

Meeting Summary - FINAL
Thursday, March 1, 2011 5:30 – 7:30 PM
Peace Lutheran Church, Silvana

BOARD MEMBERS

*Single Family-North
Fork Stillaguamish*
Bill Best

*Single Family-South
Fork Stillaguamish*
Mike Wolanek

*Single Family-Main
Stem Stillaguamish*
Vacant

Single Family-Lakes
Bruce Black

Single Family-UGA
Vacant

Single Family-At-Large
Herm van Lier

Single Family-At-Large
Dave Ridgeway

Single Family-At-Large
Christine Betchley (Vice
Chair)

Farm Rate Payer
John Connolly (Chair)

*Retail, Industrial, Other
Rate Payer*
Kelly Wynn

*Stillaguamish Flood
Control District*
Max Albert

*Snohomish
Conservation
District*
Bobbi Lindemulder

*Wash.
Department of
Ecology*
Vacant

*Wash. Department of
Fish and Wildlife*
Doug Hennick

*Stillaguamish
Tribe*
Gina Gray

Tulalip Tribes
Cathy Stanley

*Surface Water
Management Staff*
Sean Edwards

*Snohomish Health
District Staff*
Brent Raasina

Attendance

Board Members Present: Max Albert, Bill Best, Christine Betchley, John Connolly, Gina Gray, Doug Hennick, Caitlin Price (for Bobbi Lindemulder), Dave Ridgeway, Herm van Lier, Mike Wolanek

Board Members Excused: Bruce Black

Board Members Absent: Cathy Stanley, Kelly Wynn

SWM Staff: Peggy Campbell, Sean Edwards, Stef Frenzl, Mike McGuinness, Debbie Terwilliger

SHD Staff: Brent Raasina

Guests: Ray Brown, Ellen Hiatt, Monte Marti, Steve VanValkenburg

Welcome, introductions, agenda review, and meeting summary

CWD Advisory Board Chair John Connolly opened the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

Sean Edwards provided hard copies of the following materials:

- CWDAB 3/1/11 meeting agenda (rescheduled from 2/24/11 due to bad weather)
- CWDAB 1/27/11 revised meeting summary
- Shellfish protection update for 2/24/11 CWD Advisory Board meeting
- Upper Skagit Indian Tribe comment letter regarding Stillaguamish Shellfish Protection Program
- Stillaguamish Shellfish Protection Program final report, March 1, 2011
- "Watershed Councils: It Takes a Community to Restore a Watershed" article from Pacific Northwest Research Station, Science Findings Newsletter, Issue 129, January 2011.

John reviewed the draft agenda. **The 1/27/11 revised meeting summary was approved with additional edits.**

Subcommittee reports

John reported that the Finance Subcommittee had not met since the last 1/27/11 CWD Advisory Board meeting, but that it intends to schedule a meeting with SWM staff before the 3/24/11 CWD Advisory Board meeting.

Sean reviewed highlights of the following shellfish protection activities completed since the 1/27/11 CWD Advisory Board meeting:

1. Partnership Building

- Met w/ Septic Issues Committee at SHD (2/4/11)
- Discussed shellfish research questions with UW Scientist Alan Trimble (2/4/11)
- SHD sanitarian services agreement approved by Executive Reardon (2/16/11)

2. Bacterial Pollution Source Identification and Control

- Developing detailed work plan for Stilly MWQA
- Compiling and synthesizing existing fecal coliform data
- Producing maps for Stilly MWQA stakeholder workshop (draft)

3. Direct Landowner Assistance

- Developed marketing plan for Discretionary Fund (part of E&O Strategic Action Plan)
- Started scoping new brochure for Discretionary Fund

4. Public Education and Outreach

- Completed CWD Education & Outreach Strategic Action Plan for 2011

- Developed SWM/SCD combined list of events to target for CWD outreach
- SWM & SCD co-sponsoring Port Susan Snow Goose Festival (Feb. 26-27, Stanwood)
- Developed CWD display for Snow Goose Festival and other events

Sean also provided hard copies of the final Stillaguamish Shellfish Protection Program report. **Sean will reaffirm the Shellfish Protection subcommittee members and schedule a meeting with them to scope the annual review and update process for the Shellfish Protection Program.** The Shellfish Protection subcommittee members originally included Chris Betchley, Jennifer Whitney, Cathy Stanley, and Bobbi Lindemulder. Jennifer resigned from the CWD Advisory Board last fall and was replaced by Doug Hennick. Cathy and Bobbi are in the process of resigning to be replaced by new appointments from the Tulalip Tribes and Snohomish Conservation District respectively, following confirmation by the Snohomish County Council.

Sean recommended that the CWD Advisory Board form a new subcommittee to work with SWM staff to scope a CWD Discretionary Fund workshop for potential project sponsors, review Discretionary Fund project applications, and make Discretionary Fund recommendations to the full Board. **The CWD Advisory Board unanimously agreed to form the Discretionary Fund Subcommittee, including Max Albert, John Connolly, Gina Gray, Brent Raasina, and a representative from the Snohomish Conservation District. Sean will schedule a Discretionary Fund Subcommittee meeting as soon as possible. The Discretionary Fund Subcommittee will specifically address questions related to eligibility of on-site septic system repairs, eligibility of education and outreach projects that do not have on-the-ground elements, use of Discretionary Fund for projects on public land, and potential cost-share requirements for all types of projects.**

Surface Water Management 2010 accomplishments and 2011 work plan

Mike McGuinness presented a PowerPoint overview of SWM's 2010 accomplishments and 2011 work plan for the CWD. He also provided hard copies of a narrative summary report and a spreadsheet listing all CWD revenue allocations by SWM work program and project. In his presentation Mike highlighted key projects within each of SWM's work programs. Bill Best expressed concern about SWM's allocation of RCW 90.72 (shellfish protection) revenues to the Stillaguamish Temperature TMDL project because the Washington Department of Ecology grant contract for that project specifically states that it is primarily intended for salmon recovery. The Board and SWM agreed to discuss this at the next joint SWM/Finance Subcommittee meeting.

CWD Education and Outreach 2011 Strategic Action Plan

Peggy Campbell presented a PowerPoint overview of the CWD Education and Outreach 2011 Strategic Action Plan. Hard copies of the presentation were provided.

Presentation highlights:

- SWM, SCD, and CWD Advisory Board representatives (E/O Team) started the strategic planning process in August, 2010, presented a status report at the 10/28/10 CWD Advisory Board meeting, and finished defining action items in February, 2011.
- Vision: Foster individual and community awareness and stewardship of the Stillaguamish River watershed to restore clean water, manage storm and flood waters, and ensure healthy aquatic systems.
- Strategy: 1) Understand the Audience, 2) Build Awareness, and 3) Encourage Stewardship.
- The E/O Team brainstormed and prioritized over 80 actions with high priority actions being the focus for 2011 and medium and lower priority actions to receive future consideration.
- Action items were organized by strategy and identified as part of existing work programs of SWM and Snohomish Conservation District (SCD), new work to be done by SWM and SCD, and work to be considered for funding by the CWD Discretionary Fund (DF).
- Strategy 1 actions:
 - Conduct background research on how to effectively reach target audiences (SWM)
 - Host kitchen meetings and "get in touch" events (SCD)
- Strategy 2 actions:
 - Develop core messages for CWD water quality issues (SWM)
 - Develop informational brochure geared to landowners regarding the Discretionary Fund (SWM)
 - Conduct Microbial Water Quality Assessment (SWM)

- Expand stream crossing sign project to additional sub-basins (SWM)
- Develop outreach to fishers and recreational users of the Stillaguamish River (potential DF)
- Strategy 3 actions:
 - Livestock owner outreach program (SCD)
 - Pet Waste Management Program (SWM)
 - On-site Septic System outreach (Snohomish Health District / SWM)
 - Streamside Landowner Workshops (SWM)
 - Lake Shoreline Nutrient Reduction Project, 2011-2012 (SWM)
 - Develop a Lake Ketchum Algae Control Plan, 2011-2012 (SWM)
 - Investigate feasibility of other actions such as financial hardship assistance program to repair failed septic systems (potential DF)
 - Pet waste stations and signs on public lands – parks, trails, river access (potential DF)
 - Port-o-potties and signs at river access locations on public lands (potential DF)
- Action items for future consideration:
 - Continue to expand on work initiated with 2011 Action Items
 - Develop and implement a shared Marketing Campaign to help deliver core messages (SCD, SWM)
 - Partner with existing organizations within CWD to integrate core messages

Max Albert expressed concern about the proposed use of CWD Discretionary Fund for education and outreach with fishers and recreational users and for projects on public land. He also confirmed the Board's previously stated desire to institute a hardship cost-share program to fix leaking OSS. Debbie Terwilliger assured the Board that SWM is also eager and working hard to define policy and procedures for such a program, including process steps to screen for legitimate hardship. Monte Marti noted that the SCD is already chartered and involved in other cost-share assistance programs, and might play a role in a new OSS program. Mike Wolanek expressed concerns about certain aspects of the Education and Outreach proposal, which may be resolved when Mike has had a chance to review the detailed project priority lists. He will bring any remaining concerns to the next CWDAB meeting. Herm van Lier noted that he talked with a Camano Island shoreline landowner at the Snow Goose Festival who suggested that non-commercial cultivation of shellfish on private tidelands is an effective way of raising public awareness about water quality.

Snohomish Health District organizational overview and 2011 work plan

Brent discussed the organizational history, structure, and function of the Snohomish Health District (SHD) and answered questions about Snohomish Health District's 2011 work plan for the CWD. The SHD was created by charter in 1959 (see SHD web site for more details at <http://www.snohd.org>). The mission of the SHD is to "...improve the health of individuals, families and communities through disease prevention, health promotion and protection from environmental threats." A 15-member Board of Health, composed of local county and city elected officials, oversees the policy and budget of the SHD. The "North District", which covers the CWD, includes Snohomish County Councilman John Koster, Stanwood Mayor Dianne White, and Marysville Councilwoman Donna Wright. The Board of Health hires a Health Officer to manage the SHD. The current Health Officer is Dr. Gary Goldbaum. SHD recently hired a Deputy Administrator Jeff Clarke. The SHD is organized into three divisions: Environmental Health, Communicable Disease, and Community Health. The Environmental Health Division handles on-site septic system permitting, design review, and correction of failures. **Brent invited the CWD Advisory Board to participate in SHD's stakeholder process for scoping a "point of sale verification" program for on-site septic systems. Sean will send an email to CWD Advisory Board Members with a description of the project and details on the stakeholder process.**

Snohomish Conservation District 2010 accomplishments and 2011 work plan

Caitlin Price presented a PowerPoint overview the Snohomish Conservation District's 2010 accomplishments and 2011 work plan for the CWD. Caitlin provided flyers for SCD's 2011 Conservation Awards Reception on 3/24/11.

Presentation highlights:

- Compared SCD's 2010 work requirements for the CWD to the actual work SCD accomplished in 2010.
- Summarized 2010 SCD cost-share expenditures and the process of implementing cost-share projects with

landowners.

- Presented accomplishments in 2010 for implementation of Warm Beach Christian Camp's farm plan.
- Summarized 2010 activities related to information and education activities; media and public recognition; and fairs, festivals, and community events.
- Summarized results of 2010 small farm survey completed in the Glade Bekken subbasin.
- The Warm Beach small farm survey will be repeated in 2011 as the 2010 survey data was inconclusive.
- Briefly discussed recommendations for conducting small farm surveys in the future.
- Reviewed the scope of work for the 2011 farm planning services contract with Snohomish County.
- New activities in the 2011 scope of work:
 - Participate in SWM's Stillaguamish Bacteria Microbial Water Quality Assessment
 - Implement manure spreader rental and soil testing program (subject to approval by County prosecuting attorney)
 - Use \$55,000 of CWD Discretionary Fund to address horse manure waste storage and removal problem
 - Conduct small farm surveys in the Warm Beach, Fish Creek, and Portage Creek subbasins

Bill's prior e-mailed inputs discussing issues and concerns about the manure spreader program were briefly discussed. Debbie assured the Board that this proposal will have full legal review and approval by the Prosecuting Attorney's office prior to implementation.

Public comment and new business

For his upcoming Discretionary Fund project proposal, Max asked for feedback from the CWD Advisory Board on whether it would prefer to see Bank Savers (a low risk inmate work crew led by Stillaguamish Tribe staff) or a private contractor install a 1,400-foot fence to keep livestock out of March Creek. The Board expressed no concerns about working with Bank Savers.

Ellen Hiatt expressed her support for and interest in helping to implement SWM's Lake Nutrient Management Pilot Project, which will focus on education and outreach in the Lake Howard area. Ellen is a Lake Howard shoreline resident and she is a professional communications consultant.

The CWD Advisory Board re-iterated its appreciation for the thorough and detailed reports from all the presenters.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 24, 2011, 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>.