

Island County  
WATER RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE



For more information about Watershed Planning in Island County, visit our web site.

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/DNR/WRAC/Pages/Home.aspx>

## Meeting Notes

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

**Thursday, August 04, 2016 2:30—4:30 PM**

**Oak Harbor Public Works**

**1400 NE 16<sup>th</sup> Ave, Oak Harbor**

### Call to Order and Introductions

Present:

Citizen Members: Carol Gillespie, Julius Budos (Co-Chair), Dave Thomas, John Lovie, Don Lee (Co-Chair), Al Williams, Barbara Brock, Tom Fox

Island County Staff: Nathan Howard, Doug Kelly, Vin Sherman, Aneta Hupfauer, Matt Zupich

Guests: Karen Bishop (WICD), John Rose (ECY)

### Adoption of July WRAC Meeting Summary Notes

Dave Thomas moved to approve the July 07, 2016 meeting summary notes as corrected. Carol Gillespie seconded.

Motion approved.

### Reports

*WRAC Membership Structure* – Matt Zupich reported that the idea of re-structuring WRAC membership has resurfaced with the recent resignation of Gary Ehrenfeld and proposed separation of salmon recovery duties from the WRAC. He suggested the committee table this idea until next month following state-level decisions that may impact the Island County salmon recovery program.

*Salmon Recovery Project Status* – Matt reported the Barnum Point acquisition project is due to be approved for SRFB funding on August 11<sup>th</sup>, one month earlier than originally scheduled. This is good news for the project sponsor.

*Coordinated Water System Plan Update* – Nathan Howard reported on a recent meeting between Island County Planning, Public Works and Public Health staff and WA DOH, Drinking Water Program, staff to discuss plans for updating the Coordinated Water System Plan. He noted that the CWSP is one element of the Comprehensive Plan and, as such, has been recognized on an internal work plan as a high priority to be updated within the next 2 years. The group discussed how the WRAC may be involved in this process including performing an evaluation of the existing plan. It was suggested the WRAC host a meeting with Planning, Public Works and Public Health staff to determine a course of action.

### Presentation – Washington State Water Law

John Rose, Department of Ecology – Water Resources Program, gave a Powerpoint presentation on Washington State's Water Law including a history of water rights, water right type definitions, exempt wells, instream flow rights, new water rights, changes to existing water rights, relinquishment and abandonment, and a discussion on existing and future challenges regarding water rights. His presentation was well received with numerous questions and comments from the audience. He provided a link to the Dept of Ecology's Water Resources Explorer website

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/info/webmap.html>) as a means to search for water right information from an online, map-based application. He will also give a copy of his presentation to Matt for distribution to anyone requesting it.

**Public Comment**

No Public Comment

**Meeting Closure**

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

*Next Meetings:*

*September 01 (Oak Harbor Public Works)*

*October 06 (Oak Harbor Public Works)*

*November 03 (Camano Senior Center)*