

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

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

Members in attendance:

Carolyn Kelly, Chair
Andrea Xaver
Scott DeGraw

Dave Hedlin
Alan Merritt
Mike Hulbert

Members Absent

Keith Wiggers

Staff in Attendance:

Kendra Smith, Skagit County
Gary Christensen, Skagit County
Ryan Walters, Skagit County

Open

Meeting opened at 7:05 a.m.

Board Update

Updates of Interest: Discussion on the Governor's message on the Clean Samish

Minutes

- a. Minutes for the February 8, 2011 meeting were reviewed. Alan moved and Mike seconded to approve. Passed unanimous
- b. Minutes for the February 28, 2011 meeting were reviewed. Andrea moved and Mike seconded to approve. Passed unanimous.

Financial Update

Financial Report

Linda has been on leave so were not able to get the most current financial printout. The FLP has been reimbursed by the USDA for all of properties that have been submitted to date. The turnaround time for the Young's second payment was two weeks, which is what the FLP had been accustomed to in past years. This makes planning for the second payouts for the remaining properties easier to predict and manage. The remaining properties have a May 31st deadline. When The FLP hears back as to what properties are funded for the 2011 round a second look at which properties can be funded at what times will need to occur.

Strategic Plan

Kendra reported that she has not yet received a report back from AFT, the consultants, from the March 17th work session. She noted that she had asked Don Stuart if he wanted to attend today's

meeting and finish the last two agenda items that were postponed at that work session. (Those agenda items were Options for Development Rights Purchases and Other Tools and Funding Sources looking at possible funding sources.) Don had not responded. There was concern from all regarding the timeframe in which to complete the Strategic Plan by the June 30th deadline. Carolyn reminded everyone that there would be no extensions for this grant. The CFAC wanted to have time to review the draft report from the AFT before a second public meeting occurred. AFT had presented three options, an edge approach, a core approach and status quo. Discussion at the workshop included ranking criteria and weight as well as the ability to fund 1,000 acres a year. Kendra will follow up with the consultants and get a solidified timetable that allows the necessary review by the CFAC before having a second work session with the public. The CFAC believe there will need to be at least 4 meetings in the next 10 weeks to generate a final and complete project by the June 30th deadline.

Planning Department Updates

Gary shared with the CFAC four Planning projects underway. 1.) The DOE Shoreline master Program update which will take 3 years to complete. Looking for Ag community to sit on the advisory committee. 2.) FEMA/NMFS lawsuit with Washington Wildlife and the Feds concern about the lack of protection for the salmon and Orca in association with floodplain development. 3.) 2011 Code amendments underway with the Planning Commission now having deliberations. There are two issues that have differing options from the Ag community; the NRI land expansions in the ag zones and the setbacks for wells from the buildings. The Planning Commission is waiting to work on these issues last. 4.) Envision 2060 meetings with the CAC has almost concluded the informational phase and will now be moving into coming up with creative solutions. They have met with every community now to get input. Their report is scheduled to come out later this year.

Easement modifications

Ryan Walters has suggested some changes to make the review process of the easements easier. It will put all of the information that may change from easement to easement on a front cover page and leave the remainder the same. This will save time and probably decrease the chance of inaccuracies from occurring. Kendra will work with Ryan on the timeframe for proceeding.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 a.m.

Submitted by: _____
Kendra Smith

Approved by the CFAC Board on:

Chair Carolyn Kelly