



## Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, January 2, 2019****6:30 pm - 8:30 pm****Public Service Center, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Training Room****1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver**

**Members Present:** Marie LaManna, Brendan Addis, Michelle Girts, David McDevitt, Sue Marshall, Justin Maynard, Michelle Maynard, and Josh Seeds

**Members Absent:** none

**Staff Present:** Eric Lambert and Alice Millward

**Partner Agency Staff Present:** None

**Public Present:** Christy Dunbar (unconfirmed commission appointee)

**I. ROLL CALL**

All of the commissioners and staff introduced themselves and briefly explained their backgrounds. New commissioners Sue Marshall, Justin Maynard, Michelle Maynard and Christy Dunbar are welcomed. Commissioner Dunbar will replace Commissioner Schneider who recently gave notice that he will not be able to complete the rest of his term. The Council will approve her appointment next week.

Several small changes were proposed to the meeting minutes for November 7, 2018, and Commissioner Girts moved to approve as amended. Commissioner Addis seconded the motion. Seven commissioners voted yes and Commissioner McDevitt voted no. Motion carried.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**III. PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION / RECOMMENDATION / ACTION****Clean Water Division Outreach**

Eric Lambert, Clean Water Outreach Specialist, gave an update on outreach events.

- The two new Clean Water Restoration Fund grants through the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board will be taking up a lot of their time and energy.
  - Grant 1 – Stormwater Facility Maintenance Outreach will provide owners of private stormwater facilities and others a website in order to bridge the knowledge gap to make it easier for owners to learn how to properly maintain their stormwater facilities.
  - Grant 2 – Watershed Sign Revitalization and Outreach focused on signs originally installed in the mid-1990s. Many are missing or damaged and this grant would be fixing and replacing these signs, coupled with outreach to help raise awareness.
- On Dec. 8, 2018, the Friends of Trees organization held a street tree planting event. They had over 100 volunteers and planted 94 street trees in NE Hazel Dell and Sherwood neighborhoods. They are always looking for volunteers and need a variety of skills and contributions. The next Friends of Trees planting event will be on Saturday, March 9, 2019.



This will be the last planting from this grant funding source. This program has had a very positive impact on the community's tree canopy.

- Eric presented the very popular "enviro-scape" demonstration to the Clean Water Commission. This fun, hands-on activity shows where and how contaminants can make their way into a watershed. It is effective teaching tool for adults and children. Many schools check it out from Clean Water to use in their classrooms. The commission believes this would be a good visual aid that the CWC could use for any community outreach presentations such as home owner associations, the county fair, or other community events.

### **Working Group Goals and Objectives**

Partnerships and Outreach Working Groups were able to meet and reported on their progress. Research Working Group did not meet but plans to meet to work on the water resource programs project.

### **Working Group Updates: Research, Partnerships and Outreach**

- **Partnerships Group**
  - Commissioner Girts reported that they met with Pat Lee from the Clark County Legacy Lands Program. The key takeaway from the meeting was that acquiring small acreage properties like Heritage Farm are a vital part of the overall watershed health and education. It will be very difficult and expensive to tie the various properties. However it is definitely worth working towards a watershed vision and potentially partnering with local businesses, homeowners' associations, universities, etc.
  - Due to the holidays, it has been difficult to schedule a meeting. Commissioner Girts met with Columbia Land Trust to watch sandhill cranes and will be setting up a meeting with them in the future.
  - Commissioner Justin Maynard and Marshall are interested in serving on this subcommittee.
- **Outreach & Education Group**
  - In November, Chair LaManna met with Clean Water Division staff and discussed long-term goals. The focus was on how the CWC can help the mission. They will learn about the enviro-scape and be able to make that presentation at public events to support Eric. They also will continue to support Cary and his work with homeowner associations. They are drafting a letter to HOAs to see if they would like the CWC to come present at one of their HOA meetings.
  - Stormwater Partners are changing their format. The meetings during the first three quarters of the year will be more as a working group. The fourth quarter will be a symposium which will invite a broader audience. Eric will confirm that the CWC would still be invited to the work meetings since they bring much to the table.
  - Commissioner-elect Dunbar is interested in joining this work group.
  - The NACCA meeting is Feb 11 and Chair LaManna has requested another commissioner to attend. Commissioner McDevitt and Commissioner Girts volunteered to attend.
- **Research Group**
  - Commissioner Addis reported that he is currently the only member in his working group. Sue Marshall and Michelle Maynard indicated they are interested in participating in the research group.



- The capital reserves fund balance recommendations are currently still being reviewed by the county and he hasn't heard anything lately. Alice will follow up with Dean on the status of this project.
- The draft of the bylaws just came back from the civil attorney and it needs to be tabled until the March meeting. In 2019, the research workgroup is interested in taking on the "water resource programs" project as proposed in November.
- Commissioner Addis further explained the "Water Resource Programs Project" which will research the following:
  - Identify all organizations working within the county on projects related, directly or indirectly, to water resource conservation.
  - Create a general outline of those organizations' services and roughly quantify their reach (areas, projects, number of public/community reached, etc.).
  - Look at financial viability and sources of funding for budgets and sustainable funding sources.
  - Outline the overlaps of program targets and competing financial sources.
- 2018 CWC Annual Report – Commissioners approved several small clarifying/grammatical edits to the document which will be made by staff. Discussion ensued regarding the private stormwater facility permitting, eventual transferal of ownership and maintaining a current data base of all applicable HOAs in Clark County, but no action was taken. Commissioner Seeds moved and Commissioner Girts seconded that the 2018 Annual Report be approved as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Chelatchie Prairie Rail Road comment letter – The proposed draft letter was not included in the meeting packet because Alice thought it was still in the editing process. Several additional edits to the tracked changes were suggested and discussed. Chair LaManna and Commissioner Seeds will continue to lead the editing efforts and then send it to Alice who can forward it to the Clark County Prosecuting Attorney's office for the legal review prior to CWC approval at the next meeting.

#### IV. COMMISSION DISCUSSION TIME

- Commissioner McDevitt initiated a discussion regarding the potential support role the Clean Water Commission could play with regards to the regional water resource management process and the stormwater facility and permitting process for new housing developments. Commissioner McDevitt brought forward the option that the CWC could potentially help develop a data base of contact information for Home Owner Association presidents to help staff more easily access the ever changing list. Discussion also revolved around the permitting process and if/how/when a housing development is transferred to the county or if it remains a private facility. Commissioner Michelle Maynard will provide staff with the regulations that are used in the San Francisco area to see if there is anything that Clark County can utilize.
- Yacolt Mine Public Hearings – Commissioner Marshall asked who is responsible for the oversight and enforcement of the erosion and potential stormwater issues. Land use authority rests with the county. Reclamation permitting authority regulated by the state Dept. of Natural Resources. A NPDES permit is required and is regulated by the state Dept. of Ecology.
- Fish Passage Issue – Commissioner Justin Maynard indicated at there is a significant state and federal agency emphasis fish passage studies and construction projects using a whole watershed perspective rather than addressing individual culverts. There is millions of dollars available for watershed based studies and construction projects. The prioritization is on



opening fish habitat and natal passage. Council Boldt discussed it last year at the annual report presentation. The CWC will look forward to a possible update on the county's status at the next meeting.

- Commissioner Addis reported on the continuing 900 acres of wetlands restoration near Steigerwald Lake is progressing. This four to five year project will remove parts of the existing dike, replace further upstream and restore more natural water channels. When finished, it will open up the largest stream access for juvenile salmon on lower Columbia River.
- Commissioner McDevitt plans to attend the March and May meetings via telephone.

Alice Millward, Clean Water Commission Staff Liaison, gave an update on several matters.

- The Stormwater Management Plan is not ready to be released for public comment yet. Staff hopes it will be available soon. Alice will email it to the commission when it is ready and encouraged everyone to provide comments. There will be an opportunity to discuss at the March meeting.
- Alice explained the status of the transition to the new county Clean Water google account. New commissioners will need to create their accounts using the new naming protocols. She will work with Chair LaManna and IT to make sure all documents are captured / shared. As soon as everything is finalized, she will send out invites. As a reminder, all commissioners must cc her on all clean water related emails and only use the CWC email account and not personal email accounts.
- Thank you to all of the CWC who have completed their required Washington State Open Public Meetings Act, OPMA, training. She reminded the remaining few that it will need to be submitted as soon as possible and definitely by the March meeting. It is an online course and shouldn't take more than a couple hours. Staff will be sending out a link for the commissioners to use. The CWC was reminded that everything they do in conjunction with the commission is subject to a public records request.
- She inquired whether the 6:30 time and dates for meetings still worked best for the commission to meet. There is an opportunity to meet either the a different day (2nd Wednesday) or change months (Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct. and Dec.) to avoid potential holiday conflicts. The commission decided that they preferred the current schedule.
- Would the CWC be interested in helping man a booth / show enviroscape demos at the Clark County Fair, if the department decides to have one. She will confirm later this year.
- Since a large majority of the commission has been serving for less than a year, Alice offered to have staff from various programs of the Clean Water division come to the meetings and discuss their functions. The commission approves of this idea. Since private storm water facility inspections and maintenance requirements are current discussion point, she will invite Cary Armstrong as the first speaker.

## V. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

## VI. ADJOURN – 08:34 PM

Minutes provided by: Alice Millward, Clark County Staff Liaison / 564.397.5267

*Audio recordings of this and most previous Clean Water Commission meetings are available through the county website at:*  
<https://www.clark.wa.gov/public-works/clean-water-commission>.