



# CLEAN WATER COMMISSION

For the Department of Environmental Services

Meeting Summary  
**Wednesday, January 7, 2015**  
**6:30 PM – 8:30 PM**  
**Public Service Center, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Training Room**  
**1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver**

**Members Present:** Rob McKinney, David Meyer, Susan Rasmussen, Dick Rylander, Gary Schaeffer, Virginia van Breemen, Melanie Wheeler

**Members Absent:** Jim Carlson,

**Staff Present:** Earl Rowell, Bobbi Trusty, Ron Wierenga

**Partner Agency Staff Present:** None

**Public Present:** Art Stubbs, NACCC

**I ROLL CALL**

The December 3, 2014 meeting summary was approved as submitted

**II PUBLIC COMMENT (2:13)**

None

**III. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION**

**CWP Polluter Fee Report Status (2:45)**

Mr. Wierenga reviewed a draft project charter, sharing the mission, objectives, and deliverables. The prime objective is to make sure that the fee rate structure is equitable, defensible and feasible. Commissioners discussed solid waste data, if there will be a public process and the timing to complete the study.

Mr. Wierenga responded that at this time a data analysis is being completed from information collected through Ecology and the county. The analysis might show data gaps and those will be filled as necessary. The timeline is to complete the report work by May, get public and stakeholder input, and then report to the Board in June. Mr. Wierenga will ask staff to email a copy of the project charter to the commissioners.

**Draft 2014 CC Clean Water Commission Annual Report (30:09)**

Mr. Rylander reviewed the commission report and commented that all the recommendations received are incorporated into the report. Mr. Meyer commended Mr. Rylander regarding the amount of work that was put into completing the comprehensive report. The other commissioners agreed that it is very well put together. Some further changes were suggested regarding formatting.



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#### **Motion 2015-01 (34:49)**

Mr. Schaeffer made a motion to accept the draft annual report content with the suggested formatting corrections. It was seconded and approved. Motion passed.

Mr. Rylander will correct the format as recommended and forward to county staff for processing to the Board of County Councilors.

#### **2015 Project Team Assignments and Expectations, Timing, etc. (38:20)**

Mr. Rylander handed out a paper with the project working group assignments and discussed the guidelines. The commissioners all agreed with their assignments.

#### **Review the 13.30A.040 CWC Responsibilities (47:07)**

Mr. Rylander brought up for discussion the commission responsibilities and focus to ensure compliance with the code. Commissioners discussed their frustration as they feel they missed the mark in 2014, how they can take last years' experience and make it better as they move forward. Mr. Rylander will work with staff to ensure the agendas include the key aspects of the commissions charge.

#### **Bylaws Review (01:10:50)**

Mr. Rowell led the discussion and reviewed the draft changes to the bylaws. Commissioners discussed term length, appointments and expiration of appointments.

#### **Motion 2015-02 (01:22:43)**

Mr. Schaeffer made a motion to accept the proposed revisions to the bylaws with amendments to dates and grammar. It was seconded and approved. Motion passed.

#### **CWC Participating in interviewing Candidates for Vacancies (01:25:00)**

Mr. Rylander wanted to ask if the commission would be interested in interviewing the new candidates as they become available. Commissioners discussed the pros and cons of being involved and decided that this topic would be followed up at the next meeting.

#### **NPDES Permit Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) (01:36:50)**

Mr. Wierenga gave a brief summary of what the advisory group does regarding the Design Manual and Code update process. Mr. Rylander asked who would like to be on target to attend these meetings and report back to the commission. Mr. Meyer said that he would be willing to take on those responsibilities

#### **V COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION (01:41:45)**

Ms. Rasmussen visited Ms. Grimstads property with Councilor Madore and Mr. Dyrland a hydrologist from Fish First. Ms. Rasmussen verified that Ms. Grimstad has a senior water right. Ms. Grimstad told Ms. Rasmussen that she is filing a suit in Federal court because she believes that the county is responsible for the degradation of her water right because of the approval of the Short Plat development off 412<sup>th</sup> Street. Ms. Rasmussen spoke with the county's Health Department and the Washington State Department of Ecology and they agreed that the wells and septic systems for the development are out of the buffer area.



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Ms. Rasmussen did notice that the Skamania County side of the road has a ditch, but the Clark County side does not and hopes that it doesn't violate the county's stormwater permit. Mr. Wierenga said that it is not uncommon for only one side of the road to have a ditch and clarified that the water right allows Ms. Grimstad to take water out of the spring as it comes out of the ground and not the stream. The development going on out there is permitted and operating with the conditions. Mr. Wierenga feels that the county is doing everything they can.

### **V PUBLIC COMMENT (01:56:29)**

Mr. Stubbs asked if the idea with the current budget is to meet the minimum requirements of NPDES Permit or to develop a program that surpasses the permit and leads to cleaning up the water and will the new budget include capital programs.

Mr. Stubbs thinks that the commission should stay out of the selection process to keep an eclectic diverse group and not a bunch of like-minded individuals.

On the three project team assignments, be careful on the polluter fee as it is perceived as a Columbian Newspaper penalty. The SWAMP is a great idea because of the diverse group you will need to solicit information from to create a new program or not to. Finally, on the education group make sure to be clear are you asking for information or informing the public. The public expects change and they want to be listened to, so be prepared to do something or let them know why you cannot.

### **VII ADJOURN – 08:37 PM**

Summary provided by: Bobbi Trusty / 360-397-2121 x 5268

*For more detailed information, an audio recording for this meeting is available through the county website at:*  
<http://www.clark.wa.gov/environment/stormwater/management/commission.html>