newest Chief of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.](#)
5. [Catch up on the Plant Materials Center with their weekly report.](#)

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## Washington Association of Conservation Districts

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### 5 Things to Know for May 20, 2021

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#### 1. [Governor Inslee signs the budget!](#)

On May 18th, Governor Jay Inslee signed [SB 5092](#) and [HB 1080](#) containing the operating and capital budgets for the 2021-23 biennium. These budgets will go into effect on July 1. Though he partially vetoed some sections of the operating budget (available [here](#) with his veto message), no conservation district funding was impacted.

#### 2. [Welcome to 16 new conservation district supervisors](#)

Today, the Washington State Conservation Commission certified elections and finalized appointments, resulting in 16 new conservation district supervisors entering our conservation district community. Please join WACD in welcoming them!

#### 3. [We are losing more than 150 years of experience](#)

Please say thank you to the 16 conservation district supervisors who are leaving office this year. Their contributions represent more than 150 years of public service. WACD deeply appreciates their work on behalf of conservation.

#### 4. [Terry Cosby becomes the newest Chief of NRCS](#)

May 19, 2021: The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) applauded the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s appointment of **Terry Cosby** to serve as chief of USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). As chief, Cosby will serve America's farmers, ranchers and forest landowners in their conservation efforts to help them conserve, maintain and improve natural resources and the environment through a network of over 3,000

offices in communities nationwide. Said NACD President Michael Crowder: "As longtime partners with NRCS, we look forward to working with Terry on the federal, state and local level, and I applaud Secretary Vilsack for appointing such a strong leader."

## 5. [PMC update for May 20, 2021](#)

Jacque Gauthier is our new WACD Plant Materials Center Sales Manager. Jacque worked for us from 2007 to 2012 so you may already know her. If you do - or if you don't - reach out and welcome Jacque back to our community!

## Executive Corner

I had hoped to have a long, meaty article for you but as I build that piece it is proving to be larger and more complex than I had expected. The topic I'm working on is how to transition your district manager. Obviously, this is a key position in the district so assuring a smooth and efficient transfer of knowledge and style is important for the best functioning of the district. If you have thoughts on this, please do send them my way! Once I publish, I hope that the article will be the starting point for more discussion and improvement.

## WACD May Work Session

On Monday the 17th, the WACD Board of Directors convened a work session. They heard updates on WACD's standing and special committees, received reports on WACD legislative outreach, and reviewed the first draft of next year's budget. Draft minutes will be available before the end of the month on [the WACD website](#). The next business meeting of the WACD Board of Directors on June 21st will be focused on reviewing and adopting the FY22 budget.

## Committee work continues to advance

WACD Finance Committee work continues to move us forward. The Joint Committee on Elections meets again next week on May 26. We will set the date for the first meeting of the full Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion by the end of this week.

Regarding the CDEI, I think the first meeting will be about getting to know each other, and about creating and agreeing to productive parameters to help the committee work well together. I expect that at the second meeting, the committee will begin to dive into how DEI is directly connected to conservation district work.

## Conservation Commission publishes election results

Find the announcement of election results at:  
<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/WASCC/bulletins/2da57ee>.

## Conservation Commission publishes proposed changes to the CD Election & Appointment Guide

Find the explanation with links to more information at:  
<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/WASCC/bulletins/2da5809>.

Always yours for conservation,

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## Pass it on!

Please pass this newsletter on to others in our conservation community so they can subscribe and be as informed as you are!

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## Partners are important!

Find our list of partners at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/wacd/partners-sponsors/partners/>.

- [Friends of NACD](#) – Your contributions provide funding for technical assistance grants to conservation districts.
- [Washington Conservation Society](#) – WCS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization so your contributions are tax-deductible. If you make purchases through Amazon Smile, a portion of your purchases goes to WCS in support of their programs and initiatives.

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