

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, March 2, 2017 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

Island County Staff: Lori Clark, IC Department of Natural Resources; Doug Kelly, Island County Hydrogeologist; Jill Wood, IC Environmental Health Director, Jennifer Riedmayer, Island County Water Quality Specialist, Caitlin Budd, Island County Water Quality Specialist, Nathan Howard, Island County Long Range Planner, Will Hallberg, Island County Critical Areas Planner

Guests: Matt Zupich, Whidbey Island Conservation District, Jim Patton, WIWSA, Virpi Salo-Zieman, Washington State Department of Health

Adoption of December WRAC Meeting Summary Notes

John Lovie made a motion to approve the December meeting minutes. Maddie Rose second the motion. Motion approved.

Report

Announcement/ Discussion

- Don Lee reported the met with Commissioner Helen Price Johnson over the Clean Water Utility Phase 2 funding. Lee expressed his concerns regarding the use of this funding, which states that a coordinator would be hired to staff the WRAC. There were further discussion around the goals and objectives of the Phase 2 funding and staff positions. Jill Wood provided a description of the Phase 2 position in Public Works and Public Health. Wood stated that once Island County is issued a Phase 2 NPDES permit it would trigger the hiring of these positions. Wood further explained that once Island County's population reaches 100,000 people, the county will be utilizing Phase 2 funding to hire staff to address water quantity and water quality issues.
- Further discussion over low impact development costs and implementation occurred. Lori Clark was questioned about having a guest speaker to talk about LID. John Lovie suggested talking to Public Works and having someone from the Island County Public Works Department attend a WRAC meeting and present on this topic.
- Jill Wood and Doug Kelly developed a PowerPoint presentation talking about groundwater investigations at NAS Whidbey Island. Jill Wood provided an update on the public meetings that have occurred in Coupeville and Oak Harbor. The Navy has completed Phase 1 sampling at Ault Field and reported that only one sample was above the health advisory limit. Additional sampling has been completed in the OLF region and there are seven samples reported to have detection levels above the health advisory limit. Wood added that the Navy has been proactive in sampling areas south of the wells where detection levels were above health advisory standards.

- There was discussion around the funding and cleanup of the contaminated areas. Jill Wood stated that the Navy has a plan that will address the long term clean up and management of this issue and that funding is secured from the US Department of Defense to ensure that the drinking water is protected.
- Jill Wood also informed the board of a new group that has formed called the Whidbey Water Keepers. She informed the WRAC that the group has had one public meeting that was highly attended by citizens. Wood stated that she be working with individuals that are concerned about this issue.
- John Lovie provided a presentation about PFOA and PFOS in drinking water. Lovie informed WRAC members that at the next Whidbey Island Water System Association meeting which will occur on March 15 at 5 p.m. that representatives from the Navy, Island County, Whidbey Water Keepers and other water providers will be present to further discuss this issue.
- Lovie's presentation provided an overview of the chemistry and a timeline of the chemical and how it is monitored by the EPA and highlighted other states regulation of the chemical. Lovie will provide WRAC members with his source materials he used to develop the presentation.
- Nathan Howard provided an update on the Coordinated Water System Plan. He informed the WRAC that Island County Commissioners gave approval for the Planning Department to examine this document. He stated that a plan will be developed to determine how the WRAC will be involved in this process. Don Lee questioned how the county see's the WRAC's involvement in this process and Howard explained that it will initially start with a series of presentations to provided background on the CWSP and the process it will take to review the document.
- Lori Clark requested for WRAC members to consider what issues the board would like to focus on for 2017. Clark informed the board that a revised surface water monitoring plan is currently being drafted and will be presented in a few months the board, and a presentation regarding LIO ecosystem recovery plan could be presented as well. There was some discussion around emerging containments and groundwater management.
- Clark also updated the board that future meetings could be hosted through WebEx, which will allow members to attend from their home or offsite location.
- Clark informed the WRAC that the group's charter needs to be updated and that there are 3 at large position vacancies. Members Barbara Brock and Tom Vos are stepping down and requested for the board to reach out to individuals who might be interested in serving on this committee.
- Jennifer Riedmayer updated the board that she will be updating the WRAC website and will provided content that will require their review and feedback.

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Meeting Closure

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Next Meetings:

April 06, 2017 (Oak Harbor Public Works Facility)

May 04, 2017 (Camano Center)

June 1, 2017 (Oak Harbor Public Works)