

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, December 1, 2016 2:30—4:30 PM

Oak Harbor Public Works Facility

1400 NE 16th Avenue, Oak Harbor

Call to Order and Introductions

Present:

Citizen Members: Jay Lawrence, Maddie Rose, Carol Gillespie, Julius Budos, John Lovie, Tom Fox, Dave Thomas, Don Lee, Al Williams, Tom Vos

Island County Staff: Lori Clark, IC Department of Natural Resources; Doug Kelly, Island County Hydrogeologist; Jill Wood, IC Environmental Health Director

Guests: Matt Zupich, Whidbey Island Conservation District; Jim Patton, WIWSA; Doug Bishop, RLHA water systems.

Adoption of October and November WRAC Meeting Summary Notes

In the October meeting minutes the “presentation available online” needs to be deleted. Presentation is obsolete

Tom Fox made a motion to approve the October minutes and the November minutes as modified, John Lovie second the motion. Approved.

Reports

- Jill Wood shared that WDFW announced they will be extending the shellfish harvesting season in South Holmes Harbor to Jan 1-May 15 2017.
- John Lovie announced that the WIWSA annual meeting is Wed, Dec. 7th at 6pm at Race Road Firehouse.
- John requested to discuss the Freeland Sewer District add to the agenda.
- Don Lee announced that the WRAC resolution will be on Wednesday, December 7th BICC work session agenda at 1pm.
- Doug updated the WRAC on the US Navy public meetings on the NASWI Contaminants of Emerging Concern. The Navy is sampling and they are putting in 20+/- monitoring wells at OLF to better the understanding of contaminant distribution and groundwater flow direction. The Town of Coupeville is also paying to have independent samples from their wells analyzed. The Navy has two existing monitoring wells at Area 31 (Ault Field) from previous petroleum contamination investigations. These wells exhibited highly elevated levels of PFAS compounds. This is phase 1 of the sampling; if contamination is found, there will be a second phase.
- Jill added that there will be additional community meetings in February after the water analysis is completed. The WRAC can direct any questions to the Navy website.

Discussion

- Aquifer protection and management- Julius presented on the NASWI aquifer contamination. He asked the question which government agency is responsible for the protection of aquifers. A water system overview diagram was presented to explain the process of public water systems are developed and maintained. Julius recommends that

the Water Resources Management Plan be updated to include emerging contaminants and other toxins, release an Aquifer Status Report, add monitoring wells near hazardous areas, and find a funding source for emerging contaminant testing.

- Jill offered to present water rights and litigation to the WRAC at a later meeting, if needed.
- Doug shared that Island County no authority to regulate polluters; the Dept. of Ecology or EPA has this responsibility/ authority. Island County has responsibility for monitoring/ regulating growth (GMA) and to ensure permitted activities do not negatively impact our groundwater resources.
- Coordinated Water Systems Association Plan is on the docket for 2017. Island County Planning & Community Development is in charge of the plan development.
- Dept. of Ecology is not focusing on updating the water resources management plans at this time. The county received two \$500,000 grants to develop the Water Resources Management Plan. The County doesn't have resources to update this plan at this time.
- WRAC members decided to review the Water Resources Management Plan table of contents to decide which topics to discuss at future meetings to see where updates are needed. These topics will be brought to the BICC.

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Meeting Closure

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Next Meetings:

January 05, 2017 (Oak Harbor Public Works)

February 02, 2017 (Camano Center Craft Room)

March 02, 2017 (Oak Harbor Public Works)