



Clean Water Advisory Committee

January 16, 2020 8:30–10:30

Friday Harbor Grange

Committee Members in Attendance: Vicki Heater (on the phone), Kyle Loring, Judy Meyer (on the phone), Bob Naiman (on the phone), Laura Jo Severson, Kyle Dodd, Kim Sundberg, Matt Clausen

Ex-officio and County support staff: Jolyn Leslie (on the phone), Mike Pickett (on the phone), Byron Rot, Kendra Smith, Buck Smith

9:29 Welcome and introductions

- Approval of September and November meeting minutes

MOTION: Kim moves to approve, Laura Jo seconds. All in favor, minutes approved

- Agency Updates

Jo Lyn: a couple of items on funding for State revolving fund,

- this summer we'll do a special main replacement funding cycle, if anyone has main replacement projects this year. There will be specific guidelines, priority given to systems with high percent leakage -also, we will have grants for source water protection

-PFOS rule that I mentioned last meeting – comment period extended to end of January

Buck: one quick update – on December 31st snowpack was about 50% of normal, now already over 85% from snow in Mountains over the past 2 weeks. As of a couple of months ago Mountain lake was full.

Kyle Dodd: a couple updates,

- Lopez groundwater monitoring network, still need coordinating with all parties to complete field work
- State dept. of Health did a shoreline survey in Westcott Bay, found high fecal coliform in 2019. Issue is drainage at head of Westcott bay, possibly small agricultural issues. Conservation District and County Health to do a clean-up project there, already summarized sewage systems on site. DOH may need to make small closure, waiting on results from field visit first. Closure won't extend to shellfish farms.

9:35 AM Groundwater discussion, where how to move forward.

-propose to move this discussion to the next meeting (March) following Vicki Heater's presentation

ACTION ITEM: Homework for next meeting – everyone should read the 2004 Water Management Plan

- Kyle Dodd email on current USGS study and discussion

Paul, Kendra

-We have a draft proposal, USGS is hoping to:

1. evaluate available ground and surface water and compare to meteorological data
2. update recharge estimates (last done by USGS in 2002) using updated Lidar, looking at bedrock
3. Update water balance (estimate withdrawals etc.) and compare with recharge

Groundwater subcommittee should discuss what is gained, will it be specific enough to be useful?

\$140K cost – USGS will set aside \$50K. Senator Lovelett going to Legislature for the additional \$90K

Kim: It will be important for a new study to get better fine-scale precipitation data

Kendra: I'm most concerned about the last 20 years, how is precipitation trending now. Maybe we can do some of that prep work leading up to the USGS study to be confident it will be useful for the Islands. For consumption: do we have enough people metering? can we go around reading meters?

Mike Pickett suggestion on groundwater studies

-email I sent covered Vicki's 2004 study and some other data, we'll address it in subcommittee

- also I put in a meter a couple months ago, \$400, I know my daily usage and get warned about leaks.

9:46 AM Freshwater

- Cascade Creek update

Kim: There wasn't a successful coho spawning in stream this past year, one female reported. There was continuous flow in the creek after Rosario volunteered release of water. They are preparing a grant application to SRFB in 2020 round to purchase water right from Rosario for the purpose of sustaining a salmon run. Landbank (owner of the coho reserve property) will put together proposal. Need some local authority to monitor, and a remote monitoring gauge. This is a year-round issue, need continuous freshwater throughout the year to support both juvenile salmon and adult spawning requirements.

Byron: Land Bank should also consider Olga and Doe Bay rights, they don't use all their water rights

Buck: as far as compliance, Dept. of Ecology uses Water Masters. a local entity can appoint a 'stream patrolman'. That person has legal authority to make adjustments on diversions to ensure water.

- Crescent Beach feasibility study – *Byron*

This was partially funded, we are applying for remaining funding. Looking at feasibility of a bridge or large culvert to allow tidal lagoon flow. Also at sediment dynamics along that shoreline that may be relevant to the long term functionality of the road. Not presently looking at removing the road

- False Bay Preserve restoration update

Grant for Red Mill farm to do fencing/planting, new water facilities to get the cows out of the creek. We'll find out January 20th if we get that grant. False Bay reserve has been planted. Plans to put in a new water line. Current water line is under the creek, planning on directional drilling, not excavation

- Fish Trap

Fish trap is flowing, 3.5" going out from pond. The pond doesn't hold much water.

Judy: there was concern that existing culverts wouldn't be adequate to support flow?

Byron: current culvert needs to be replaced, tricky to find funding. It's not a Chinook watershed.

ACTION ITEM: Byron will look into this situation further and report at next meeting

- West Beach creek culvert

Completed, ribbon-cutting Dec. 12th. Approx. 25 people came out, council members, news reporter.

10:20 Recommendation for CWAC to meet every odd month, and Freshwater and Groundwater subcommittees to meet even months. If approved members decide on subcommittee participation.

The idea is to do a deeper dive in subcommittees and then report back. Meetings don't need to be at the same times, each subcommittee can decide. If membership overlaps, we'll plan accordingly.

ACTION ITEM: Kendra will follow up with Paul to find if third Thursdays of month will still work for him

- State Agency reps can mostly attend main meetings, maybe some subcommittees when required

MOTION: Kim moves to move main meeting to odd-numbered months, subcommittees (ground and surface water but could be others in future) to even months, in support of recommendation on agenda. Judy seconds. All in favor, none opposed. MOTION passes

Kyle Dodd is coordinator of ground-water, Byron coordinator of the surface-water committee

ACTION ITEM: Kyle and Byron will communicate electronically to schedule surface and ground water subcommittee meetings for February. This room is scheduled for third Thursday of every month

Next full committee meeting will be in March, Vicki will deliver planned presentation at that meeting

Judy: whole committee should hear that presentation and not just subcommittees

10:28 Public Comment - none

10:29 Adjourn