

Stillaguamish River Clean Water District Advisory Board

Meeting Summary – FINAL
Thursday, March 24, 2016 5:30 – 7:30 PM
Peace Lutheran Church, Silvana

BOARD MEMBERS

*Single Family-North
Fork Stillaguamish
Dale Shelton (Chair)*

*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 (Vice
Chair)*

*Single Family-At-Large
Dave Ridgeway*

*Single Family-At-Large
Bob Landles*

*Farm Rate Payer
Vacant*

*Retail, Industrial, Other
Rate Payer
Kelly Wynn*

*Stillaguamish Flood
Control District
Max Albert*

*Snohomish
Conservation
District
Steve Van Valkenburg*

*Snohomish Health
District
Vacant by agency choice*

*Wash. Department of
Ecology
Vacant by agency choice*

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

*Stillaguamish Tribe
Vacant by agency choice*

*Tulalip Tribes
Vacant by agency choice*

*Surface Water
Management Staff
Sean Edwards*

Attendance

Board Members Present: Max Albert, Ray Brown, Ellen Hiatt (alternate for Miriam Lancaster), Dale Shelton, Herm van Lier, Steve Van Valkenburg, Kelly Wynn

Board Members Excused: Bob Landles, Dave Ridgeway

SWM Staff: Sean Edwards, Gregg Farris, Will Hall

Guests: Tyler Breum, Chuck Hazleton, Gary Lund, Eric Schuh

Welcome, introductions, agenda review, and meeting summary

Clean Water District Advisory Board (CWDAB) Chair Dale Shelton opened the meeting at 5:33 p.m. with introductions and review of the meeting agenda.

Sean provided hard copy information packets including the following materials:

- CWDAB 3/24/15 preliminary meeting agenda #2
- CWDAB 2016 schedule (3/3/16 revised)
- Surface Water Management 2015 Highlights and 2016 Initiatives: Report to the Stillaguamish Clean Water District (3/24/16)
- SWM 2015 Budget versus Actuals for Programs and Projects in the Stillaguamish Clean Water District (3/22/16)
- 2016 SWM Projects in the CWD Based on Council Approved 2016 SWM Budget (revised 1/8/16)
- Stillaguamish River Clean Water District Advisory Board By-Laws (updated 3/24/16)
- Joint Request for Assistance letter to CWDAB from Stillaguamish Flood Control District, Drainage District 12, and Diking and Drainage Improvement District 7 (3/23/16)
- CWD Advisory Board Composition: pre and post amendment of Snohomish County Code Title 25A
- Surface Water Management Service Districts map
- Snohomish County Code Title 25A

New SWM Director's introduction

Will Hall introduced himself as the new SWM Director, described his prior experience with SWM and Snohomish County, and shared his vision for SWM, which includes a commitment to open and transparent government. Will thanked the Board members for their important public service and offered a standing invitation for feedback. Will also noted that while he will not be able to attend every CWDAB meeting, Gregg and Sean will maintain continuity in the representation of SWM at CWDAB meetings.

SWM 2015 accomplishments and 2016 work plan

Gregg Farris presented a PowerPoint overview and detailed written report of SWM's 2015 accomplishments and 2016 work plan. Board members requested updates on SWM's LakeWise Program and knotweed control efforts, which Gregg agreed to follow up on with SWM staff. Max and Dale also requested copies of SWM's final report on the recently completed Stillaguamish Temperature TMDL Study, which was funded by a grant from the Washington Department of Ecology. Sean agreed to forward the report to Max and Dale.

Gregg also reported on two financial issues that SWM recently became aware of that might impact CWD fund balance: 1) Non-payment of CWD fees by the federal government, and 2) current funding by SWM of Snohomish County employees' retirement account. Both of these issues may impact SWM's 2016 and 2017 budgets. Will assured the CWDAB that the County will attempt to collect unpaid SWM fees from the federal government, just like the County would do with any other party, and provide updates to the CWDAB as SWM works to resolve both issues.

Subcommittee reports

Stillaguamish Watershed Council (SWC): No report.

Lakes: Attending this meeting as Miriam Lancaster's alternate, Lake Howard resident Ellen Hiatt reported that the LakeWise Program was showing some success in the form of various lake shoreline stewardship projects and education and outreach events. However, she also expressed concern about the infrequency of SWM updates to the Lake Howard community about the LakeWise program.

Snohomish-Stillaguamish Local Integrating Organization (LIO): Sean reported that the Sno-Stilly LIO Implementation

Committee met on 3/14/16 and formed three subcommittees to work on the Sno-Stilly chapter of the Puget Sound regional ecosystem recovery plan. CWD Advisory Board Member Bob Landles attended that meeting. Bob and Sean are both on the shellfish subcommittee. Gregg also reported on the status of discussions between the State of Washington and EPA about the decision-making process for allocation of federal funding for Puget Sound recovery projects.

Shellfish Protection: Sean reported that he has continued to focus most of his shellfish protection work on administering the Lower Stillaguamish Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) grant, including the development of a spending plan for the Washington Department of Health (WDOH) showing how Snohomish County and the Snohomish Conservation District would use the remaining PIC grant funds within the remaining implementation period ending 9/30/16. WDOH was unwilling to accept some elements of the County's proposed spending plan. As such, the existing PIC grant contract is being amended, including a reduction of the original \$570,000 grant award by about \$126,000. As such SWM and the Snohomish Conservation District will be focusing their PIC grant work on finishing the outreach and education that was originally planned. This will include a second PIC newsletter and public meeting later this spring or summer. A final report, PowerPoint presentation, and GIS shapefiles documenting the Lower Stilly PIC effort will be delivered to WDOH by 9/30/16.

Finance: Max Albert reported that the Finance Subcommittee is still waiting to receive a financial report from SWM, which the subcommittee will review and report on at the next CWD Advisory Board meeting.

Discretionary Fund: Max reported that the DF Subcommittee had updated the DF application guidelines and was waiting to receive an update from SWM on how the County wants to handle applications from people who are behind on paying their county taxes and annual CWD fees. Max noted that he checked the Snohomish County Assessor's database for all of the DF projects funded to date and found that the Eagle Ridge project was the only one where the grant recipient was behind on their county taxes or CWD fees. Gregg noted that SWM Director Will Hall wants payment of SWM fees to be an eligibility requirement for future DF grant applications. The Board revised the DF application guidelines accordingly. Max made a motion to approve the guidelines as amended. Herm seconded the motion. After some discussion, Herm called the question and the Board approved the changes unanimously.

Sean provided an update on the Ballard and Lervick DF projects for which he completed final inspections earlier in the week. Both projects are now complete and the respective DF grant recipients were both happy with the results. They also offered to have their projects be used as good examples of horse farm best management practices (BMPs) for the County's ongoing CWD water quality education and outreach work. Sean emphasized that the Lervick DF project was successful primarily because Kelly Wynn's company, Water and Waste Water Services, is now hauling the Lervick's horse stable waste (approximately 8 x 40 ton containers per month) to a certified composting facility for free. In contrast, the Eagle Ridge Equestrian Center and other horse stables are still accumulating large piles. As such, Sean is advising management to evaluate the scale and nature of the horse stable waste problem as a first step toward developing a county-wide strategy for dealing with it more effectively.

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

Approve changes to CWD Advisory Board Bylaws

The Board unanimously approved proposed changes to the CWD Advisory Board Bylaws, which were first presented at the 2/25/16 meeting. Sean will post the updated bylaws on the CWD web site.

Create subcommittee to draft annual recommendations letter to SWM for 4/28/16 meeting

Steve, Max, and Dale volunteered to draft the next recommendations letter to SWM, which the Board will finalize at the April 28th meeting. Suggestions for the draft letter should be sent to Sean to be forwarded to the subcommittee.

Meeting review, new business, and public comment

Tyler Breum introduced a letter on behalf of Diking and Drainage Improvement District 7 (DD7), Stillaguamish Flood Control District (SFCD), and Drainage District 12 (DD12) seeking support from the CWDAB for recommendations to SWM to provide additional technical and funding assistance for drainage maintenance. SFCD Chair Chuck Hazleton noted that a couple of years ago SWM helped SFCD complete an inventory of dikes and levees, but the inventory of drainage ditches and other infrastructure was not completed.

Gregg Farris announced that the Snohomish County Executive's Office had decided to conduct sexual harassment training for the CWDAB and potentially all other Council-appointed boards. This would be the same training that all county employees receive. Several CWDAB members expressed concern about the county requiring all of the members to take this training. Max agreed to participate in the training regardless of whether anyone else does. Gregg agreed to convey the Board's feedback to County management. Kelly made a motion that any complaints about board members be brought to the CWDAB Chair for discussion in executive session. Ellen Hiatt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Steve noted that this motion is redundant with the updated CWDAB Bylaws.

Sean referenced a one-page summary he prepared showing a side-by-side comparison of the existing CWDAB composition and the revised CWDAB composition, which was changed in the recently amended Snohomish County Code Title 25A.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 28, 2016, 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://cwg.surfacewater.info>.