



THURSTON COUNTY
WASHINGTON
SINCE 1852

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OFFICE OF PROGRAM AND BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Cathy Wolfe
District One
Diane Oberquell
District Two
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District Three

Nisqually Reach Shellfish Protection District
Stakeholder Group
Meeting Notes of January 8, 2003

Present

Committee: Donita Zblewski, Greg Tolbert, Matt Smith, Jeff Schilter, Pamela Buldis, Tris Carlson, Lisa Dennis-Perez, Linda Malatesta, and Bryan Wilson.
Alternates: Fred Michelson (Christine Buckley)
Staff: Mark Swartout and Fred Knostman
Guest: Stu Glasoe (PSWQAT)

I. Administration:

- a. Introductions were made.
- b. Approved Agenda
- c. Meeting notes December 4th were approved.

II. Updates:

- a. TMDL – Distributed Debbie Sargent’s email stating they sampled December after it had been raining and had some high fecal coliform counts.
- b. Provided an update on the Henderson SPD mostly that the HISPD is interested in a coordinated response and that the contact lists have been shared.
- c. Natural Lands update – Fred Knostman was present to respond to the groups request for more information. The initially asked three questions:
 - i. What is the planning process for adoption?
 1. The County is being required by GMA to update its Comprehensive Plan (every ten years).
 2. The County is doing the update incrementally with the Chapter 3 Natural Lands and Chapter 9 Natural Environment including the Critical Areas Ordinance to be completed in 2003. The rest will be later including Chapter 2 Land Use in 2004 or 2005.
 - a. Also, included in this year packet is the quasi-judicial changes and property owner requests.
 - b. A non-project SEPA will be performed on the whole package before an action is taken by the Board after all the elements have gone through the Planning Commission, their public hearings, and a recommendation is forwarded to the Commissioners.
 - c. The whole Comprehensive Plan package will go to the Board for action in mid-2003, with the Critical Areas Ordinance revisions later.

- ii. Discussed the docket process. Changes to the Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations are done only once each year. Due to the complexity of the process dockets are created and approved in the previous year. Two dockets are approved one for the Comprehensive Plan and one for the County Regulations for the next year. The dockets are published and reviewed by the Commissioners. Changes can be made to the docket with the Commissioners input and approval. The docket for changes to the Comprehensive Plan is done in July and for Development Regulations in October. If any additional changes are needed after the dockets are approved they will need to wait until the next year's docket process.
- iii. Any recommendations from the shellfish district that would change either development regulations or the Comprehensive Plan will need to follow the docket timelines. Changes to regulations pertaining to on-site sewage or stormwater issues don't apply.
- iv. What is the county's response to the public comments about the lack of SEPA review? Non-project SEPA review is taken just prior to an action – in this case the action is the approval by the Board on changes to the Comprehensive Plan. SEPA can't be done prior to this step because the proposals continue to change through input from the public hearing process and the Planning Commission. Once this process is completed and is taken to the Board for approval Non-Project SEPA occurs. It's important to understand that additional project specific SEPA review occurs when permits are applied for.
- v. Provide a more in-depth discussion on staff's Aquaculture recommendations and what are the impacts.
 - 1. The recommended changes to the Aquaculture section sets the goals, objectives, and policy language that will allow the district recommendations to apply.
 - 2. Fred read off the 3 recommended Action Items:
 - a. Regulations affecting shoreline development, critical area protection, public health and water quality should be reevaluated and improved to preserve the ability of commercial and recreational harvesters to use the shellfish resource. County ordinances should be updated as new information on shellfish protection becomes available as a result of Shellfish Protection District and state agencies studies.
 - b. The County, in cooperation with the Washington State Department of Health, should continue regular, ongoing water quality monitoring of marine waters, watersheds and ground-water.
 - c. The County, in cooperation with the Thurston Conservation District, WSU-Cooperative Extension, and other agencies, should implement education programs for residents of watersheds draining into shellfish growing areas classified by the state Department of Health. Such education should focus on how to reduce land use activities that threaten downstream shellfish harvest areas.

III. Discussed having an Editorial Committee, which will focus the monthly meetings discussions on substantive changes rather than word smithing. It was decided that the County and assistance from Greg will provide adequate editing resources.

IV. Subgroup Updates:

- a. Septic – Donita, Linda (lead), Pam, and Tris – provided their next draft of their white paper. There was much discussion and suggestions to the sub-group. The group agreed to arrange meeting with county staff.
- b. Stormwater – a draft paper will be completed soon and sent to County stormwater for review.
- c. Agriculture — Jeff (lead), Matt, and David – had their first meeting and a paper is being developed.
- d. Land-use – Bryan (lead), Fred, and David – The group will provide Mark some main issues they want to put in a white paper. Mark will assist in writing the paper.
- e. Background – Mark distribute the first draft.

V. Agenda for the February 5th meeting – Bryan is the chair.

- a. Administration. - Introductions (?), Agenda, and approve meeting notes.
- b. Updates including:
 - i. TMDL project.
 - ii. Henderson Shellfish Protection District.
 - iii. Any other issues.
- c. Report from Chris Mann about the volunteer water quality program in the Nisqually basin.
- d. Subcommittee meeting outcomes.
 - i. Report update –
 1. Stormwater
 2. Agriculture
 3. On-Site paper
- e. Agenda for February 5th meeting.

VI. Public Comment – none during the allotted time.

VII. Adjourn at 9:00 PM

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