

Stillaguamish River Clean Water District Advisory Board

Meeting Summary – FINAL
Thursday, September 25, 2014 5:30 – 7:30 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*
Rich Ollivier

*Wash. Department of
Ecology*
Vacant by agency choice

*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, Ray Brown, John Connolly, Kate Konosky, Miriam Lancaster, Dale Shelton, Steve Van Valkenburg, Kelly Wynn

Board Members Excused: Christine Betchley, Dave Ridgeway, Herm van Lier

SWM Staff: Sean Edwards, Debbie Terwilleger, Gene Williams

Guests: John Boettner, Brett de Vries, Andrew Funk, Gina Gray, Mak Kaufman, Jean Snyder

Welcome, introductions, agenda review, and meeting summary

Clean Water District Advisory Board (CWDAB) Chair, Steve Van Valkenburg opened the meeting at 5:35 p.m. with introductions and review of the meeting agenda. New CWDAB Member Kate Konosky, replacing Gina Gray to represent the Stillaguamish Tribe, was welcomed by all. Gina reported that she had been promoted to Natural Resources Department Director In Training for the Stillaguamish Tribe.

Sean provided hard copy packets including the following materials:

- CWDAB 9/25/14 Preliminary Meeting Agenda
- CWDAB 7/24/14 Meeting Summary – DRAFT #2
- "Local Shellfish Celebration" Flyer for 9/27/14 shellfish dinner event in Stanwood
- "Sustainable Funding for On-site Sewage Systems" Flyer from Washington Department of Health (WDOH)
- "Septic Financing Advisory Committee Final Recommendations" from WDOH
- "Puget Sound Septic Financing Assessment Project Overview and Recommendations" from WDOH
- CWDAB 10/9/14 Draft Meeting Agenda
- "Lakewise Nutrient Reduction – Buffers, Septics, Runoff (Toxic & Nutrient Reduction Grant Proposal Overview – September, 2014)
- Draft letter of support for National Estuary Program Toxics and Nutrients Grant Application for LakeWise Nutrient Reduction Project

The 7/24/14 draft meeting summary was approved as amended.

Elect new Vice Chair

With the departure of former Vice Chair Gina Gray, Dale Shelton was elected unanimously to complete the Vice Chair position for 2014.

Snohomish County Clean Water Loan and Grant Program

Max Albert and Kelly Wynn were both reaffirmed to represent the CWDAB at stakeholder advisory group meetings for Snohomish County's new Clean Water Loan and Grant Program. Sean will follow up on this with Lisa Dulude in the Snohomish County Executive's Office.

Subcommittee Reports

Finance: Max reported on his discussions with Lenda Crawford in the Snohomish County Executive's Office. He also noted that the Snohomish County Agricultural Advisory Board had submitted a recommendations letter to Council and the Executive in support of reallocating RPPT revenue to SWM for floodplain services and restoring shellfish protection revenues in the CWD. Max also noted that the Finance Subcommittee had discovered that SWM had not accounted for ~\$134,000 in fund balance.

Discretionary Fund: Max reported that the next Discretionary Fund Subcommittee meeting will be held sometime between October 1st and 9th to review any new DF grant applications received by Oct. 1st. The Board appointed Kelly Wynn and Kate Konoski as new members of the DF Subcommittee.

Shellfish Protection: Sean reported on the status of the 9/27/14 shellfish dinner event organized by Sound Salmon Solutions and progress of the Lower Stillaguamish Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) Program. Sean also highlighted recent work of Snohomish County WSU Beach Watchers, including the new Port Susan Owner's Manual and the upcoming Sound Living "Communiversities" event, which will be held at Everett Community College.

Lower Stillaguamish Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) Advisory Committee: Sean reported that he is planning

to schedule a PIC Advisory Committee meeting for some time in the first two weeks of October.

Stillaguamish Watershed Council (SWC): Gina Gray reported that the SWC met yesterday and it was the first meeting for Kit Crump who is the new Stillaguamish Lead Entity Coordinator. Gina noted that the SWC has a new representative for the South Fork Stillaguamish River. The SWC considered Snohomish County's request for a letter of support for a Floodplains by Design grant proposal, but the request was not approved.

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

Lake Ketchum Algae Control Project Update

Gene Williams provided an update on SWM's Lake Ketchum Algae Control Project, which is partly funded by the CWD Discretionary Fund. Following the application of alum to reduce nutrient levels, SWM staff determined that phosphorous levels had dropped by 80 – 90% even though the total treatment was not completed. Lake residents are generally pleased with the lake water quality improvements. The Board discussed the cause of the fish kill that occurred after the alum application. With unanimous approval from the Board, Steve signed a letter of support for SWM's Toxics and Nutrients grant proposal to the National Estuary Program.

Snohomish Health District's Wastewater Program Funding and Capacity Issues

Sean reported on SHD's withdrawal from the CWDAB, Lower Stilly PIC Program, and LIO due to inadequate funding and staffing capacity in the SHD Wastewater Program. SWM is developing a short-term funding and capacity building proposal to help SHD re-engage in these important local water quality protection activities. Sean also distributed copies of several documents related to WDOH's Septic Financing Assessment project, which is nearly final. WDOH Wastewater Program Manager Stuart Glasoe has offered to present the findings and recommendations from this project at the 10/9/14 CWDAB meeting. The Board agreed to have Sean invite Stuart to the next meeting.

SWM Response to CWDAB Recommendations

SWM Director Debbie Terwilleger provided hard copies of SWM's written response to the CWDAB's 2014 recommendations letter. Debbie reported that the Snohomish County Council appears to be supportive of retaining the three existing SWM fee districts, but with expansions to cover the floodplains and areas in east Snohomish County, such as the Sauk River portion of the county. Debbie requested to present SWM's proposed ordinance for these changes at the 10/9/14 CWDAB meeting.

WDOH Updates on Port Susan and South Skagit Bay Commercial Shellfish Growing Areas

WDOH Shellfish Restoration Program Lead Jean Snyder provided hard copies of maps and water quality data summaries for the Port Susan and South Skagit Bay commercial shellfish growing areas.

Meeting Review, New Business, and Public Comment

- Steve encouraged Board Members to attend the Snohomish Conservation District Breakfast on 10/10/14 at Craven Farm near Snohomish.
- Steve reminded Board Members to provide suggestions for the draft recommendations letter to Council
- Gina announced that the Stillaguamish Tribe is hosting an open house salmon lunch at their new Natural Resources Building on September 27th.
- Mak Kaufman offered to present to the Council the importance of the Lower Stilly PIC Program.
- John Boettner announced that his family had completed a lease agreement for their 90-acres of shellfish tidelands in South Skagit Bay with Trans Ocean Seafoods.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, October 9, 2014, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Peace Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall.

This meeting summary was prepared by Sean Edwards. 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>.