

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, February 1, 2017 2:30—4:30 PM

WSU Extension Office

406 N. Main St., Coupeville

Call to Order and Introductions

Citizen Members: Don Lee, Julius Budos, John Lovie, Tom Fox, Joe Grogan, Al Williams, Dave Thomas

Island County Staff: Jenny Schofield, Lori Clark, IC Natural Resources Department; Nathan Howard, IC Planning & Community Development Department

Guests: Jim Patton, WIWSA

Adoption of December WRAC Meeting Summary Notes

Al Williams made a motion to approve the December meeting minutes. John Lovie seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Discussion/ Announcements

- **Coordinated Water Systems Plan (CWSP):** Al Williams has concerns about coordinated water systems, due to the fact that he doesn't believe that it meets the needs of all individuals that reside on Whidbey Island. The limitation of water right to people who live here due to the quality of life/rural life and not urbanization.
 - Don Lee: state level planning is for the future and a utopian ideal that won't be realized in their lifetimes.
 - Nathan Howard: Urban Growth Boundary protects our rural areas. Maintaining our resources is important for public health and infrastructure. Coordinated water system is about coordinating, not about removing rights from individuals but keeping resources safe and quality for everyone.
 - John Lovie: The coordinated water system won't cause urbanization of our rural areas because our planning regulations don't permit the corporate infrastructure.
- **PFAS Update**
 - **See attached materials/presentation**
 - **Joe Grogan PFAS Community Update**
 - Coupeville drinking water will be treated by Navy.
 - When and how the drinking water will be treated is still being determined. Navy still has to evaluate methods.
 - 30% design to be completed by end of February.
 - In October, the Navy finished drilling groundwater monitoring wells.
 - Hydrologic Data: Well test have been done to get an idea what the Coupeville water system is doing to the plume hydrologically.
 - Preliminary data has been collected but not been verified yet.
 - It's not straight-forward how the plume is moving through the water supply.
 - Don Lee: How much will the water system have to process in terms of gallons per day?
 - Maximum daily demand for water treatment is approximately ½ million gallons currently and projected for ¾ million in the future.

- Navy will design, maintain and install the infrastructure and then will commit to a 2 year maintenance agreement.
 - Community will have to be in charge of maintenance and then submit for reimbursed by Navy.
- Standards not yet set and could change. Design can only be set for below the current advisory recommendation, and standards most likely will change as time goes on.
- Alternatives to PFAS are to move away from fluorine additives.

Group A Service Area/ Independent Wells Update

- John Lovie gave brief overview of what was discussed in December WRAC meeting for members that were absent. *See December minutes for additional information.*

Coordinated Water Systems Plan CWSP subcommittee Update (Nathan Howard)

- If BOCC supports CWSP Review how will subcommittees work together?
 - Ideas discussed:
 - Outside of regular WRAC meetings or in lieu
 - Possibly meet every other WRAC meeting
 - Meet before scheduled WRAC meetings
 - In place of WRAC for first and then possible variations following
- No funding is present at the moment, possibly not in need of much funding and can be done internally.
- Hope to get guidance from other counties/individuals that have previously completed an update.
 - Whatcom County and Department of Health want to come discuss their update.
- Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) would need to be created to do a formal update.
- Al Williams: Have specific problems have been identified?
- Nathan Howard: I have identified some but that is what the point of the exercise will be to identify problems and make recommendations
 - Goal of CWSP was to stop the proliferation of Group B systems but in practice hasn't worked very well. A lot of Group B's have been developed.
 - Nathan Howard: Without getting too much into it fire flow regulations hindering people from improving their systems or coordinating with other systems etc., there are problems.
 - Al Williams: Hasn't been as aware of some of these problems other than the permitting problems.
 - Nathan Howard: There are other problems that I am sure that and of the Whidbey Island Water System Associations members can discuss, in relation to the issues with water systems in general and the CWSP does set standards and design standards. As you read through you see that other jurisdictions have better guidelines to make sure of compliance. We have a problem with compliance, plan isn't clearly defined so enforcement is challenging.
 - State standards are in place but the state's ability to enforce on those standards is limited and that's a function of staffing.
 - Nathan Howard: Regulations aren't working well enough and causing people that want to do the right thing trouble and not enforcing against people who don't want to do the right thing.
 - IC could help by identifying enforcement areas.
 - Don Lee would like to see incentives to join or add people to Group A systems. Currently it is very challenging and there are no incentives.

2018 Workplan Development

- Workplan topics for consideration:
 - CWU Review- Phase 2 implementation
 - Residential Stormwater Management incentives
 - CWSP Review
 - Group A Private Wells
- Don Lee, Julius Budos, John Lovie, and Tom Fox will all be present at BOCC meeting for workplan discussion.

Public Comments

Meeting Closure

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Next Meetings:

March 01, 2018 WSU Extension Office, Coupeville

April 5, 2018 Camano Island Library