



## SKAGIT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

1800 Continental Place  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273  
Phone (360) 336-3303  
Fax (360) 336-9478

### Skagit County Agriculture Advisory Board (AAB) Meeting Minutes February 11, 2015, 6 p.m. Skagit County Administration Building

#### **Members in Attendance**

Barbara Cleave	Ty Clark	Michael Hughes
Mike Hulbert	Nels Lagerlund	Kraig Knutzen
Terry Sapp		

#### **Others in Attendance**

Linda Christensen, Skagit County Planning Administrative Coordinator  
Steve Omdal, Port of Skagit County Commissioner  
Dan Berentson, Skagit County Public Works

#### **Call to Order**

Chair Nels Lagerlund called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

#### **Proxy Designation**

Michael Hughes will proxy for Greg Lee.

#### **New AAB Member Introduction**

Terry Sapp, new District 3 member, was welcomed to the group.

#### **Agenda Review**

There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

#### **Meeting Minutes**

Michael Hughes moved to approve the January 14, 2014 meeting minutes as presented and Michael Hulbert seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Washington State Bill 5628**

Dan gave an overview of SB 5628, a bill providing for storm water, flood control, and water supply infrastructure in the state. The Bill is to establish three programs created in the Department of Ecology: reduce storm water pollution, reduce the risk of flooding, and improve the availability and reliability of water supplies for in-stream and out-of-stream uses. A special benefit assessment will be imposed, ratified by voters, to finance

*Skagit County Agricultural Advisory Board Members:  
Nels Lagerlund (Chair), Kraig Knutzen (Vice Chair), Murray Benjamin, Jim Carstens, Ty Clark,  
Barbara Cleave, Brian Duquaine, Scott Hanseth, Mike Hulbert, Michael Hughes, Greg Lee, Terry Sapp*

projects funded through the programs. Complete information about this bill can be found at [www.app.leg.wa.gov/SB 5628](http://www.app.leg.wa.gov/SB_5628).

### **Clean Samish Initiative**

Dan announced there is three-day workshop with the governor's office and other agencies on February 25, 26, and 27 regarding discussions that will help develop a plan for the rainy season and closures.

### **Voluntary Stewardship Program**

Dan reported that the Voluntary Stewardship Program had their first meeting three weeks ago. The advisory group, coordinated by Kara Symonds of Public Works, took the group through a briefing of the Program's goals and Work Plan that is due later this year. Kara will write the work plan with input from the advisory group. The AAB asked for a monthly update.

### **GI Study**

Dan said that Public Works will meet with the Army Corp Colonel this week to discuss the project fund and deadline status.

### **Farmworker Housing**

Barb attended the Skagit Housing Authority Board meeting earlier this evening. She informed the Housing Authority board that the AAB is interested in gathering information about the status of farmworker housing and offers their support to that effort.

Melanie Corey, Housing Authority Director, stated that she wants to hear from the farmers on how many beds are needed throughout the growing season(s). The Housing Authority has obtained a combined grant through the state and USDA Rural Development program for a building that will provide temporary housing for farmworkers. The building will have 112 beds (equivalent of 14 two-bedroom units). Total cost is approximately 5 million. Melanie also said that she would like to see the cities and county partnering to discuss this issue.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 11, 2015 6 p.m. Nels asked Linda to invite Commissioner Lisa Janicki.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.