



## **SKAGIT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD**

**1800 Continental Place  
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Phone (360) 336-3303  
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### **Skagit County Agriculture Advisory Board November 9th, 2011 Copper Room**

#### **Member in Attendance**

Murray Benjamin(proxy for Jim Carstens); Bill McMoran;  
Mike Hulbert; Nate Youngquist; Randy Good; Kim Mower; Nels Lagerlund; Michael  
Hughes; Greg Lee; Don McMoran, exofficio, WSU extension

Absent members - Jim Carstens; Lyle Wesen; Kraig Knutzen

#### **Non Members Present**

Kendra Smith - Skagit County Natural Resource Director  
Carolyn Kelly - Skagit Conservation District

#### **Call to Order and Minutes**

Murray asked Kim to take the Minutes, Kim agreed. The meeting was called to order by  
Chair Nels at 6:03 PM. The October Minutes were not available for review so Murray  
moved to table the October Minutes review, Randy seconded, motion passed.

#### **Agenda**

Subject I. For discussion was the docketing of PL11-0239 and PL11-0249, both up for a  
re-zone out of Ag/NRL. Nels said an extension for comments was extended after he  
requested it. In regards for PL11-0239, discussion around the table and questions about  
allowing small parcels to exit Ag/NRL and subsequent consequences. Mike Hulbert  
motioned to not docket PL11-0239, Greg seconded. Discussion continued with concerns  
that if approved might set a precedence for future proposals to re-designate smaller  
parcels on the edge of Ag/NLR with potentially significant cumulative impact. Motion  
passed. In regards for PL11-0249 to re-designate out of Ag/NLR, discussion about the  
history of the place and current activities. Mike Hulbert moved to not docket PL11-  
0249, Bill seconded, comments for not wanting to set a precedence for the future,  
motion passed.

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Extension.*

## Committee Reports

CAO - Randy asked for a copy of the letter by AAB to BoCC about VSP. Kendra to will distribute copies to AAB members.

Land Use - No report  
No other Committee Report activity.

Subject II. A copy of “Skagit Transfer of Development Rights Program” was passed to AAB members in it’s final draft at the beginning of the meeting. Discussion around the table with members feeling they had not enough time to review the document. Randy moved to recommend BoCC reject TDR Grant Proposal, Mike Hulbert seconded, motion passed. They need to consider highly the possibilities of existing small building sites. The general consensus was this was rushed. No input from Conservation Future Committee.

## Old Business

Murray talked about the origins of the Ag Advisory Board and its responsibilities. He complained about material not getting to members in a proper time frame so members could be ready for discussion. This was reflected with other Board members. Nels talked about his efforts to get material to members as best as possible. Kim reviewed **Operating Procedures**, as stated issues and material should be distributed to members at least a week before the meeting. She also emphasized all members need to support the Chair by helping with email and phone reminders and be cognizant of the date on the calendar. Kendra also emphasized she needs more support and efforts from County departments in a timely manner to improve information stream.

## New Business

Kendra talked about the Agf Summit at King County on the 23rd of January, a regional project.

Don talked about the Port of Skagit wanting to do a summit, said BoCC preferred EDASC to run such a program.

Discussion around the table about the recent basin closures.

Don talked about a project he and Randy had been working on, a video of farming in Skagit that will be on Channel 21. He also talked about his farm school program, and the evaluation of irrigation guns. He also talked about a grant he is working of for the study of short season corn. He informed the group about the big

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picture of Extension and how he wears many hats. He emphasized the need to contact your legislature about the importance of Extension.

### **Extra Discussion**

Kendra talked about needing more detail incorporated into SEPA about agriculture. She also talked about having attended meetings about more money for FLP. Also talked about procedures for applying to FLP.

Carolyn talked briefly about the Clean Samish Initiative, passing out a flyer. She informed the group of a CSI meeting Dec. 12th at Padilla Bay Center.

### **Adjourn**

Kim moved to adjourn, Randy seconded, motion passed. Adjourned at 7:48 PM  
Next meeting will be in Copper Room Dec. 14th, 6:00 PM.

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