

Stillaguamish River Clean Water District Advisory Board

Meeting Summary – FINAL
Thursday, April 23, 2015 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*
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, Kate Konoski, Miriam Lancaster, Dave Ridgeway, Dale Shelton, Steve Van Valkenburg, Kelly Wynn

Board Members Excused: Herm van Lier

SWM Staff: Sean Edwards, Gregg Farris

Guests: Andy Noone

Welcome, introductions, agenda review, and meeting summary

Clean Water District Advisory Board (CWDAB) Chair Steve Van Valkenburg opened the meeting at 5:30 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 4/23/15 preliminary meeting agenda
- CWDAB 3/26/15 meeting summary – DRAFT #1
- CWD Discretionary Fund Application Review Results (4/9/15)
- South Skagit Bay Water Quality Sampling for Shellfish Protection Assisted by Island County Beach Watcher, Pete Domoto (4/17/15)
- Savvy Septic Contractor Open House (4/16/15)
- Washington Department of Health 2015 annual Early Warning System letter to SWM regarding water quality conditions of commercial shellfish growing areas in Snohomish County (4/15/15)
- CWD Discretionary Fund Application Review (4/9/14)
- Be the Solution 2015 Discretionary Fund grant application (4/1/15)
- Kayak Point Shellfish Population Survey and Enhancement Feasibility Study (4/1/15)
- Topics for the 2015 CWD Letter to SWM

The 3/26/15 draft meeting summary was approved as written.

Subcommittee reports

Finance: Max Albert reviewed quarterly financial reports received from SWM and reported that everything looks consistent with the direction that the Snohomish County Council provided to SWM for the 2015 budget.

Discretionary Fund: Max noted that the DF application guidelines limit education and outreach projects to 25% of the annual DF budget, but that the two new DF grant applications are both for education and outreach and if approved would exceed the 25% limit. Kelly Wynn moved to suspend the education and outreach 25% limit for these two DF applications. Chris Betchley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Shellfish Protection: Sean reported that he, Chris, and Pete Domoto from Island County Beach Watchers helped the Washington Department of Health (WDOH) collect marine water quality samples for the South Skagit Bay commercial shellfish growing area on 4/15/15. A one-page article written by Pete, Chris, and Sean about the water quality sampling field day was provided to the Island County Beach Watchers for posting on their web site. Sean also provided copies of the annual Early Warning System letter received from WDOH documenting that part of the South Skagit Bay shellfish area is threatened with a downgrade in classification due to elevated fecal coliform bacteria concentrations in marine water samples. Sean also reported that he and a couple of other SWM staff members participated in the Savvy Septic program open house for contractors on 4/16/15.

Lower Stillaguamish Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) Advisory Committee: Dale reported that the PIC Advisory Committee had not met since the last CWD Advisory Board meeting.

Stillaguamish Watershed Council (SWC): Dave Ridgeway reported that the SWC met on 4/22/15. Highlights from that meeting included an update on the preferred restoration project alternative for Leque Island, fire retardants in juvenile salmonids, and 2015 Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) grant funds for the Stillaguamish watershed to be shifted to 2016 due to impact this year from the Oso Landslide.

Snohomish-Stillaguamish Local Integrating Organization (LIO): Chris reported that Kelly Wynn will represent the CWDAB at the 4/28/15 Sno-Stilly LIO Implementation Committee meeting. The meeting will focus on the process for allocating National Estuary Program (NEP) funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for implementation of the Puget Sound Recovery Plan.

Lakes: Miriam reported that SWM Lakes Program staff will meet with the Lake Ketchum Shores Improvement Club on 5/2/15 to discuss the Lake Ketchum Algae Control project.

Review Discretionary Fund grant applications received by 4/1/15 and make funding recommendations to SWM Director

Max reviewed the following two DF grant applications, which the DF Subcommittee evaluated at its 4/9/15 meeting:

- Be the Solution 2015 (\$15,000 grant request)
- Kayak Point Shellfish Population Survey and Enhancement Feasibility Study (\$8,990 grant request)

Andy Noone from Sound Salmon Solutions explained why the Be the Solution 2015 grant request was about 20% greater than last year's request. *After discussion of each application, the CWDAB unanimously recommended each one for approval by the SWM Director.*

Stillaguamish Shellfish Protection Program level of service

Sean reported that following the last CWD Advisory Board meeting he had only received a couple of follow up comments on the proposed 2016 work plan for the Stillaguamish Shellfish Protection Program. In response to a question from Herm van Lier, Sean confirmed that the \$50/hour estimate for SWM staff time accurately represents both pay rate and benefits for the staff who would be doing the shellfish protection work. And in response to a comment from Andrew Funk about SWM providing leadership on inter-agency coordination for water quality outreach and education at the Stillaguamish Festival of the River, Sean noted that SWM is already doing that to some extent through its participation in the Snohomish-Camano EcoNet, which includes many of the organizations that participate in the Festival of the River. However, last year SWM concluded that its participation in the Festival was not creating sufficient value in terms of reaching Stillaguamish watershed residents because so many festival goers are there for the music and/or are from outside of the watershed. Instead SWM is contracting with WSU Extension's Snohomish County Beach Watchers Program to do water quality outreach at the festival. Gregg noted that SWM is evaluating the proposed 2016 shellfish protection work plan as vetted with the CWD Advisory Board to develop the 2016 SWM budget proposal.

SWM/Snohomish Health District inter-agency coordination update

Gregg reported that he met with SHD Environmental Health Division Interim Manager Kevin Plemel on March 31st to discuss coordination between SWM and the Snohomish Health District.

Finalize 2015 recommendations letter to SWM

Kelly made a motion to approve the draft letter to SWM as written. Max noted that the letter writing subcommittee had several unresolved questions that needed to be addressed by the Board. Kate Konoski made a motion to approve the Stillaguamish Shellfish Protection Program 2016 work plan as written. Chris seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. Kelly amended his motion to approve the letter to SWM as edited at this meeting and to attach the final Stillaguamish Shellfish Protection Program 2016 work plan to the SWM letter. Kate seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. Sean will work with the Chair and Vice Chair to finalize the letter, get it signed, and delivered to SWM by May 1st.

Begin preparing recommendations letter to Snohomish Conservation District and create subcommittee to draft letter for 5/28/15 meeting

Steve, Dale, and Max volunteered for the subcommittee to draft the 2015 recommendations letter to SCD regarding the CWD work program. Steve requested that CWDAB Members email any suggested topics for the letter to Sean by May 14th.

Meeting review, new business, and public comment

There were no public comments.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, May 28, 2015, 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 at 425-388-3024 or sean.edwards@snoco.org. More information about the CWD is also available at <http://cwd.surfacewater.info>.