



**SKAGIT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD**  
**1800 Continental Place**  
**Mount Vernon, WA 98273**  
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**Skagit County Agriculture Advisory Board (AAB) Meeting Minutes**  
**August 14, 2013**  
**Skagit County Administration Building**

**Members in Attendance**

Nels Lagerlund (Chair)	Murray Benjamin	Jim Carstens
Brian Duquaine	Mike Hulbert	Michael Hughes

**Others in Attendance**

Linda Christensen, Skagit County  
Randy Good

**Call to Order**

Nels Lagerlund called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Proxy Designation**

Jim Carstens for Bill McMoran

**UGA Open Space and Trail Discussion**

Randy Good was in attendance informing the AAB that the Skagit Council of Governments (SCOG) is discussing Skagit County open Space and Trails Concept Plan. Randy distributed a letter he wrote and a letter from Friends of Skagit County addressed to SCOG expressing their concerns. Randy encouraged the AAB to write a letter in support of Randy's concerns and Friends of Skagit County. Mike Hulbert felt the AAB should contact Skagit County Commissioner, Ron Wesen, and discuss where the Plan is headed. Nels and Mike will contact the commissioner.

**Minutes**

Nels Lagerlund and Murray Benjamin made corrections to the July 10 meeting minutes. Nels moved to approve the meeting minutes as amended and Murray seconded. The motion carried.

**GI Study Discussion**

Nels said that the AAB should consider writing a letter to the Board of Commissioners expressing the pros and cons of each alternative for GI Study. Nels will work with Kraig Knutzen and a letter will be drafted for comments at the next AAB meeting.

*Skagit County Agricultural Advisory Board Members:  
Nels Lagerlund (Chair), Kraig Knutzen (Vice Chair), Murray Benjamin, Jim Carstens, Dan Lefebber  
Greg Lee, Bill McMoran, Mike Hulbert, Nate Youngquist, Michael Hughes, Tyler Clark, Brian Duquaine*

### **Land Use Discussion**

Nels discussed temporary events occurring on ag land and his intention is to bring this matter to the attention of the AAB.

### **Resolution Establishing the AAB**

Nels referenced Resolution 20020134, a resolution establishing the Skagit County Agricultural Advisory Board and discussed board member roles. Linda will send a copy to new members.

### **Fecal Coliform Discussion**

Nels gave an update on the fecal coliform status for Wear Creek near Prairie Road. Skagit County Public Works will be doing creek maintenance in the near future.

### **Shoreline Update**

Michael Hughes reported that the Shoreline Master Plan Update is still under discussion with the Skagit County Planning Commission and will be before the Board of Commissioners by the end of 2013.

### **New Business**

Mike gave an update on the Skagit Environmental Bank (Clear Valley Mitigation Bank). Jennifer Aylor, Eldred Associates Principal had attended Tuesday's Conservation Futures Advisory Committee meeting and provided a presentation. Credits will soon be available for purchase.

Mike mentioned the Beavers and Buffers Tour that he attended recently. The beavers are causing trouble for the Skagit County's creeks.

### **Skagit County Ag Land Use Analysis Map**

In January of 2010 the Skagit County GIS Department put together a report of active agricultural land in the Ag zone using satellite data from 2006. Nels said that the AAB would like to expand on report if possible. He will ask Josh Greenberg, GIS Analyst if it is possible to do another analysis of active ag land using more recent data. The AAB is interested in investigating how much land has been taken out of active ag in the last five years.

### **Adjourn and Next Meeting**

Today's meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm and the next meeting is scheduled for September 11 at 7 p.m.