



THURSTON COUNTY
WASHINGTON
SINCE 1852

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Cathy Wolfe
District One
Diane Oberquell
District Two
Robert N. Macleod
District Three

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Nisqually Reach and Henderson Inlet Shellfish Protection Districts
Combined Oversight Committee
Meeting Notes October 8, 2003

Nisqually Shellfish Protection District present:

Members: Tris Carlson Christine Buckley Linda Malatesta Bryan Wilson
Alternates: Fred Michelson

Henderson Inlet Protection District present:

Members: Peter Heide Lisa Dennis-Perez Mark Sloan Mark Blosser
Steve Langer

Alternate: None

Staff: Mark J. Swartout
Art Starry
Sue Davis

Guests: Mark Fischer (Community Shellfish Farm Project)
Chris Hempleman (Ecology)
Kirk Robinson (Thurston Conservation District)
Kris VanGorkom (Thurston Conservation District)
Stuart Glasoe (Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team)

1. Meeting called to order by Mark Swartout.
2. Mark provided a brief overview of activities leading up to this meeting.
3. Discussed the Risk Based On-site Sewage System Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Program, a task in the Henderson Inlet Watershed Centennial Grant – Sue Davis
 - A. A handout was provided that was used for the basis of the presentation.
 - B. The O&M task in the grant is for \$142,000 with the goal of developing and implementing a Risk Based O&M Program for septic systems in the Henderson Inlet Watershed in order to protect water quality and public health.
 - C. The project period will go through June 2006.
 - D. Staff will discuss with the Board of Health a strategy to move forward with this task on Oct. 20th from 1:30 to 3:30.
4. Discussed the proposed 2004 Shellfish Protection Work Plan.
 - A. The proposed 2004 work plan would be funded by the Shellfish Protection Fund, which is 28% of the Conservation District annual assessment revenue about \$130,000/yr beginning in 2003. For 2003 and 2004 \$15,000/yr is provided to the TCD for their Nisqually Grant match. For 2003 no money except for the grant match has been spent.

Each year any unspent funds are rolled over to the next year.

- B. The 2004 work plan needs to be mutually approved by the County Commissioners and the Conservation District Board of Supervisors.
 - C. Discussed the 2 Thurston Conservation District proposals for the 2004 Work Plan – Kris VanGorkom and Kirk Robinson.
 - 1) The 2 proposed elements of the work plan were provided with the meeting material.
 - 2) Total proposed cost of the TCD portion of the work plan is \$51,244.20 = \$41,244.20 (TCD) + \$10,000 (EHD educators to assist the TCD with the watershed pledge project).
 - 3) Mark Fischer gave an update on the Henderson Community Shellfish Farm project and request \$20,000 to help support the project.
 - 4) After discussion the committee agreed to recommend funding these three projects in 2004, which total \$71,244.20.
 - D. Discussed the recommendations in the SPD Plans which would be wholly or partially the Environmental Health responsibilities in the 2004 work plan.
 - 1) A table was provided outlining the committee's recommendations each listed with information such as amount of time, start date, \$ needed, \$ available, and discussion.
 - 2) Most of the listed recommendations under Septic Systems are included in the Henderson Grant, and that the SPD committee will be invited to assist in developing the details needed to implement these recommendations. Not included in the grant are follow-up inspections on new systems 6 months after final inspection and offer low interest loans to all property owners regardless of income level. The EHD intends to act on the low interest loan recommendation.
 - 3) Key concerns expressed regarding the septic O&M recommendation included:
 - a. That no on-the-ground septic activities will be implemented until 2006.
 - b. The centennial grant fund development and implementation of a Risk Based O&M program in Henderson Inlet District while nothing will be done in the Nisqually Reach District until after 2006.
 - c. Need to include the private sector in inspections to help keep the program affordable.
 - 4) The committee agreed to recommend the following agriculture-related work plan elements depending on review of assessment Ordinance on legality of using these funds for these purposes:
 - a. Actively enforce the current Non-Point Ordinance not just relying on complaints - \$25,000
 - b. Review and revise the Non-Point Ordinance to ensure enforceability - \$30,000.
 - E. If both the County Commissioners and Conservation District Supervisors agree with the proposed work plan recommended by the committee, it would cost about \$126,245.
5. The remaining agenda items were postponed until the November 12th meeting due to time constraints.
6. Adjourn