

# Iverson Task Force Meeting Notes

## 5/24/16

### Attendance

Jerry Nielsen (FOCIP)  
Bob and Claudine Paczkowski (Homeowners)  
Carston Curd (Homeowner, coastal geography)-  
*webex*  
Jim McDavid (IC Parks)  
Jay Lawrence (Homeowner, Mosquito Control District  
& WRAC)  
Jane Cassidy (Homeowner, environmental policy and  
dispute resolution)

Val Schroeder (FOCIP)  
Maria Xenia Allen (Park Patron)  
Rob Howie (Homeowner)  
Deborah Engel (Homeowner)  
Elsa Schwartz (Park Patron, MRC)  
Carol Gelespie (WRAC, FOCIP)  
Eric Grossman (USGS, WWU) - *webex*  
Doug Kelly, Dawn Pucci & Lori Clark (Island County  
Dept of Natural Resources - DNR)

### Introductions

- Meeting opened with introductions of the 16 members present and 2 via *webex*.

### Update on Request for Proposals for Sedimentation and Hydrology Study

Island County solicited services for Environmental Engineering Consultant Services for Sedimentation and Groundwater Data Collection and Synthesis for Iverson Preserve. The RFP was published in the legal notices section of the newspaper of record on 4/6/16 and 4/9/16. The RFP was open until April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016. Two proposals were received and scored.

After a comprehensive review of both applicants, Coastal Geologic Services, Inc. (CGS) will be recommended to the Board of Island County Commissioners for consulting services under these contracts. The following points were key to the decision to select CGS to recommend for this service contract:

- Both applicants were seen as equally qualified in competence and quality of work.
- The CGS proposal best met the scope as stated in the RFP.
- The CGS proposed budget was significantly lower.
- CGS offered relevant examples offered are similar scale and ecologies as the project area. There will be efficiencies gained by their experience with local projects.

Eric Grossman (USGS) will be a partner with this study. Eric added that although the final report will not be completed until Sept of 2017, there will be assessments along the way available to the Task Force.

Doug Kelly, IC Hydrogeologist, Golder Associates had more detail on data collection yet their Hydrogeologist was not licensed in the US. CGS is partnering with Skillings to provide data collection. Need more time to clarify the modeling and outcomes from the data analysis.

Jane suggested that we may need to have the analysis included in the scope of work. This project has regional significance and needs to have a solid outcome. Establish a timeframe to put wheels in motion to ensure there will be an analysis in the end. Critical piece to incorporate the process for analysis.

Doug Kelly has expertise to do the analysis. Phil Cohen is licensed and could be the one to provide the analysis. Smaller group to flesh out the SOW: Jane, Doug, Dawn, Phil, Rob.

### Ground Water Dynamics with Doug Kelly, Island Count Hydrogeologist

Doug Kelly is groundwater hydrogeologist (not surface water). Doug noted that given this presentation is being done before we have the information collected from the Iverson Study, this presentation will be very high level. Key points from presentation:

- There are a lot of domestic water wells from which we have data in the database.
- Geocoding for all the wells in the database allows observation of all wells in relation to geology and Mean Sea Level (MSL). Can look at trends (stratigraphic). Water wells in this area are 2-6 feet above sea level.
- The #1 driver for salt water intrusion is the water level in the aquifer. When water levels are high, it holds the salt water out. Need to understand risk long before salt water intrusion occurs. The numbers are low enough in this area (ft MSL) that the area is at risk for salt water intrusion. MSL below 4ft is the level where salt water intrusion becomes a concern.
- The preserve area is considered a groundwater discharge area (map). When the tide goes in and out the water type changes (shifts) with the flux. Saltwater influx. Precipitation recharge also affects the low lying areas.
- Jane asked if there are other estuaries with rising seas, in other communities, where we are gaining an understanding of freshwater and seawater. Doug described the example of Leque Island. IC is a sole source aquifer which has implications for federally funded projects (additional review). EPA required an intensive study to ensure that breaching the dikes would not cause salt water intrusion. Doug said it is a groundwater discharge area (zone). Water percolates up. \$½ million was spent to conclude that it was, in fact, a groundwater discharge zone. Understanding the dynamics of the system is similar.
- Rob asked if we can learn from Triangle Cove. Eric Grossman responded that there isn't a continuous water level data. We may be able to pull information from the Leque Island site.
- Doug responded that one well on his monitoring network is near Triangle cove. Unconfined aquifer. Water level distribution governed by how much flow in the aquifer, how easily water flows through, and the elevation of the boundary condition. Sea level rise will change the boundary (aquifer system shifts upward). Will not result in a collapse in the system, the aquifer will respond with a shift.
- Dawn asked how this shift would affect on-site septic systems (OSS). Doug responded OSS and ground water do not get along.
- Unless we understand how the surface water and groundwater dynamics work together, no decision can be made.

### *Next Meeting*

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 1-3pm, Camano Island Library

- Review maps of SLR and Storm Surge for Iverson (Ian Miller)
- Timeline (including summer public meeting)
- Need to reschedule: Septic Discussion—Kathleen Parvin (Island County Department of Health)
- ????
- Lori will send out the SOW to the group.