



SKAGIT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

**1800 Continental Place
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Skagit County Agriculture Advisory Board February 17, 2010

Minutes

Members in Attendance

Nels Lagerlund, Mike Hulbert (proxy for Greg Lee), Kraig Knutzen, Kim Mower, Bill McMoran(proxy for Bob Hughes), Randy good, Jim Carstens, Nate Youngquist, Lyle Wesen, Murray Benjamin

Members not in attendance: Greg Lee, Bob Hughes

Others in Attendance

Commissioners Ron Wesen, Sharon Dillon, Ken Dahlsted
Speaker Mac Kaufman – DOE Water Quality Specialist
Carly Ruach0 - Skagit Planning and Development Services
Kendra Smith – NRL Policy Coordinator
Carolyn Kelly – Skagit Soil Conservation
John Schuh – NRCS

All other attendees are listed at the end of this document.

Call to Order, Consent Agenda, Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Chair Nels at 6:01PM. The agenda was noted as no changes and introductions around the board members commenced.

Minutes

Review of the Minutes from the January meeting was postponed.

Guest Speaker

Mac Kaufman gave a presentation of water quality problems on the Samish River. The focus is on human sources of pollution as there is no control over wildlife. The water has high fecal coli form pollution causing a public health concern and closing shellfish harvests. Two common sources are from livestock and septic systems. He showed pictures of typical runoff pollution sources from livestock and talked about how he works with farmers to help eliminate the problem. He demonstrated how some watering systems are located to close too waterways and animals not fenced properly away from streams. He talked about how DOE has been authorized by the EPA to have authority over water quality. He gave information about how the citizens of the state are responsible to prevent pollution from entering the streams. Dave English from Skagit County Health Department does septic inspection. He stressed DOE does not enter property without permission, and always makes a reasonable effort to gain voluntary

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compliance with RCW 90.48.080. When a problem is noted, the DOE starts with a visit to give a verbal warning, followed with warning letters if needed. He reviewed a typical Ecology site inspection, usually implemented by a roadside viewing. Focus is 2 fold; identifying ag problematic areas, then work on a Farm Plan with Conservation District. He then reviewed the enforcement process. He stressed voluntary compliance. Efforts to educate, get the message out. He explained enforcement protocol. He explained the CAFO permit penalty for manure discharge. Formal enforcement entails 1) Notice of Violation; 2) Administrative Order; 3) Notice of Penalty. He finished up with compliments of the Samish basin land owners, and how they have been very cooperative. Many AAB members questioned Mac, with in depth discussion. Commissioners Dahlsted, Dillon, and Wesen made comments to support Mac's presentation.

Committee Reports

- I. Land Use - the only committee to report as time was short. Mike discussed the Siting Memo from Planning, and the sub-committee meeting. Mike moved to accept the Memo. Some discussion of details. Kim seconded, motion passed.

Old Business, New Business, Extra Discussion

None. Bill moved to dispense with the reading of the Minutes until next meeting. Mike seconded, motion passed.

Next Meeting

March 10, 2010

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Randy, seconded by Murray, motion passed, meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Other meeting attendees

Oscar Lagerlund, Dan Berentson, Allen Rozema, Ryan Walters, Lori Wight, Michael See, Annie Lohman, Steve Sakuma, Janet McRae,

Work items: none

Minutes taken by Murray, prepared by Kim

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