



# CLEAN WATER COMMISSION

For the Department of Environmental Services

Meeting Summary  
**Wednesday, December 3, 2014**  
**6:30 PM – 8:30 PM**  
**Public Service Center, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Training Room**  
**1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver**

**Members Present:** Jim Carlson, David Meyer, Susan Rasmussen, Dick Rylander, Gary Schaeffer, Virginia van Breemen

**Members Absent:** Rob McKinney, Melanie Wheeler

**Staff Present:** Earl Rowell, Bobbi Trusty

**Partner Agency Staff Present:** None

**Public Present:** Cameron Lundy, Student Clark College

**I** ROLL CALL

The November 5, 2014 meeting summary was approved as submitted

**II** PUBLIC COMMENT (4:13)

None

**III. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION**

**2015 Actions Commission Projects/Activities (4:26)**

Mr. Rylander opened discussion regarding changing the commissioner appointment dates to a calendar year to coordinate with the Clean Water Program efforts. Currently members are appointed the end of February and projects start in January, it is disruptive to not know if members will be reappointed to complete the tasks assigned to them. Commissioners discussed other advisory commission appointment dates, if there are ordinances that require the February reappointment dates and changing the commission bylaws to change the appointment dates to calendar year.

**Motion 2014-18 (27:40)**

Mr. Meyer made a motion to amend the bylaws to address the periodicity of commissioner appointments and asked Mr. Rylander to draft the modifications and present them at the January meeting. It was seconded and approved. Motion passed.

Mr. Rylander also commented that he is working on a draft version of the annual report that will be ready for review at the January meeting. It was agreed by all that he will email the report to the commissioners for comments. Mr. Rylander is hopeful to get the report and the work session scheduled with the Board of County Commissioners during the first quarter of 2015.



proud past, promising future

## CLEAN WATER COMMISSION For the Department of Environmental Services

Mr. Rylander passed out the 2015 Clean Water Commission Project choices and asked each member to turn theirs in by the end of the evening. Commissioners discussed participation levels, priorities and asked when they will find out more information about the fee study on polluters. Mr. Rowell stated that an update was requested for the January 2015 meeting and asked the commission members to go back and review the November meetings staff report packet that outlines the roles and responsibilities of the commission.

### **Public Outreach (47:39)**

Mr. Rowell reviewed a document he created to track questions and follow-up for public outreach. It is important that when commissioners educate the public, they hear what people say and provide answers to questions, or provide an answer at a later time. Commissioners discussed the materials available, commissioner training for completing presentations and how to frame questions and solicit input from the audience. More education has to happen so the public understands that everybody has an impact on stormwater.

### **V PUBLIC COMMENT (1:09:58)**

Mr. Lundy agreed that more education regarding stormwater needs to take place in rural and urban areas. He attends Clark College, is taking environmental courses and did not know about the commission until this evening. His classes do not go into detail about how pesticides and fertilizers flow into streams or the counties stormwater conveyance systems.

Mr. Carlson gave Mr. Lundy two examples of issues from Lacamas Creek. When a Lacamas Creek farm was in a rural designated area, there were cows that drank from and crossed the stream, now that it is in an urban designation fertilizer and pesticides are being used to keep the lawn green and pest free. Both landowners thought that they were doing no harm, however each of them are contributing to the pollution to Lacamas Lake. Mr. Carlson asked Mr. Lundy if he could get an audience for a presentation and Mr. Lundy said he could talk with his instructor.

### **Commissioner Communication (1:19:18)**

Ms. Rasmussen asked the outcome of the site visit with Ms. Grimstad. Mr. Rowell said Ms. Grimstad's complaint was regarding impacts to her water rights for drinking water purposes, buffers, septic system and stormwater impacts, and construction around her site. Chris Clifford from our department went out and found that she does not have a *perfected* water right from the Washington State Department of Ecology per a 2006 Hearing Examiner report; it is a shallow open well that receives surface water from the surrounding area. Water goes from the well through a really long pipe that is above and below ground to her property. The neighbors, who share the water right, use the water they receive for irrigation and livestock only, not for drinking water. In addition there is a platted development in progress on the slope near her water right that she believes is ruining her well water.

Mr. Madore stopped by to thank the commission for all their work and hope they know they are all appreciated. He provided his cell phone number so anyone can reach him (360) 601-3056. Mr. Madore is also planning a site visit with Ms. Grimstad to try to understand her issues. He plans on taking measurements, creating a drawing, identifying who has jurisdiction and make sure she knows



proud past, promising future

CLARK COUNTY  
WASHINGTON

## CLEAN WATER COMMISSION For the Department of Environmental Services

that she is being heard. Mr. Madore is hopeful that he can identify the root problem and find her some relief.

Mr. Carlson shared that a person in the City of Ridgefield had a flooding issue from a development on the hill above his property. The city commented that water runs downhill and was not inclined to help the property owner. The developer finally came through and put in a French drain to divert the water from washing out his gravel driveway and the polluted stormwater is now being filtered through the nearby field. Ridgefield is not an NPDES Permittee due to their size and follows the 1992 Ecology Manual for stormwater.

Mr. Meyer brought up the topic of North County residents not making it downtown to the meeting and suggested taking the meetings on the road. Commissioners discussed previous attempts were not successful, but it might be worth trying once a year. It was suggested to start by contacting Clark College.

### VII ADJOURN – 08:23 PM

Summary provided by: Bobbi Trusty / 360-397-2121 x 5268

*For more detailed information, an audio recording for this meeting is available through the county website at:*  
<http://www.clark.wa.gov/environment/stormwater/management/commission.html>