

**CLARK COUNTY
CLEAN WATER COMMISSION**

Meeting Notes

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

6:30 – 8:30 P.M.

Public Service Center, 6th Floor Training Room
1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Present

Jim Carlson, David Darby, Don Moe, David Morgan, Nancy Olmsted, Susan Rasmussen, Art Stubbs, Virginia van Breemen

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Absent

None

Clark County Staff

Earl Rowell, Bobbi Trusty, Ron Wierenga

Public

None

Quorum

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Agenda and material review

1. Agenda
2. January 4, 2012, Meeting Notes
3. Proposed 2012 CWC Work Plan and Meeting Calendar

Approval

The January 4, 2012, notes were approved as submitted.

Clean Water Commissioners: Communications with the Public

Ms Rasmussen, attended the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) Public Workshop and Hearing on the draft 2013-2018 NPDES Permit on January 10, 2012; two people from Cowlitz County thanked her for her testimony.

Ms. Rasmussen along with the Washington State Dairy Women are keeping their attention on House Bill 2413, which will require a half-mile buffer and written notice to neighbors, schools or persons likely to be outdoors for universally applied air blast applications of pesticides. In addition, the Washington State Supreme Court issued a ruling clarifying the exemption from groundwater permitting for stock water; the withdrawal is no longer limited to a specific number of gallons.

Ms. Van Breemen attended the Water Rights and Rainwater Harvesting Workshop on January 28, 2012. Speakers included. She felt the workshop was very informative and useful.

Mr. Carlson met with Cowlitz County Public Works staff to discuss their stormwater management. He commented on how Cowlitz County has different issues in dealing with stormwater due to the dikes and levies in the area, however they share similar concerns with the proposed draft 2013-2018 NPDES Permit as Clark County.

Mr. Carlson volunteered with the Watershed Stewards in a public survey to assess resident's behaviors related to lawn care, and about how their actions impact streams and rivers in the area. He was able to talk to a few of the residents and they said that during the growing season they have gardeners come in and do the work for them. Mr. Carlson will be interested to see the results of the survey.

Mr. Carlson said that the Clean Water Commission is scheduled to speak at the Watershed Stewards training on February 23, 2012.

Mr. Carlson announced that there is a Clark County Green Business Kick Off Event at the Heathman Lodge on February 14, 2012. He is planning to attend as a business owner as well as a Clean Water Commissioner.

Public Comments

None

Action Items

CWC Annual Report 2011

Ms. Olmsted asked that each of the commissioners get their top three recommendations submitted to her before February 14, 2012, this will allow her to prepare a final draft form and email out to everyone for review prior to the March 7, 2012, Clean Water Commission (CWC) Meeting.

CWC Comments - Ecology 2012 Draft Municipal Stormwater Permit

On January 10, 2012, the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) held a public workshop and hearing in Vancouver at the School for the Blind regarding the Draft 2013-2018 NPDES Permit. Ms. Olmsted, Ms. Rasmussen, Mr. Stubbs and Ms. Van Breemen attended the event. Ecology staff explained changes in the permit and the timeline. During the hearing, Ms. Rasmussen and Mr. Stubbs both gave separate testimonies on their views of the permit.

As discussed at the January 2012 CWC meeting, and after gathering information at Ecology's *Draft 2013-2018 Municipal Stormwater Permits and Workshop and Public Hearing*, Ms. Olmsted presented a comment letter for consideration by CWC. She asked if they still wanted to submit the letter to Ecology and asked for motion.

Motion 2012-02-01

Mr. Stubbs moved that the letter be submitted as written on behalf of the Clean Water Commission. It was seconded and all commissioners were in favor. Motion passed.

2012 CWC Work Plan and Meeting Schedule

Ms. Olmsted reviewed the work plan and meeting schedule with the commission members and staff. There were no suggested changes to the work plan.

Motion 2012-02-02

Mr. Stubbs moved that the 2012 CWC Work Plan and Meeting Schedule be adopted as presented. It was seconded and all commissioners were in favor. Motion passed.

Clean Water Program Update

Staff reminded the CWC that their annual report is tentatively, scheduled for March 28, 2011. Once the Board of County Commissioners confirms the date, a notice go out to the CWC.

In 2011, the legislature appropriated \$30 million from the Washington Local Toxics Control Account for stormwater capital projects statewide. In November 2011, Clark County submitted six grant applications to Ecology for approximately \$3.5 million. Washington’s Governor has proposed to reduce this to \$8 million in the capital budget, so at this level Clark County should get offered funding for one project at nearly \$1 million dollars. If the budget appropriation is approved at \$30 million, five out of six of the projects will receive grant funding. The local match on those grants is twenty-five percent.

Washington Court of Appeals has tentatively scheduled oral arguments for the county’s appeal in April 2012. The Clark County Prosecuting Attorneys will provide oral arguments to the judge at that time. Mr. Wierenga projects that a decision will be made by August 2012 on the appeal.

In response to the recent injunction from Federal District Court, a guidance document was developed on issuing permits and authorizations for development projects. Projects with final engineering approval or a building permit issued prior to the date of the injunction are proceeding. A project must satisfy Ecology’s default flow control standard if they do not meet this criteria.

Public Comments

None

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bobbi Trusty

Action Items

- All CWC members are to submit three points of desired actions and/or recommendations for the 2011 Annual Report before February 14, 2012, to Ms. Olmsted.