



CLEAN WATER COMMISSION

For the Department of Environmental Services

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, May 6, 2015

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

**Public Service Center, 6th Floor Training Room
1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver**

Members Present: Marie La Manna, David Meyer, Dick Rylander, Gary Schaeffer, Mark Schneider, Kate Schoof

Members Absent: Jim Carlson, Susan Rasmussen

Staff Present: Earl Rowell, Bobbi Trusty, Chris Clifford

Partner Agency Staff Present: None

Public Present: None

I ROLL CALL

Introductions were completed by each commission member present and Mr. Rowell reviewed the packet contents.

The March 4, 2015 meeting summary was approved as submitted.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT (10:10)

None

III. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION

Clean Water Fee (11:49)

Mr. Meyer provided some background regarding the Clean Water fee rate increase that took place in July of 2014. The Board of County Councilors asked the Clean Water program to complete a study within one year or the fee increase would sunset.

The Clean Water Commission created a task force to review the fee study. The task force along with county staff are completing the study, reviewing others fees, and gathering data to make sure the fee is equitable and defensible.

Mr. Clifford described the three sections of the report that will go to the councilors:

- Section 1 (currently in draft form) provides history of the NPDES permit, compares rates of other jurisdictions, equivalent residential units, and the methodology of Clark County fees.
- Section 2 will cover a “polluter pays” model. Information will be developed in part by using polluter studies that were recently completed by Washington State University and the Department of Ecology.
- Section 3 will provide recommendations to form a sustainable program fee that will meet NPDES Permit compliance as each permit requires the county to do more.



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Education/Outreach Task Force (31:33)

Mr. Rylander stated that the task force is trying to update a previous slide show that was used by the commission for completing presentations to groups. He also commented that he had some interactions with the Neighborhood Association of Clark County, the Vancouver Watershed Alliance and Clark College. Mr. Rylander is hoping to learn what these groups do and find ways to recruit or complete outreach with these folks.

Mr. Rowell provided two educational videos to assist the commission to understand stormwater management. The links for those videos are attached:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0FpkWjEmRm0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0x-TDvnbheM>

Proposed modifications to 13.30A.040 CWC Responsibilities (47:37)

Mr. Rylander reviewed a draft proposal for modifications for the CWC responsibilities. The original responsibilities were written in 1999 and did not reflect the changes to the charter. Please submit any comments to Mr. Rylander via email by June 1.

Staff Report: Overview of the NPDES 2013-2018 Permit for Clark County (51:25)

Mr. Rowell provided some background regarding the formation of the Clean Water Program, the NPDES permit and then shared a presentation regarding the current 2013-2018 Permit for Clark County.

Using Google mail and docs for CWC (1:17:19)

Mr. Rylander shared that he and Mr. Carlson discussed the concept to create google mail and a document sharing group for communicating and coordinating work between commission members and task force teams. Commissioners discussed account set up, uniformity, access, and controls. Since there were no objections from the group, Mr. Rylander will research the concept and put together more specific details that address the concerns raised and will follow-up at the next meeting.

Proposed Field Trip – (1:28:20)

Mr. Rowell reviewed the locations that will be part of the tour. It was agreed that the field trip will be scheduled for May 28, 2015, at 8:00 am, leaving from the back of the building of the Clark County Public Service Center. Mr. Rowell suggested that the tour should take approximately four hours. It is suggested you dress appropriately for the weather and wear sturdy footwear.

Commissioner Discussion time (1:39:53)

Mr. Rylander asked folks to submit their skills sets to him if they have not done so already.

Mr. Rylander routed around a card for Ms. van Breemen to thank her for her service as she has recently stepped down from the commission.



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CLEAN WATER COMMISSION For the Department of Environmental Services

Mr. Schneider attended a Willamette River Keepers presentation where the City of Portland completed a presentation. During the discussion they implied their biggest challenge was getting participation from the community.

Ms. La Manna asked if the current fee increase budget will meet the requirements of the NPDES Permit. Mr. Rowell answered that the annual amount is estimated at \$6.8 million and will allow the department to meet the needs of the current NPDES Permit cycle, but it will not put money in the bank (into what is called *Reserve Funds*).

Mr. Schaeffer would like to start trying to develop something similar to the 20 year Comprehensive Plan but for Environmental Planning. It seems there should be a way to forecast the needs versus playing catchup with the fees all the time.

V PUBLIC COMMENT (1:53:34)

None

VII ADJOURN – 08:25 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>