

KING COUNTY AGRICULTURE COMMISSION

MEETING NOTICE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2016
4:00 – 7:00 P.M. AT THE ISSAQUAH FISH HATCHERY
125 WEST SUNSET WAY, ISSAQUAH

PROPOSED MEETING AGENDA

(AGENDA ITEM TIMES ARE TENTATIVE)

4:00	Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions• Approval of Agenda• Approval of Minutes (January and December modifications)• Update on commission voting privileges/Financial Disclosure Forms- Patrice	George Irwin, Chair
4:15	Public Comment	George Irwin, Chair
4:20-5:30	Farm King County Website Launch and Review Actions: Q&A, Comments, Suggestions	Mike Lufkin and Patrice Barrentine
5:30	Break	
5:45-6:15	Lower Snoqualmie Flooding and Needs Assessment Actions: Q&A	Sally King, Clint Loper
6:15-6:30	H&H Study of the Snoqualmie Update Actions: Q&A	Clint Loper
6:30-6:45	Strategic Planning Continued <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timeline for top ranked policies and activities	Patrice Barrentine
6:45	Updates (approx. 5 min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• King Conservation District• Announcements	KCD Staff Commissioners
7:00	Adjourn	George Irwin, Chair

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 10th

2016 Meeting Topics Calendar

Complete	Topic	Who	When	Outcomes	
				Letter advising County Executive	Notes
✓	What's Going on with Ag in Other Counties?	Snohomish	Jan		
		Skagit			
		Pierce	Mar-Apr		
✓	Appoint a commissioner and an Alternate for KCD Advisory Board		Jan		
	Farm Fish Flood Letter for Consideration/Policy		Feb		
	New Farm King County Website		Feb		
	Commissioner Service Recognition and Reception		Mar		
	Tour – Vashon; Purpose of Commission, FPP, ADAP, Buffers, Salmon-Recovery, Drip Irrigation, Drought, WID, Reclaimed Water, Keller Ditch, Tall Chief, Ag Regulatory Changes		Apr		
	Joint Meeting with Rural Forestry Commission		2016		
	Commission Policies and Procedures: Review and Modify				



www.farmkingcounty.org

**King County Agriculture Commission
DRAFT Minutes from
Thursday, January 14, 2016
Watershed Science Center, Issaquah**

Commissioners	P	A	Commissioners	P	A
Nancy Hutto, Chair	X		Bob Vos	X	
George Irwin, Vice Chair	X		Siri Erickson-Brown	X	
Eldon Murray		X	Larry Pickering		X
Roger Calhoon	X		Shelby Jors	X	
Leigh Newman-Bell	X		LeAnn Krainick	X	
Meredith Molli	X		Amy Holmes	X	
Anne Becker	X				

P=Present; A=Absent

Staff Present	
Patrice Barrentine	Richard Martin
Kathy Creahan	Randy Sandin
Mike Lufkin	
Guests Present	
Kate Delavan, American Farmland Trust (AFT)	Lora Liegel
Chris Keenan, AFT	Jeff McMorris
Bruce Elliott	Linda Neunzig

Meeting Action Summary

- | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 2015 Meeting Minutes Approved • KC Comp Plan Update • Snohomish County Agriculture Overview • Strategic Planning for 2016 Commission Topics • Commission Elections/Appointments |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Meeting Called to Order by Nancy Hutto at 4:00 pm

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Meredith Molli to approve the December 10, 2015 minutes. The motion was seconded by Leigh Newman-Bell and passed unanimously. Kathy Creahan added that one phrase in the minutes, stating that the Magnochi farm was proposed to be re-designated as urban land in the upcoming comp plan, was incorrect, and she would follow up with Patrice Barrentine for a correction.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by acclamation.

New Commissioners Update – Patrice Barrentine

Patrice Barrentine gave a brief update on Commissioner appointments. She made a correction on Anne Becker's status, that Ms. Becker's voting privileges had indeed been approved by the King County Council (KCC) as of the prior Commission meeting. She added that Bruce Elliott's voting privileges, however, were still pending KCC approval.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

KC Comprehensive Plan Update – Kathy Creahan

Kathy Creahan gave an update on the 2016 King County Comp Plan. She said the agriculture-related policy proposals and edits from the Commission had gone forward in the Public Review Draft process. She added that an Executive Proposed Draft with incorporated feedback would be transmitted to KCC at the beginning of March 2016. She detailed several land use and docket items that had not moved forward in the review process.

Nancy Hutto asked about the status of "Farm Flood Fish" (FFF) in this process. Ms. Creahan replied that a recommendation would not come out of the ongoing local FFF multi-stakeholder group meetings until after the transmittal of the Executive Proposed Draft to KCC, and that the two existing FFF policies would go forward unchanged. Any new recommendation from the stakeholder meetings, she continued, would go before KCC and be incorporated into their review of the comp plan. At the request of Ms. Hutto, Ms. Creahan then briefly reviewed the history of contention associated with FFF, largely between the conflicting goals of: protecting agricultural lands, utilizing land for salmon recovery, and flood risk reduction. Siri Erickson-Brown cited concern about ongoing conflicting directives in different sections of the comp plan in regards to these three goals. She suggested that current FFF policy language be modified to be more accessible to the public, so as to better inform them about FFF's specific goals. Lengthy discussion followed on multiple facets of the FFF implementation process, including concerns about the format and timing of FFF meetings.

Snohomish County Agriculture – Linda Neunzig, SC Ag Project Coordinator

Patrice Barrentine introduced Linda Neunzig, who spoke on the subject of Snohomish County (SC) agriculture. She described SC's agriculture advisory board: 11 members, each representing different commodities and river basins in the area. She said that the board's primary goal for 2016 was to get "out and about" in the county, conducting field visits and holding meetings in different areas. She said an additional goal was for board members to create a work plan, to determine what each would like to accomplish in their position on the board.

She defined her role with SC as an ombudswoman to the farming community with constantly varying duties. The overall goal of her position is "economic development" for farmers, ensuring their ventures are profitable. She complimented King County's Farmland Preservation Program, stating this is an area where SC still struggles. She said there had been some success, though, and that two farmland preservation projects had been closed in SC in late 2015.

Her next topic was SAEDAT (“Snohomish County Agricultural Economic Development Action Team”). She described SAEDAT as containing all data the county had gathered from local farmers over a year, detailing what they need to be economically viable in their farming practices. She said the list was first compiled in 2008, and the county had now completed nearly everything on that list. She said the county’s next step would be to go back to local farmers this year and gather more current information.

The next topic was SC’s Sustainable Land Strategy (SLS), described as their version of King County’s FFF. SLS is set up with representatives from local native tribes, environmental habitat groups, and agriculture. The first year was largely spent building trust and mutual understanding between the represented groups, she said.

One significant obstacle farmers faced in the SLS/FFF conflicts, she said, was the lack of an easily defined goal/need for those in agriculture, as opposed to hard data numbers provided by the salmon recovery groups. Siri Erickson-Brown re-raised the discussion on defining economic viability for farmers, and her concern that what should be addressed is the future need in terms of farmland resource for an area to feed itself, particularly during crises. After this discussion Ms. Neunzig detailed several “wins” for agriculture that had been achieved by SLS: bringing more land back into agricultural production, increased drainage, etc. After some further discussion, a suggestion was raised about a possible future collaborative meeting between FFF and SLS.

She then spoke about Focus on Farming, a farming conference held annually in the city of Monroe. Focus on Forestry was added to the conference this year, she said, due to a lack of representation of the forestry industry in Snohomish County. She invited anyone from King County willing to contribute to the conference to contact her.

She concluded with upcoming projects for the county, one of which was direct foreign investments, such as introducing new industry to areas directly affected by the Oso landslide. Other potential investments included manufacture of cedar oil, shipping corn/grass silage to Japan, and construction of a geothermal hydroponic greenhouse.

BREAK

Commission Policies/Procedures: Review & Modify – Nancy Hutto, Patrice Barrentine

This topic was tabled for a future meeting.

Strategic Planning (Continued) – Patrice Barrentine

Patrice Barrentine brought forth a compiled list of proposed action topics from previous meetings and organized a Commission vote to narrow down the five highest priorities for the Commission to address in 2016. She also invited Commissioners to submit any new topic suggestions. The top five choices after two rounds of voting were:

1. Drainage, water issues
2. Weigh in on County land purchases, RFP processes, etc. for future purchases (*tied for #1*)
3. Rules and regulations related to farming
4. Involve general public in supporting farming – political, market purchases (*tied for #3*)

5. Flood control improvements (along with FFF)

Additional topic suggestions included:

- Amend “Involve general public...” topic to include more emphasis on marketing to and educating a broader population on agriculture
- Strengthen relationships with Seattle Tilth, etc. to bolster representation of the county agricultural community
- Combine “MOUs with Seattle Tilth...” with “Weigh in on County land purchases, RFP...”
- Standing agenda item for more “quick reports” from a few key local agricultural organizations, on a rotating periodic basis
- Emphasis on more consistent/direct contact and discussion with the KCC/County Executive

Commission Elections – Nancy Hutto

Nancy Hutto addressed the proposed nominations for Chair of the Commission, George Irwin, respectively. Calls for additional nominations yielded no results. Ms. Hutto entertained a motion to elect Mr. Irwin as Chair. Bob Vos made the motion and LeAnn Krainick seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Hutto addressed the proposed nominations for Vice Chair of the Commission, LeAnn Krainick, respectively. Anne Becker made the motion to elect Ms. Krainick as Vice Chair, George Irwin seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Hutto then addressed the proposed nominations for a Primary and an Alternate member of the King Conservation District Advisory Board, Shelby Jors and Meredith Molli, respectively. Calls for additional nominations yielded no results. Ms. Hutto entertained a motion by George Irwin to elect Ms. Jors as Primary. Leigh Newman-Bell seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Anne Becker moved to elect Meredith Molli as the Alternate. George Irwin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Various Updates – Commissioners, KCD Staff, Mike Lufkin, Patrice Barrentine

Amy Holmes complimented the assistance provided to the Commission by various entities throughout the code/Comp Plan revision process. Bob Vos added that he was encouraged by the progress with the proposed regulatory changes in regards to helping agriculture.

Amy Holmes gave an update on the King Conservation District (KCD). She said KCD was soliciting feedback from farmers on what they wished to learn more about, or showcase from their own farms. She said KCD was now publicly targeting efforts in the Newaukum Creek Basin area, and forming partnerships with American Farmland Trust and the state Department of Ecology. She added that KCD would have a booth at the Northwest Flower Show in February, and that the annual Native Plant Sale would be in March. She further added that KCD had elected two new individuals to assist on their Advisory Committee, and two more are being sought for Rural Landowner and Alternate positions on the Committee. She concluded by stating that KCD was still in search of an Executive Director.

Mike Lufkin provided an update on the status of the King County “One-Stop-Shop” (OSS) website. He said the OSS was meant to be a comprehensive online resource with useful information for farmers, and that the website had been in development for the past six to eight months. The site’s name will be farmkingcounty.org and has a live launch goal date of March 1. He said a beta-version of the site would be available for walk-through at the next Commission meeting prior to the live launch.

Patrice Barrentine reminded Commissioners that their annual Financial Disclosure forms were due. She made an additional statement recognizing the volunteer dedication of those who have served on the Commission, and that a reception for commissioner service is being planned for next meeting. The reception will start at 3:30 pm, to be followed by years-of-service recognitions as the first official agenda item for the meeting. Ms. Barrentine added an apology on behalf of John Taylor for his absence at this meeting, and relayed his heads-up regarding King County performing an upcoming winery study that would address concerns about possible winery infringements on Sammamish APD land.

Nancy Hutto was thanked for her time and service as Chair. Ms. Hutto said she had by and large enjoyed her time as Chair, and felt their voices as Commissioners had been valued and appreciated. She expressed her gratitude to the Commission.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:00 pm

Next Meeting

Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 4:00 pm

Issaquah Fish Hatchery, Watershed Science Center, Issaquah

**King County Agriculture Commission
DRAFT Minutes from
Thursday, December 10, 2015
Watershed Science Center, Issaquah**

Commissioners	P	A	Commissioners	P	A
Nancy Hutto, Chair		X	Bob Vos	X	
George Irwin, Vice Chair	X		Siri Erickson-Brown		X
Eldon Murray	X		Larry Pickering		X
Roger Calhoon	X		Shelby Jors	X	
Leigh Newman-Bell	X		Leann Krainick	X	
Meredith Molli	X		Amy Holmes	X	

P=Present; A=Absent

Staff Present	
Patrice Barrentine	Richard Martin
Kathy Creahan	Megan Moore
Steve Evans	Ted Sullivan
Guests Present	
King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert	Unidentified Guest
Bruce Elliott	

Meeting Action Summary

- | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> November Meeting Minutes Approved New Commissioners Update FPP Acquisition Update Commission Topics for 2016 Next Meeting: January 14, 2016 at 4:00 pm |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Meeting Called to Order by George Irwin at 4:11 pm

Approval of Minutes

Amy Holmes made a motion to approve the November 12, 2015 meeting minutes. Leann Krainick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Amy Holmes made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Meredith Molli seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

New Commissioners Update – Patrice Barrentine

Patrice Barrentine gave a brief update on the status of several Commissioner appointments with the King County Council (KCC). She said that currently six of the eight new Commissioners were now eligible to vote at tonight’s meeting, and that the remaining two (Bruce Elliott and Anne Becker) were pending Council approval due to paperwork delays.

Comp Plan Update –Kathy Creahan

Kathy Creahan advised the Commission that the Public Review Draft of the 2016 King County comp plan was now online, and that Chapter 3 of the plan was the section relevant to rural and resource lands. She said that in addition to policy, the comp plan was where designations are made. She continued that there were two land use amendments in the Draft involving agriculture: the Tall Chief land being rezoned as agricultural and added to the APD, and the Area Zoning Study #12, which addresses a possible change in designation (rural to urban) of ~~several land parcels~~ a property adjacent to the city of Carnation ~~and the Snoqualmie APD~~. Ms. Creahan reported that the primary area of concern here ~~was the parcel designated A-35 in the Study #12 handout, a farm owned by the Magnochi family, which is adjacent to the outer boundary of the Carnation urban area and therefore facing possible re-designation as urban land.~~ Is the potential impact to the APD, specifically to the MAGnochi property, which is directly adjacent to the subject parcels. She added that the comp plan’s manager, Ivan Miller with King County PSB, would be willing to attend the Commission’s January meeting to receive feedback on the plan from the Commission. She said that the County’s current recommendation on Study #12 was to not expand Carnation’s Urban Growth Area boundary, but would consider a “4-2-1” proposal if the property owner wants to submit one. This would entail a portion of the urban-adjacent property being designated as urban, with the remainder designated as open-space or resource. Ms. Creahan went on to clarify that she was not necessarily requesting the Commission discuss this matter today, but did want them to be aware of it.

Farmland Preservation Program Acquisition Update – Ted Sullivan

Ted Sullivan then introduced and discussed at length a PowerPoint presentation on FPP. The presentation included acreage, purchase, and funding data from 1985-2015 land/easement acquisitions by the County in several APDs, as well as potential areas of growth for 2016 and onward. There were several follow-up points of discussion from the Commission, including how the County determines land value, requirements for easements, and the County possibly searching outside APDs for additional land.

BREAK

Strategic Planning, Committee Formation & Meeting Schedule – Patrice Barrentine

Ms. Barrentine reviewed with the Commission a checklist of topics designated to have been addressed in their 2015 meetings, and which of these topics to keep as ongoing discussion items for 2016.

Ms. Barrentine then reviewed the current committees under the Commission, and asked for new volunteers for each for 2016. Bob Vos requested to be removed from the Selection committee. Mr.

Elliott agreed to serve on the Lower Green committee. Mr. Vos, Ms. Holmes, Eldon Murray, and Ms. Krainick volunteered for the Access to Farmland committee. Ms. Molli and Leigh Newman-Bell volunteered for the Snoqualmie/Farm Fish Flood (FFF) committee.

Ms. Barrentine also reviewed a checklist of Commission accomplishments in 2016. Suggested highlights included several support letters to the King County Executive and the extensive work completed on FFF; Ms. Molli added the work completed on the comp plan and code change proposals, and Ms. Barrentine added the Food Initiative as a highlight as well.

Ms. Barrentine then entertained suggestions from the Commission on new topics to address for the coming year. She advised that she would organize the suggestions and bring them back before the Commission to review in detail at the January meeting.

Other Updates

Ms. Barrentine and Ms. Molli reported that they would have a more thorough update from the Regulatory Committee after their January 2016 meeting.

Steve Evans informed the Commission that the vote on the Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Improvement District had passed with 94% of the votes in favor of the proposal, and the WID had been officially formed as of December 7. The five commissioners were also chosen, and sworn in at KCC this past week. The new WID commissioners are: Siri Erickson-Brown, Jason Roetcisoender, Gary Remlinger, David Andrews, and Patrick McGlothlin. Mr. Evans added that the success of this measure meant there was now a template for forming other WIDs.

Mr. Vos reported that the KCC had voted 6 – 2 in favor of the Keller family's purchase of the Tall Chief land. Kathy Lambert added that the support letter to the KCC from the Commission had been very powerful.

Ms. Holmes stated that KCD was still in search of an executive director, and that they would welcome any input from the Commission on this decision. She said the goal date for a hire was February 2016.

Ms. Barrentine reviewed the upcoming meeting dates for 2016. She reminded the Commissioners to submit candidate suggestions for the upcoming elections for Chair and Vice Chair in January, as well as appointing a commissioner and alternate to serve on KCD's advisory committee. She added there would be three possible upcoming vacancies on the Commission.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:56 pm

Next Meeting

Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 4:00 pm

Issaquah Fish Hatchery, Watershed Science Center, Issaquah

Statement of Financial and Other Interests

King County Board, Commission, Committees, and Other
Multimember Bodies

Filing Year 2015

Read all instructions carefully, then fully complete each section. Incomplete forms cannot be filed



Ethics Program
Office of Civil Rights & Open
Government
Department of Executive Services
CNK-ES-0215
401 Fifth Ave., Suite 215
Seattle, WA 98104
206-263-7821 Fax 206-296-4329
TTY Relay 711
board.ethics@kingcounty.gov

Name: _____ Board or Commission: _____

I am filing within two weeks of initial nomination or appointment, reporting on the preceding 12 calendar months.

Nomination or appointment date: _____

I am filing an annual statement, reporting on calendar year 2015 (See Item No. 3, "Period of Reporting" in Filing Instructions).

Financial and Other Interests to Report

Note: Underlined terms are defined in the Filing Instructions and in the Code of Ethics

A. Compensation, Gifts and Things of Value

During the reporting period, did you, or a member of your immediate family receive compensation, gifts, or things of value from any person engaged in any transaction with King County in which you participated or for which you had responsibility as a board, commission or committee member?

No Yes

If **yes**, please provide the following information

1) Name of each person engaged in any transaction with King County from whom the compensation, gift, or thing of value was received

2) Name of individual who received the compensation, gift, or thing of value and their relationship to you

Describe the situation and provide any additional information regarding the compensation, gift or thing of value for the Ethics Program's consideration below.

B. Financial Interests

During the reporting period, did you, or a member of your immediate family possess a financial interest in any person engaged in any transaction with King County in which you participated or for which you had responsibility as a board, commission or committee member?

No Yes

If **yes**, please provide the following information:

1) Name of each person engaged in any transaction with King County in whom a financial interest was possessed

2) Name of individual who possessed the financial interest and their relationship to you

Describe the situation and provide any additional information regarding this financial interest for the Ethics Program's consideration below.

C. Positions

During the reporting period, did you, or a member of your immediate family hold a position in any person engaged in any transaction with King County in which you participated or for which you had responsibility as a board, commission or committee member?

No Yes

If **yes**, please provide the following information:

1) Name of each person engaged in any transaction with King County with whom the position was held

[Empty text box for name of person]

2) Name of individual who held the position and their relationship to you

[Empty text box for name and relationship]

3) Title of the position held

[Empty text box for title]

Describe the situation and provide any additional information regarding the position(s) for the Ethics Program's consideration below.

[Empty text box for description]

D. Real Property

During the reporting period, did you, or a member of your immediate family possess a financial interest in any real property that was either involved in or the subject of a King County action? Property for which the only King county action was valuation or revaluation for tax purposes does not have to be reported, except that employees of the Department of Assessments and Board of Appeals who are required to file this statement shall report property for which valuation or revaluation actions were taken by King County during the reporting period.

No Yes

If **yes**, please provide the following information:

1) Street address, parcel number, or legal description of real property involved in or subject of a King County action

[Empty text box for address]

2) Name of individual who possessed the financial interest and their relationship to you

[Empty text box for name and relationship]

3) Name of the King County department involved in the King County action

[Empty text box for department name]

E. Declaration

By filling out the information below, I affirm that I, _____, am signing this form and declaring under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true, complete, and correct as of date submitted.

Signature: S/ _____

Department: _____ at _____ WA
Date: _____ City State