

Topic	Process/Activity	Who	Notes
Welcome and Virtual Housekeeping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome Message from Mark Overview of tools/tech we'll use today 	Mark Craven	<p>Roll call: Audrey Ahmann (<i>Walla Walla CD</i>), Ryan Baye (<i>WACD</i>), Brynn Brady (<i>WACD</i>), Larry Cochran (<i>Palouse CD and Commissioner</i>), Mark Craven (<i>WACD past president</i>), Stephanie Crouch (<i>SCC</i>), Jeanette Dorner (<i>WACD President and Commissioner</i>), Bill Eller (<i>SCC</i>), Joy Garitone (<i>Kitsap CD</i>), Kirstin Haugen (<i>King CD</i>), David Hedrick (<i>Ferry CD</i>), Laura Johnson (<i>SCC</i>), Mike Mumford (<i>Pend Orielle CD</i>), Craig Nelson (<i>Okanogan CD</i>), Mike Nordin (<i>Grays Harbor & Pacific CD</i>), Cindy Reed (<i>North Yakima CD</i>), Tom Salzer (<i>WACD</i>), Ron Shultz (<i>SCC</i>), Shirley St. John (<i>South Yakima CD</i>)</p> <p>Zoom: Please remain muted when you are not speaking to avoid background noise and echoes. Chat should be used for sharing links, but not for side conversations.</p>
Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roundtable self-introductions. During introduction, each member invited to share one tip they've found helpful for successfully reaching collaborative decisions/outcomes. 	Mark Craven	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Come in with an open mind and try not to come into a discussion with a fixed decision. Don't let perfect get in the way of good. Enter a process with a solution oriented mindset. Ask everyone what their opinion is – and go from there. Say what you think – even if it feels obvious. Maybe it hasn't been thought of yet. Come to an agreement by thinking of how to help solve the other's problem. It won't be perfect – try to be flexible and adaptable. Mutual respect – be willing to change and come into a group mindset. Learn more about different situations and examples to help open up new ways of thinking – be willing to learn, share, and be open. "Have an open mind, but not so open that your brains fall out" – be willing to give and take. Dive in with both feet. In-depth conversation, rather than talking over one another and nailing talking points. Take a breath, pause, and find common ground to move forward. Don't kill the messenger. Remember that overall we are a family – whatever recommendations the committee comes up with needs to work for all of us.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try to understand one another and recognize the diversity within all of our districts. • Come up with an outcome by listening. • Active listening – ask clarifying questions. When in doubt, ask “What I’m hearing you say is...”
Committee Ground Rules and Decision Making Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set behavioral expectations. • How to get to final product of suite of recommendations with position and notes. • No majority/minority reports? 	Mark Craven	<p>Mutual respect: Listen to one another, respect others’ views, understand when we have to move on to other topics.</p> <p>Attendance: We won’t all be able to make every single meeting. Notes will be posted on the WACD hub.</p> <p>Setting the meetings: Meet 2x/month, a few hours each. Set dates, set times. We will be sending a poll to determine these times.</p> <p>Agenda setting: There will be an opportunity to submit agenda topics towards the end of the meetings.</p>
Opening Comments and “Thank You” for Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments from WACD and WSCC 	Jeanette Dorner & Ron Shultz	<p>WACD: Thank you for participating in this committee. WACD is hoping for a new conversation with new solutions. Those of us who do conservation district work, who love that work, we know that the work is built on trust and respect. If we want to be successful in having people across the state trust us and our leadership, trust is necessary. When this committee gets to the point of developing recommendations, it is important to think of how they will impact districts across the state.</p> <p>WSCC: On behalf of the Commission and the Executive Director, extends a very sincere thanks for your work. This is important work to do – we are interested in new paths of success.</p>
Scope of Work 1. Objective of Committee 2. Authority of Committee 3. What’s Gone Before (i) Previous reports and surveys 4. Problems to Resolve (i) Shared values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open discussion • Objective • Authority • Previous reports and surveys Shared Values • Why Important 	Mark Craven Ron Shultz/Bill Eller Laura Johnson Brynn Brady	<p>1. Objective of Committee: “...develop a list of recommendations for action on election reform... submit updates to the Commission and WACD board for their regular meetings with a final report and recommendations to the Commission in September 2021.”</p> <p>2. Authority of committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop recommendations - Submit updates to the Commission and WACD board - Present a final report and recommendations to the Commission in September 2021 <p>3. What’s gone before:</p>

<p>5. Why this is important</p>			<p>Basis of our election rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1939 enabling statute – RCW 89.08 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 70 years of elections without regulations - 2001/2002 CDs on general election ballot - 2010 – WAC chapter 135-110 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD elections can be cancelled, and 70% usually are. - 2020 – WAC Chapter 135-110 underwent major revisions, effective September 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elections are no longer cancelled – all CDs have an election again. <p>Prior election work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2015 Proviso Committee and Report - 2020 Election discussion - 2020 Election options survey <p>Previous reports and surveys:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2015 Proviso Work Group and Report: 2013-15 Operating Budget Proviso (part): “The conservation commission must evaluate the current system for the election of conservation district board supervisors and recommend improvements to ensure the highest degree of public involvement in these elections...” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Group Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ 2 from WACD ➢ Sec. of State, State Elections Officer ➢ League of Women Voters ➢ WADE ➢ Commission member ➢ Commission staff • Developed a set of criteria from which various election options would be evaluated • Suite of options developed for conservation district consideration. • Report outcome: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Report with options was given to the Commission and Legislature ➢ No action was taken - Election Options from Summer 2020: After discussion, all participants were invited to participate in a poll on each option,
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<p><u>Discussion of Options</u></p> <p>1. How other special purpose districts elect their board members.</p> <p>2. How other states have their</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce topic and facilitate discussion. • Other special districts • Other states • Other information 	<p>Mark Craven</p> <p>Ron Shultz</p> <p>Bill Eller</p> <p>Mark Craven</p>	<p>1. How other special purpose districts elect their board members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diking and Drainage Districts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 elected board members. • Special election conducted by county auditors with district reimbursing the county. • Tax authority: Yes. - Fire Protection Districts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 or 5 elected board members.

<p>elections or appointments.</p> <p>3. Ask of Committee: What other information do you need to help in your thinking?</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election conducted during general election, and the district pays cost. • Tax authority: Yes <p>- Irrigation Districts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 or 5 elected board members. • Special election conducted by the district. • Tax authority: Fee and assessment authority. <p>- Weed Districts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 board members • Special election conducted by the district. • Tax authority: Assessment authority. <p>- Of 24 special districts or boards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special election: 5 • General election: 7 • No election: 12 <p>2. How other states elect conservation district supervisors:</p> <p>- Quick sample from 2011 NACD data of 58 districts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 – all appointed • 19 – all elected • 25 – mix of appointed and elected • 3 – undocumented or no information <p>- Do other states use precincts or designated areas for their elections?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 of 58 jurisdictions do <p>- Do other states elect their CD board members in the general election process?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 of 58 jurisdictions do <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Special election – had some form of landowner requirement to vote. ➤ General election – all have some form of tax, fee, or assessment authority. <p>3. What other information do you need to help in your thinking?</p> <p>- How are elections by districts whose elections are on the general ballot funded?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill to learn more and report back. <p>- Has anyone else gone through this kind of robust changes?</p>
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<p>Path Forward for Next Meetings</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discussion of how to explore election options. 2. Are there new options that haven't been discussed? 3. When do we engage with key stakeholders, legislators, others, in this committee process. 4. Timing of meetings to September deadline. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce topic and facilitate • Engage other stakeholders • Schedule of meetings 	<p>Mark Craven Jeanette Dorner/Brynn Brady Mark Craven</p>	<p>1. Discussion of how to explore election options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revisit each issue, but look at them through the lens of the 2020 rubric. Really dive in deeper, and look at them with an open mind to see how they can be tweaked or adjusted. - Look at the Oregon model: understanding the funding of elections. - Hoping not to change WAC 89-08, to not have to go through the legislature. Hoping for options that CDs can choose from and still be able to stay cohesive with others. - Hopeful for an in-person meeting when nearing the end of the committee's timeline. - Add categories about risks or unintended consequences on Laura's table of the 2020 rubric. - Show legislators that CDs are open to working on and willing to make changes, including changes to WAC 89-08. - Staying inside the rubric that was put together will be important for smaller districts that are very mission focused. - Rubric is a great idea and starting point – can't force voter turnout, but can engage. Often boards don't hear from constituents unless something is going badly. - Working to educate legislators on how different CDs are and what they do. - Our system is set up to engage with people who are already engaged, which can be viewed as a "good ol' boy" system. - Spend some time learning about how districts get the word out about elections and other community facing events. - Do we use the 2020 options as a starting point? Maybe use 2015 and 2020 – here is the link to JCE page on WACD hub. <p>2. Are there new options that haven't been discussed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working backwards to set some checkpoints in meetings.

			<p>3. When do we engage with key stakeholders, legislators, others, in this committee process?</p> <p>4. Timing of meetings to September deadline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Doodle poll will be sent with options for meeting times. - If there is an in-person meeting, request not to be held between August 10-24.
Wrap Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing Comments 	Mark Craven	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please send other options to Stephanie at scrouch@scc.wa.gov, who will disperse to appropriate parties. - This will be important to present to legislators, to show the commitment of reaching out to other entities and learning about how they are conducting elections. - Look to explore as many alternatives that are appropriate. - Develop the types of stakeholders you'd like to reach out to. - Please send other options to Stephanie, who will disperse to appropriate parties. <p>Agenda items for upcoming meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rubric table - What CDs did to spread the word/engage communities. - Goals and checkpoints - Setting meetings up for stakeholders/CDs - Discussion surrounding WAC 89-08 (Bill, Ron, and Ryan can look at potential changes, previous openings to pre-empt meetings to account for crunched timeline). - What kind of input/vetting do we want from CDs before presentation to Commission?
ADJOURN: 1:02 p.m.			