

Stillaguamish River Clean Water District Advisory Board

Meeting Summary – FINAL
Thursday, February 26, 2015 5:30 – 7:45 PM
Peace Lutheran Church, Silvana

BOARD MEMBERS

*Single Family-North
Fork Stillaguamish
Dale Shelton*

*Single Family-South
Fork Stillaguamish
Vacant*

*Single Family-Main
Stem Stillaguamish
Ray Brown*

*Single Family-Lakes
Miriam Lancaster*

*Single Family-UGA
Vacant*

*Single Family-At-Large
Herm van Lier*

*Single Family-At-Large
Dave Ridgeway*

*Single Family-At-Large
Christine Betchley*

*Farm Rate Payer
John Connolly*

*Retail, Industrial, Other
Rate Payer
Kelly Wynn*

*Stillaguamish Flood
Control District
Max Albert*

*Snohomish
Conservation
District
Steve Van Valkenburg
(Chair)*

*Snohomish Health
District
Vacant by agency choice*

*Wash. Department of
Ecology
Andrew Funk*

*Wash. Department of
Fish and Wildlife
Vacant by agency choice*

*Stillaguamish Tribe
Kate Konoski*

*Tulalip Tribes
Vacant by agency choice*

*Surface Water
Management Staff
Sean Edwards*

Attendance

Board Members Present: Max Albert, Christine Betchley, Ray Brown, John Connolly, Andrew Funk, Miriam Lancaster, Dave Ridgeway, Dale Shelton, Maggie Taylor (for Kate Konoski), Herm van Lier, Steve Van Valkenburg

Board Members Excused: Kelly Wynn

SWM Staff: Sean Edwards, Gregg Farris, Dawn Sabin (formerly Martinez), Debbie Terwilliger

Guests: Brett de Vries, Dave Garland, Mak Kaufman

Welcome, introductions, agenda review, and meeting summary

Clean Water District Advisory Board (CWDAB) Chair Steve Van Valkenburg opened the meeting at 5:33 p.m. with introductions and review of the meeting agenda. The draft agenda was accepted as written.

Sean provided hard copy information packets including the following materials:

- CWDAB 2/26/15 preliminary meeting agenda
- CWDAB 10/9/14 meeting summary – DRAFT
- CWDAB 1/22/15 meeting summary – DRAFT #2
- SWM thank you letter for CWDAB support of LakeWise Nutrient Reduction grant application
- Ecology's Nonpoint Water Quality Strategy Toolset for Helping the Regulated Agriculture Community Comply with the Law (RCW 90.48) (PowerPoint handout 6-slides per page)
- Surface Water Management 2014 Highlights and 2015 New Initiatives (PowerPoint handout 2-slides per page)
- Surface Water Management 2014 Highlights and 2015 Initiatives (29-page draft report)
- SHD Board of Health Planning Retreat 2/7/15 agenda

The 10/9/14 draft meeting summary was approved as written. The 1/22/15 draft meeting summary was approved with minor corrections.

Subcommittee reports

Finance: Max reported that he received assurance from Snohomish County Council staff that the amendment to Snohomish County Code Title 25A, which would shift funding from RCW 36.89 (stormwater) to RCW 90.72 (shellfish protection), will be introduced soon. Max also noted that he had received assurance from SWM that it would continue to provide quarterly CWD financial reports to the Finance Subcommittee after SWM Director Debbie Terwilliger's resignation effective 3/6/15.

Discretionary Fund: Sean reported that he had received three new Discretionary Fund (DF) grant applications: one from the Snohomish Conservation District (SCD) for construction of compost bins at a recreational horse stable and two from Ray Brown for on-site septic system repairs. SCD has requested the DF Subcommittee to meet before the scheduled April 1st quarterly review because the horse stable owner is ready to implement the project and has lined up a contractor to do the work. ***The CWD Advisory Board directed the DF Subcommittee to review the three applications and provide funding recommendations at the 3/26/15 CWD Advisory Board meeting.***

Shellfish Protection: Sean reported that the Shellfish Protection Subcommittee (Chris, Ray, and Dale) met with him at the SWM office in Everett on 2/17/15 and is scheduled to meet again on 3/12/15 for the purpose of making recommendations at the 3/26/15 CWD Advisory Board meeting on the level of service for the Stillaguamish Shellfish Protection Program.

Lower Stillaguamish Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) Advisory Committee: Sean reported that the PIC Advisory Committee met on 2/5/15 at the SWM office in Everett. Dale was not able to attend. The PIC Program continues to demonstrate success in identifying and correcting sources of bacterial pollution, primarily through voluntary compliance with existing water quality regulations by landowners. Washington Department of Ecology, Washington Department of Agriculture's Dairy Nutrient Management Program (DNMP), Snohomish Health District's Solid Waste Program, and the Snohomish Conservation District have been instrumental in this water quality protection work.

Stillaguamish Watershed Council (SWC): No report

Snohomish-Stillaguamish Local Integrating Organization (LIO): No report

Lakes: Miriam reported that SWM is preparing to conduct another alum treatment for Lake Ketchum during the week of March 2 – 6, 2015. Miriam provided ten copies of a SWM status report on the Lake Ketchum Algae Control project (<http://snohomishcountywa.gov/2451/Lake-Ketchum-Restoration>). Miriam also noted that SWM has scheduled another Natural Yard Care workshop on 3/26/15, 6:30- 8:30 p.m., at the Lake Goodwin Community Club (17323 42nd Avenue NW, Stanwood).

Overview of Washington Department of Ecology's non-point water quality inspection, referral, and compliance enforcement process

Ecology Water Quality Inspector and newly appointed CWD Advisory Board Member Andrew Funk presented a Power Point overview of Ecology's nonpoint water quality inspection, referral, and compliance enforcement process. Ecology's nonpoint water quality inspections focus on bacterial and nutrient pollution from non-dairy farms, including horse stables and grass fed beef operations. Non-livestock pollution complaints, such as for motor oil, are investigated by Ecology's Spill Response Program. Ecology's nonpoint water quality inspections are targeted based on stream sampling results, windshield surveys and complaints received from citizens as well as other agencies. Ecology prefers to promote compliance with state nonpoint water quality law with free technical assistance, cost-share incentives, and even grant funding in some cases. However, Ecology does have the authority to levy fines of up to \$10,000 per day per violation against responsible parties who persist in polluting state waters without taking corrective measures. Corrective measures are taken here to mean on-farm improvements (BMPs) designed to eliminate potential for polluted runoff.

SCD 2015 Farm Planning Services Contract for CWD

Gregg Farris reported that the 2015 farm planning services contract between Snohomish County and SCD is expected to be sent next week to SCD for final review before it is forwarded to the Snohomish County Council for approval, which should be done by April or May.

SWM 2014 accomplishments and 2015 work plan

Gregg Farris presented a PowerPoint overview of SWM's draft report that summarizes SWM 2014 accomplishments and 2015 work plan for the CWD. Hard copies of the draft report were provided in the information packets for this meeting. Steve thanked Gregg and SWM for providing this detailed report, which will be used by the CWD Advisory Board to make informed recommendations on SWM's 2016 work plan and budget priorities.

Snohomish Health District Wastewater Program staffing capacity issue and Board of Health 2/7/15 planning retreat

Chris reported that she attended the 2/7/15 Snohomish County Board of Health's governance and funding planning retreat in Everett. Hard copies of the planning retreat agenda were provided in the information packet for this CWD Advisory Board meeting. Three main points were emphasized during the planning retreat discussion between the Board of Health and SHD administration: 1) SHD needs to maintain foundational public health services for the most vulnerable groups in Snohomish County (i.e., at-risk individuals, children, and elderly), 2) SHD needs to transition to working with collaborative partners who are able to deliver certain types of public health services (e.g., immunizations), and 3) SHD and the Board of Health will create a "blue ribbon commission" to make recommendations regarding SHD funding and governance by May or June 2015.

Snohomish County Councilman Ken Klein was the only one of the five Snohomish County Councilmembers to attend the planning retreat. He conveyed the CWD Advisory Board's concerns about the loss of SHD representation on the CWD Advisory Board despite the availability of CWD shellfish protection funds to support SHD's involvement. During the planning retreat, CWD Advisory Board Member Ray Brown was mentioned by SHD staff as a good candidate for the blue ribbon commission. However, as of this meeting, Ray had not yet been contacted about this by SHD staff. Sean noted that in addition to SHD's Wastewater Program role in regulating on-site septic systems, SHD's Solid Waste Program is an important collaborative partner for water quality protection because of its key role in regulating large piles of horse stall waste that are common throughout rural Snohomish County. Debbie reported that after the planning retreat, she and Gregg met with SHD Deputy Director Pete Mayer and Interim Environmental Health Division Director Kevin Plemel to discuss how SHD and SWM should work together to address these issues. Gregg is expecting a follow-up meeting with Kevin to discuss how to scope this inter-agency planning process, which will feed into both agencies' 2016 budget proposals that will be developed this spring and summer.

Stillaguamish Shellfish Protection Program level of service

The Shellfish Protection Subcommittee met February 17th to discuss potential recommendations for how the additional 90.72 funds could be spent in the 2015 budget. The subcommittee has another meeting scheduled for March 12th. Gregg stated that it would be helpful for SWM to know the subcommittee's recommendations prior to the March CWD Advisory Board meeting for two reasons: (1) the Service District Reassessment Study is on a tight schedule and would benefit from receiving the subcommittee's recommendations as early as possible, and (2) so that SWM staff could work on some initial cost estimates for the subcommittee's recommendations prior to the March Board meeting. As a result, Gregg requested that the subcommittee send their recommendations to Sean as soon after the March 12th meeting as possible. Chris stated that the subcommittee would try to do that. The subcommittee's recommendations would then be discussed at the March Board meeting.

Meeting review, new business, and public comment

Max presented a farewell card to Debbie, which was signed by the CWD Advisory Board Members, and thanked her for her support of the CWD during her tenure as SWM Director. Steve also thanked her on behalf of those who live in the CWD and wished her well for her new job as Tacoma Metro Parks Director. Debbie thanked the CWD Advisory Board Members for their hard work and dedicated service.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, March 26, 2015, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Peace Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall.

This meeting summary was prepared by Beth Liddell. Please direct any questions or comments to Sean Edwards at 425-388-3024 or sean.edwards@snoco.org. More information about the CWD is also available at <http://cwd.surfacewater.info>.