



THURSTON COUNTY
WASHINGTON
SINCE 1852

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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District Two
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District Three

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Sherri McDonald, RN, MPA
Director
Diana T. Yu, MD, MSPH
Health Officer

Risk-Based O&M Program Project: Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes from March 23, 2004

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Members Present: Chair - Steve Langer, Henderson SPD
Roy Iwai, City of Olympia, Henderson SPD
Peter Heide, Henderson SPD
David Hall, Thurston Conservation District Supervisor
Terry Hull, Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team
Mike Petit, WRIA 13 Planning Unit
Randy Jackson, Certified Septic System Designer
Diane Cooper, Shellfish Industry
Daimon Doyle, Olympia Master Builders
Jerry Yamashita, Shellfish Industry and Henderson Shellfish Protection District

Staff: Linda Hofstad, Environmental Health
Steve Petersen, Environmental Health
Art Starry, Environmental Health
Mark Swartout, Development Services

Guests present: Mark Fischer, Community Shellfish Farm Project
Jim Dawson, People for Puget Sound

1. The Shellfish Activities Report was distributed.
2. Enforcement was discussed:
 - A. Handout – “Enforcement” – Gree colored - Discussed each of the elements. The following discussion items are highlighted:
 - 1) How will the County get everyone in the District their first certificate? Everyone agreed that the certificates would be issued in a staggered order to avoid having them all be renewed at the same time.
 - 2) Should enforcement vary by degree of risk? Everyone agreed to follow a prescribed pattern of enforcement noted below.
 - 3) Does enforcement have to be equal to all? Everyone agreed that it should be

applied equally to all.

- 4) Everyone agreed to the following order of enforcement.
 - a. 60 days prior to certificate needing renewal – a renewal letter will be sent to the property owner.
 - b. 30 days after the renewal date – a warning letter will be sent listing the sequence of events that will occur unless the certificate is renewed.
 - c. 60 days after the renewal date – (unless a repair permit has been applied for in which case the following actions will be suspended)
 - i. Send a Notice of non-compliance.
 - ii. Make the non-compliance a “public record”.
 - iii. Flag the parcel so no permitting activity can occur while in non-compliance.
 - d. 90 days after the renewal date – issue a civil infraction.
 - e. 120 days – court order.
- 5) Add a reinstatement fee if the septic system owner when they reinstate the certificate after the renewal date. The fee would have two increments to capture administrative costs. The first increment would include administrative costs when only 4b (above) has occurred. The second increment would also capture the administrative costs when 4c (above) has occurred.

3. Program Funding and Financing was discussed:

- A. Handout – “Program Funding and Financing” – purple sheet - This handout breaks down the issue by categories – Legislative Authority, Billing Mechanism, Billing Formula, and Incentives with Pros, Cons, and Notes.
 - 1) Legislative Authority – it was agreed that the County Health Department was the best choice.
 - 2) Billing Mechanism – the group was about evenly divided on whether this revenue should be collected on property tax statements or by invoice collection.
 - 3) Billing Formula – it was agreed to use the hybrid recommendation.
 - a. Should the fee be on all parcels regardless of whether they have a septic system or have sewer? A PAO will respond to this question.
 - b. If the fee would apply to all including a flat fee to pay administrative costs (including property owners connected to sewer), then a higher fee for septic owners based on risk.
 - 4) Incentives – it was agreed that positive incentives shouldn’t be used.
 - 5) Who takes responsibility for the portion of the sewer system from the house to the main sewer line? This needs to be research for an accurate answer.

4. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting scheduled for April 14, 2004 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.