

Stillaguamish River Clean Water District Advisory Board

BOARD MEMBERS

*Single Family Ratepayer –
Stillaguamish Drainage*
Dale Shelton (Chair)

*Single Family Ratepayer –
Skagit Drainage*
Graham Logen

*Single Family Ratepayer –
Port Susan Drainages*
Vacant

Single Family Ratepayer - Lakes
Miriam Lancaster

*Single Family Ratepayer –
Tulalip Drainage*
Vacant

Ratepayer – At-Large #1
Vacant

Ratepayer – At-Large #2
Dave Ridgeway

Ratepayer – At-Large #3
Bob Landles (Vice Chair)

Ratepayer – At-Large #4
Vacant

Farm Rate Payer
Kurt Strotz

*Commercial, Industrial, and Other
Ratepayer*
Kelly Wynn

*Diking, Drainage, and Flood Control
Districts*
Vacant

Snohomish Conservation District
Steve Van Valkenburg

Snohomish Health District
Steve Rice

*Washington Department of
Ecology*
Colleen Crotty

*Washington 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 and Elisa Dawson

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Surface Water Management
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Meeting Summary – FINAL
Thursday, May 25, 2017 5:30 – 7:30 PM
Peace Lutheran Church, Silvana

Attendance

Board Members Present: Colleen Crotty, Graham Logen, Steve Rice, Dave Ridgeway, Dale Shelton, Steve Van Valkenburg, Miriam Lancaster

Board Members Excused: Bob Landles, Kurt Strotz, Kelly Wynn

SWM Staff: Sean Edwards

Guests: Max Albert, Bobbi Lindemulder, Francisco Santelices, Eric Schuh, Sam Sudore

Welcome, introductions, agenda review, and meeting summary

Clean Water District Advisory Board (CWDAB) Chair Dale Shelton opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. with introductions and review of the meeting agenda. Steve Van Valkenburg moved to approve the 4/27/17 meeting summary with a minor correction that he had requested before this meeting. Colleen Crotty seconded the motion. **All were in favor and the 4/27/17 meeting summary was approved as written.**

Sean Edwards provided hard copy information packets including the following materials:

- CWDAB 5/25/17 preliminary meeting agenda
- CWDAB 4/27/17 meeting summary draft
- Snohomish County stormwater policies need reform (5/7/17 Everett Herald article)
- SWM response to CWD Advisory Board's 2017 recommendations letter (5/11/17)
- Bob Landles' letter to Snohomish County Council regarding SWM consolidation and dissolution of CWDAB (5/15/17)
- SWM Director's response letter to Bob Landles (5/16/17)
- SCD letter of support for SWM consolidation (5/1/17)
- The Nature Conservancy letter of support for SWM consolidation (no date)
- SCD 2016 Work Plan Report Final to CWDAB (PowerPoint handout, 5/25/17)
- CWDAB letter of support for SCD assessment (5/25/17)
- CWDAB 2017 draft letter to Snohomish Health District (5/24/17)

Subcommittee reports

Stillaguamish Watershed Council (SWC): Dave Ridgeway reported that the SWC met on 5/24/17. The SWC discussed salmon habitat project proposals, including a North Fork riparian property acquisition and a Grant Creek large woody debris/riparian planting project.

Lakes: Miriam Lancaster reported that Lake Howard is the only lake in the CWD that has a caution sign posted for swimming due to water quality trends that may cause areas of toxic algae that could be a health threat for people and pets. Miriam also provided a written report on the implementation and funding status of the Lake Ketchum Algae Control project. The report provided a summary of projected and actual costs of the project from 2014 to 2017. Miriam also provided charts showing Lake Ketchum water level versus precipitation from 1995 to 2017. Since the alum treatment was started in 2014 there have been no toxic algae blooms in Lake Ketchum.

Snohomish-Stillaguamish Local Integrating Organization (LIO): Dale reported that Bob Landles was out sick, but that he had informed her that the LIO Implementation Committee had not met since the 4/27/17 CWDAB meeting.

Shellfish Protection: Sean Edwards reported that SWM had recently discussed the potential causes of and response to the impending downgrade of a portion of the Port Susan commercial shellfish growing area with the Washington Department of Health, Washington Department of Agriculture, and the Stillaguamish Tribe.

Finance: Steve Van Valkenburg reported that he had not yet received a response from SWM Financial Services Supervisor to the email that Steve had sent regarding questions about CWD financial information.

Discretionary Fund: Steve Van Valkenburg had nothing new to report regarding Discretionary Fund status, which continues to be on hold for new applications as directed by SWM Director Will Hall. Sean Edwards reported that the final inspection of the Feller-Thoms DF project was conducted with the Snohomish Conservation District and Washington Department of Ecology on May 8th. Sean and Elisa are now waiting to receive the final report and invoice from the grant recipient for reimbursement of eligible costs according to the DF grant contract.

SWM updates

Dale noted that there was no one at this CWDAB meeting to represent the SWM management team. As such Dale reported on the public testimony that was given at the 5/17/17 public hearing, which was conducted by the Snohomish County Council for proposed ordinance 17-020. CWDAB Members Graham Logen, Miriam Lancaster, Dale Shelton, Steve Van Valkenburg, and Stillaguamish Flood Control District representatives Chuck Hazleton and Max Albert all testified against the proposed ordinance. Council continued the public hearing to 6/7/17 and is continuing to take public comment. The Board discussed Councilman Nate Nehring's view of the proposed ordinance, which appears to be supportive based on Nate's understanding that it would potentially increase the amount of SWM resources that could be allocated to address surface water management needs in north Snohomish County. Dave Ridgeway and other Board members expressed their concern that the more populated areas of Snohomish County would capture more of SWM resources than less populated areas regardless of the legitimate needs for SWM services in less populated areas. Miriam Lancaster confirmed that when she spoke in opposition to the proposed ordinance at the public hearing, she was representing the consensus position of the Ketchum Shores Improvement Club.

Snohomish Conservation District (SCD) 2016 Accomplishments and 2017 Work Plan

Bobbi Lindemulder presented a PowerPoint summary of SCD's 2016 accomplishments and 2017 work plan.

CWDAB letter of support for SCD's proposed assessment

Steve Van Valkenburg presented a draft letter of support for SCD's proposed assessment that would increase county-wide the SCD's per parcel annual assessment from \$5 to \$10. The proposed assessment would also be expanded to include the CWD, which has not been assessed the \$5 per parcel in lieu of the CWD fee revenue allocated by code to SCD. Under SWM's proposed ordinance to consolidate the three SWM fee areas, the dedicated SCD allocation would be eliminated. Approval by the Snohomish County Council is required for SCD to implement its proposed assessment. Steve moved for the Board to approve the letter of support and it was seconded by Colleen. Steve clarified that, if approved, the SCD assessment would add \$10 per parcel for CWD ratepayers. And if the proposed ordinance to consolidate the three SWM fee areas is approved by Council, then none of the SWM fee revenue from the Stillaguamish CWD would be allocated to SCD. Dale moved to table the draft letter of support until the next CWDAB meeting and it was seconded by Colleen. The motion to table was approved.

Finalize annual recommendations letter to Snohomish Health District

Dale Shelton led the Board's review and editing of the draft letter to the Snohomish Health District. The draft letter was prepared by Dale. After making various edits to the letter, the Board unanimously approved it for signature by the Chair and Vice Chair. Sean will coordinate with the Chair and Vice Chair to get their signatures and to distribute the final letter as soon as possible after the Memorial Day weekend.

Create subcommittee to draft recommendations letter to SCD

Steve and Dale volunteered to draft the next recommendations letter to SCD, which the Board will finalize at its June 29th meeting. Dale requested that suggestions for the draft letter should be sent to the subcommittee by Friday, June 2nd.

Meeting review, new business, and public comment

Graham Logen noted that SCD has worked with the French Slough Drainage District in the Snohomish River watershed to plant a hedgerow riparian buffer. He would like to see similar assistance provided by SCD to Drainage District 7.

Miriam commented that she volunteered for the WSU Extension BEACH Program's marine water sampling training for Beach Watcher volunteers. The purpose of this sampling is to evaluate swim-ability of marine water at the south end of Warm Beach.

Max noted that by the time of the Board's next regularly scheduled meeting on June 28th, the Board will know the outcome of the Snohomish County Council's decision on the proposed ordinance to consolidate the SWM fee areas.

Sean noted that this Board meeting is the last of the five meetings this year that SWM Director Will Hall had agreed to provide staff support for. Sean thanked the Board for working with him and for their dedicated volunteer service to the Stillaguamish watershed community and to Snohomish County.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, June 28, 2017, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Peace Lutheran Church, Fireside Room.

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