

**Skagit County Conservation Futures Program Advisory Committee
(CFAC)**

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 8, 2013

Members in Attendance:

Carolyn Kelly, Chair

Keith Wiggers

Scott DeGraw

Andrea Xaver

Alan Merritt

Mike Hulbert

Staff in Attendance:

Kendra Smith, Program Director

Linda Christensen, Skagit County

Open

Meeting opened at 7:00 a.m.

Agenda Review

Kendra Smith said she needed to leave the meeting at 8:25 and would like to review new properties after the USDA property discussion under Old Business.

Member Update

Keith Wiggers said that he received a call about the Fir Island church property and they are interested in selling. The CFAC group will network with others to see who can help them.

Mike Hulbert announced that the Seminis Vegetable Seed Company is being closed and Vikimausa will take over production.

Meeting Minutes

Keith moved to approve the November 6, 2012 meeting minutes as presented and Scott DeGraw seconded. The motion passed.

Financial Update

Kendra Smith discussed the present cash amount available to spend and mentioned all cash is obligated for current expenses and properties which are ready to close as soon as USDA gives the final approval.

Old Business

USDA

Kendra mentioned the memo she sent to the CFAC regarding which properties USDA approved for closing. She has also asked USDA if it is possible to split the Omdal/Leander property and then to re-submit the Omdal in the 2013 grant batch. They have not responded. They have not responded to any questions regarding the closings of the 2012 properties and the requested waiver. The waiver was requested by email and verbally last September when Kendra was notified that USDA would no longer accept legal lots as separate lots. A letter was written in October, a phone conference with National at the end of October and another letter written as requested by Roylene Rides At the Door at the end of October.

Monitoring Report

Eric Nelson reported that property monitoring is going well and there are no compliance issues. He had spent some time early on organizing files and meeting with the CFAC to set up monitoring and filing standards. He said the plan is to finish monitoring the remaining properties by the end of March 2013. All properties will have received a yearly monitoring visit by the end of 2013.

New Business

New Applications

Kendra presented five new Farmland Legacy Program applications and asked the CFAC for their recommendation. There was a brief discussion about lot aggregation and splits. The CFAC was pleased to see some new applicants and approved and instructed Kendra to submit all to USDA to meet the 2013 funding application deadline.

Impervious Surface Procedure

The CFAC discussed the possibility of an impervious surface procedure.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 a.m.

Submitted by: _____

Linda Christensen

Approved by the CFAC Board on:

Chair Carolyn Kelly