

BEFORE THE BOARD OF STEVENS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A TRI-COUNTY (SPOKANE, STEVENS AND PEND OREILLE) WATER BANK FOR WATER RESOURCES INVENTORY AREA (WRIA) 55 AND AUTHORIZING DEVELOPMENT OF BUSINESS RULES AND CONTRACTUAL MECHANISMS TO SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF THE WATER BANK	RESOLUTION NO. <u>45-2016</u> REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF A WATER BANK FOR WRIA 55
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WHEREAS, groundwater and surface water resources within Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 55, the Little Spokane Watershed, are vitally important resources, in that they provide the foundation to maintain current and fulfill future agricultural, domestic, environmental, industrial and municipal needs, as well as other needs, and to maintain the economic viability and prosperity of these areas; and

WHEREAS, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been previously established among Spokane, Stevens and Pend Oreille Counties in December 2015 to provide for constructive consultation and information sharing related to water resource policy issues within each of the counties' jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, to-date Spokane, Stevens and Pend Oreille Counties have supported a cooperative approach toward a feasibility study to evaluate the development of a water bank in WRIA 55; and

WHEREAS, said feasibility study to evaluate the development of a water bank in WRIA 55 is complete as of June 30, 2015 and indicates a water bank is feasible in WRIA 55; and

WHEREAS, Spokane, Stevens and Pend Oreille Counties have agreed in principle to form a cooperative, Tri-County water bank for WRIA 55 based on said feasibility study; and

WHEREAS, funding has been secured for development of an operational and management mechanism for the WRIA 55 water bank in the form of a grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology; and

WHEREAS, based on a meeting held between Spokane, Stevens and Pend Oreille County Commissioners on May 20, 2016, all three counties understand and agree that there will be fiscal and policy commitments associated with water bank establishment and operation that will need to be approved by each county's Board of County Commissioners; and

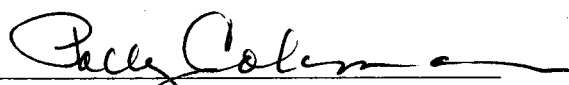
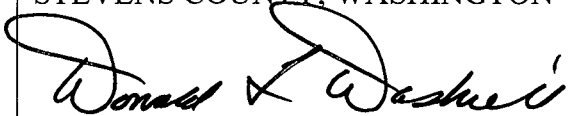
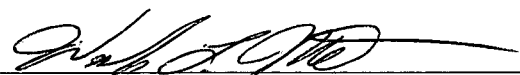
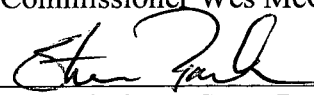
WHEREAS, ongoing work on development of an operation and management mechanism has identified decisions and actions to be resolved as part of establishment of a WRIA 55 Tri-County water bank, including but not limited to: establishing pricing standards, addressing administrative costs, establishing market goals, determining priority areas to be served by the water bank, establishing mitigation credit packages, developing a scientific framework for bank management, and establishing agreements for interaction among the Tri-Counties and between the Tri-Counties and Ecology; and

WHEREAS, Stevens County understands that there will be several future resolutions, Memoranda of Agreement, and/or contracts to support water bank establishment in WRIA 55, including but not limited to resolutions addressing water banking business rules and agreements for water bank operation between Spokane, Stevens and Pend Oreille Counties.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Stevens County, Washington, that the Board does hereby agree to proceed cooperatively in forming a Tri-County (Spokane, Stevens and Pend Oreille Counties) water bank for WRIA 55, including development of business rules and contractual mechanisms to support establishment and operation of the water bank.

Passed by the Board of Stevens County Commissioners meeting in regular session at Colville, Washington, by the following vote, then signed by its membership and attested to by its Clerk in authorization of such passage the 5th day of July, 2016.

3 YEA; 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; and 0 ABSENT

<p>ATTEST:</p> <p> Polly Coleman Clerk of the Board</p>	<p>BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF STEVENS COUNTY, WASHINGTON</p> <p> Chairman Don Dashiell</p> <p> Commissioner Wes McCart</p> <p> Commissioner Steve Parker</p>
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