



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Cathy Wolfe  
District One  
Diane Oberquell  
District Two  
Robert N. Macleod  
District Three

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**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

Michael Welter  
Director

Nisqually Reach and Henderson Inlet Shellfish Protection Districts  
Combined Oversight Committee  
(Draft) Meeting Notes August 10, 2005

**Members:** Steve Langer, Tris Carlson, Linda Malatesta, Lisa Dennis-Perez, Peter Heide, and Bryan Wilson

**Alternates:** None

**Guests:** Mark Fischer (Puget Sound Restoration Fund)  
Chris Hempleman (Ecology)  
Andy Maris – citizen, and septic pumper

**County Staff:** Mark J. Swartout, Art Starry, and Linda Hofstad

1. Administration:
  - A. Introductions
  - B. Approved the Agenda
  - C. Delayed approving the May 11, 2005 Meeting Notes
2. Discussed July 7<sup>th</sup> public workshop.
  - A. There were about 100 citizens.
  - B. Everyone seemed to agree that there was a problem; however there was disagreement on the low-risk systems contribution.
  - C. Two letters were distributed.
  - D. If only high-risk systems were included the cost for each homeowner would rise to about \$140.
  - E. The public hearing is scheduled for 9/27/05 at 6:30 P.M. There will 3 listening posts set up for early arrivals.
  - F. Discussed the new state regulations regarding septic O&M
    - 1) Puget Sound counties will have two years to identify whether septic systems are causing surface water degradation.
    - 2) Counties will have one year to develop a plan to address managing septic systems.
    - 3) WDOH has to develop a model O&M program.
  - G. General discussion.
    - 1) Need to describe the benefits received by including low-risk systems in the program.

- 2) Some counties are providing rebates using grant money from state and federal sources. The county needs to explore whether this can also be offered.
  - 3) The committee agreed to:
    - a. Keep the proposed program as is.
    - b. Change the 2005 Shellfish Protection Fund task from provide up to \$500 loan to a grant.
3. Updates:
- A. TMDL:
    - 1) Debbie Sargent is leaving Ecology to go to Dept. of Health to replace Don Melvin.
    - 2) Henderson – a draft technical study will be ready in a few weeks.. Parameters are fecal coliform, dissolved oxygen, and pH.
  - B. Community Shellfish Farm (CSF) – Activities include a Streamteam Camp, work with the People for Puget Sound, several work sessions, harvesting due on Oct. 13-15.
  - C. Low Impact Development –work is progressing with a product due from the consultants by mid to end September.
  - D. Critical Areas Ordinance –The County will hold two open houses (1) on Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 in Swede Hall in Rochester, (2) Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> Courthouse Bldg. 1, Room 152, a public hearing before the planning commission on August 24<sup>th</sup> at 6 P.M.
  - E. Discussed the Growth Management Hearings Board Order.
  - F. Future Updates need to include reports on the Woodland Creek Pollutant Load Study grant project.
4. Guest expressed concerns:
- A. Concern that the low risk system fee included 50% for administrative overhead.
  - B. The overhead could be reduced by allowing pumpers to electronically input their forms rather than submitting paper forms. This would reduce the need for staff to input data.
  - C. There should be other ways to reduce the overhead cost.
5. Discussed ideas for the 2006 Shellfish Protection Fund projects:
- A. Need to do additional work on stormwater issues. The Intergovernmental Agreement restricts contributions to activities with funding sources. It reads in part.  
Part B: Section XIV,B2 – The Shellfish Protection Fund shall only be used for new or continuing programs and activities of the District or County to improve water quality and shellfish resource conservation within the Henderson Inlet and Nisqually Reach Shellfish Protection Districts that are not fully funded from other sources.
  - B. Enforcement – explore the cost of doing a study to assess how enforcement could be improved.
  - C. Purchase of conservation easements and fee simple purchase.
  - D. Agriculture – Follow up on the implementation of farm plans.
  - E. Use the TMDL to help focus future funding.
6. Adjourn