

Stillaguamish River Clean Water District Advisory Board

Meeting Summary – FINAL
Thursday, May 28, 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
Vacant

*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, Andrew Funk, Miriam Lancaster, Dale Shelton, Steve Van Valkenburg, Herm van Lier

Board Members Excused: Kate Konoski, Dave Ridgeway, Kelly Wynn

SWM Staff: Sean Edwards, Gregg Farris

Guests: Brett de Vries, Kevin Plemel

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. The draft agenda was accepted as written.

Sean provided hard copy information packets including the following materials:

- CWDAB 5/28/15 preliminary meeting agenda
- CWDAB 4/23/15 meeting summary – DRAFT #1
- CWDAB 2015 revised schedule and focus topics
- Pathogens in Urban Stormwater Systems – Executive Summary
- Pathogens in Urban Stormwater Systems – Ch. 4 Predicting Transport and Fate
- Lower Stillaguamish Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) Program Advisory Committee 5/26/15 Meeting Agenda – DRAFT
- Snohomish Conservation District Outreach Summary for Lower Stilly PIC Program (5/6/15)
- Snohomish County Lower Stilly PIC Communications Plan (5/22/15)
- Lake Ketchum Restoration Update
- CWDAB draft 2015 recommendations letter to Snohomish Conservation District

The 4/23/15 draft meeting summary was approved with edits.

Subcommittee reports

Finance: Nothing to report.

Discretionary Fund: Max Albert reported that there were no new DF grant applications since the last CWDAB meeting. Sean Edwards reported that the two DF grant applications recommended by the CWDAB at the 4/23/15 meeting had been approved by SWM Interim Co-Directors Gregg Farris and Karen Kerwin. However, Sound Salmon Solutions' "Be the Solution 2015" project was approved on condition that the shellfish dinner event have a goal of at least 75% of all participants being CWD ratepayers. CWDAB Members who are ratepayers can help achieve this goal by attending the shellfish dinner.

Shellfish Protection: Sean provided copies of excerpts from a new and useful book titled, "Pathogens in Urban Stormwater Systems." Sean encouraged the Board to read the excerpts to improve the Board's understanding of fecal coliform bacteria and how other water quality factors, such as water temperature, nutrients, and suspended sediment can affect the growth, transport, and die-off of fecal coliform bacteria in surface waters. Sean noted that the book is also relevant for rural areas and agricultural drainage systems. The book can be downloaded from the Internet at http://www.udfcd.org/downloads/down_sw_bmp.htm.

Lower Stillaguamish Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) Advisory Committee: Dale reported that the Lower Stilly PIC Advisory Committee met on May 26th and she reviewed the agenda for that meeting. Sean provided hard copies of a communications plan that lays out Snohomish County's schedule for developing the PIC web site, newsletters, and public meetings. The PIC web site will go live at the end of August, the first PIC newsletter will be distributed in October, and the first public meeting will be conducted in early November.

Stillaguamish Watershed Council (SWC): No report.

Snohomish-Stillaguamish Local Integrating Organization (LIO): Chris reported that the Sno-Stilly LIO Implementation Committee met on May 26th. The meeting focused on the LIO's effort to update its near term actions for the 2016 Puget Sound Action Agenda and develop a 5-year strategic plan over the next year.

Lakes: Miriam reported that the water quality of Lake Ketchum has improved significantly since the alum treatment. Water quality monitoring by SWM shows a significant reduction of phosphorous in both the top and bottom parts of the lake.

SWM/Snohomish Health District inter-agency coordination update

Gregg Farris reported that in response to the CWDAB's recent recommendations to SWM, Snohomish County is planning to allocate \$100,000 in the 2016 budget for SHD to hire one new FTE, which would enable SHD to re-engage in collaborative water quality stewardship work, including participation in the CWDAB, Lower Stilly PIC Program, and Sno-Stilly LIO. Kevin Plemel reiterated that SHD's environmental health division is primarily funded by fees, which has limited its capacity to engage in community forums like the CWDAB. Kevin noted that he and Gregg had met to discuss how to improve inter-agency coordination between SWM and SHD. If SWM includes allocation of \$100,000 for SHD in its proposed 2016 budget, then SHD can include those funds as anticipated revenue in its proposed budget for 2016. This arrangement would be generally consistent with Snohomish County's original intent for the CWD, which included CWD funding for SHD. If approved by the Snohomish County Executive, Snohomish County Council, SHD Public Health Officer, and SHD Board of Health, this funding allocation will require an annual contract with a clear scope of work that would be retroactive to January 1, 2016.

Status of proposed amendments to Snohomish County Code Title 25A

Gregg reported that SWM is requesting direction from the Executive's Office on whether to change Title 25A as recommended by the CWDAB to permanently restore the RCW 90.72 shellfish protection funding level to what it was before the reduction caused by Ordinance 13-009, which exempted NPDES wastewater permittees from paying the shellfish protection portion of the CWD annual fee. SWM is also seeking input from Council on the two alternatives. A Council briefing is scheduled for the next Public Works Committee meeting at 9 a.m. on June 16th. Public Works Director Steve Thomsen has directed SWM to present the preferred alternative to Council before presenting it to the CWDAB. However, the Council Public Works Committee meeting is open to the public, so CWDAB Members are welcome to attend.

Gregg also described the following additional Title 25A and Title 25 amendments that SWM is proposing:

- Expand the CWD and the Snohomish Watershed Management Area (WMA) to include all unincorporated areas.
- Reduce the farm rate to be equivalent to the residential rate.
- For special districts, ratepayers would get a discount equal to the amount they pay to the special districts for water quantity management services.
- Considering an increase to flood control grant funding for special districts if the CWD and WMAs are expanded.
- Extend the sunset provisions for the surcharge for stormwater infrastructure improvements in unincorporated UGAs (urban growth areas).

Gregg noted that he is planning to present SWM's written response to the CWDAB's 2015 recommendations letter at the July 23rd CWDAB meeting.

Finalize 2015 recommendations letter to Snohomish Conservation District

Steve, Dale, and Max developed the draft 2015 recommendations letter to SCD. Steve led the Board's review and editing of the draft letter. The letter was approved unanimously as edited. Sean will work with the Chair and Vice Chair to finalize the letter, get it signed, and delivered to SCD.

Begin preparing recommendations letter to Snohomish Health District and create subcommittee to draft letter for 6/25/15 meeting

Chris, Miriam, Ray, and Max volunteered for the subcommittee to draft the 2015 recommendations letter to SHD regarding the CWD work program. Steve requested that CWDAB Members email any suggested topics for the letter to Sean by June 11th.

Meeting review, new business, and public comment

Miriam invited anyone who is interested in the Lake Ketchum Algae Control project to participate in a fun celebration event at Lake Ketchum on June 13th, 12 – 5 p.m. Food will be served at 12:30 p.m. SWM Lakes Program staff will be there to educate people about the restoration project.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, June 25, 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>.