

THURSTON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes for July 26, 2018

Members present: Richard Mankamyer (Chair); Mary DiMatteo (Vice-Chair); Bryan Fisher; Chris Groen; Joe Hanna; Eric Johnson; Robert McIntosh (Scribe).

Ex Officio present: Stephen Bramwell, WSU Extension Director.

Absent: Kevin Jensen; Pat Labine; Mike Moore, Scott Von; Deborah Bordelon (Thurston County staff); Nicole Warren (Thurston Conservation District).

Guests: None.

Preliminary Actions. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roundtable introduction of members and staff. The June meeting minutes were approved unanimously as presented. The current agenda was approved with the addition of a discussion of timing of the Committee's comments on the draft of the Comprehensive Plan.

Changes to Committee By-Laws. The Committee reviewed and approved Robert's suggested language on appointment of alternates and review by the Committee of prospective new members. Members suggested and the Committee approved the following additional changes: (1) strike the last sentence of the first paragraph of Article II; (2) in the seventh line of the third paragraph of Article II, strike "Long Range" and replace it with "Community"; (3) in the ninth line of the same paragraph, strike "Department" and change "(CPEDD)" to "(CPED)"; (4) eliminate the bold face type in the four paragraphs of Article III describing the duties of the Chair, Vice-Chair, By-Law Compliance Officer, and Administrative Assistant; and (5) eliminate the "track changes" format and put the By-Laws in final form for distribution to Committee Members. Robert will complete this task before the September meeting.

Review draft of August 22 presentation to BOCC. The Committee reviewed Robert's draft of our upcoming presentation to the BOCC. Several possible changes to the draft were suggested by Committee members. It was agreed that Robert, this month's scribe, would summarize these suggestions in a email to Committee members, with the decision on which of these suggestions to include in the final presentation being left to Richard, who will actually make the presentation to the BOCC.

Timing of Committee Comments on the Comprehensive Plan. The Committee agreed that Stephen would track the release of the Comp Plan and the deadline for comments on

it, and inform the Committee by email if any action by us is required before our September meeting.

Public Comments. None.

Green Sheets. None.

WSU Extension Update. Stephen reported on the following: (1) barley field day; (2) his work with 21 local grain producers to build a grain storage facility; (3) a study of value added food processing, with a session scheduled at the Farmer's Market for August 11 to determine the level of interest among institutional buyers and CSA providers; and (4) his prairie grazing study of the endangered species habitat quality of grazed vs. un-grazed land.

Thurston Conservation District Update. Richard reported on the District's involvement in the Voluntary Stewardship Program and the individual plans being developed under that Program.

News Sharing. Short discussion on drought issues, including water rights curtailment in the Chehalis River basin. Input from farmers is being sought.

Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.