



**King County**

**Water and Land Resources Division**

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**King County Agriculture Commission  
Special Meeting Minutes  
Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance, Carnation**

Commissioners	P	A	Commissioners	P	A	Commissioners	P	A
Leann Krainick, Chair Pro-Tem	X		Siri Erickson-Brown	X		Leigh Newman-Bell	X	
Amy Holmes, Vice Chair Pro-Tem	X		Shelby Jors	X		Larry Pickering	X	
Roger Calhoon		X	Meredith Molli	X		Bob Vos	X	
Bruce Elliott	X		Eldon Murray		X			

*P=Present; A=Absent*

County Staff Present		
Patrice Barrentine, DNRP	Joan Lee, DNRP	April Sanders, KCC

Guests Present		
Cindy Alia, CAPR	Lee Grumman, City of Carnation	Matt Tregoning
Hannah Cavendish-Palmer, SVT	Cynthia Krass, SVPA	Dennis West, farmer
Matthew Distler, Oxbow Farm	Josh Monaghan, KCD	

**Meeting Action Summary**

- **Farm Fish Flood (FFF) Draft Agreement Discussion**
- **Updates: King Conservation District, Snoqualmie Watershed Improvement District**
- **Next Meeting: December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at Pike Place Market, Seattle**

***Meeting Called to Order at 9:00 am***

**Approval of Meeting Agenda**

The agenda was modified and approved by unanimous acclamation.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Farm Fish Flood (FFF) Draft Agreement – Commission, SVT/SVPA/KCD/County Staff**

The Commission continued discussion on this topic from the prior regular meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Lengthy dialogue involved detailed review of a draft letter by Siri Erickson-Brown, stating general Commission support for the Agreement but also voicing key reservations to its current draft. Most suggestions addressed specific language revisions to the letter.

Amy Holmes stressed this letter should focus on clarifying specific Commission concerns, not making requests. She added that a listed point in the draft letter requesting urgent King County Council (KCC) attention to agriculture code updates in the current Comp Plan cycle may be redundant, as it was decided at

October's Commission meeting that she and Patrice Barrentine would draft a separate Commission letter on that topic. After further discussion, consensus favored leaving this point to be addressed by the forthcoming letter drafted by Ms. Holmes and Ms. Barrentine, as this would emphasize the remaining points in the current letter.

## **BREAK**

### **FFF Draft Agreement, Continued – Commission, SVT/SVPA/KCD/County Staff**

The Commission continued review and revision of the Agreement draft support letter. Siri Erickson-Brown voiced a concern there was insufficient time to finalize and vote on this letter in a full Commission meeting. LeAnn Krainick suggested Patrice Barrentine work up a new draft for approval, to which Ms. Barrentine agreed and proposed that one or two Commissioners be designated to issue final approval on the letter. Bob Vos made a motion to approve the letter as written, contingent on the addition of "bridge" language to be crafted by Ms. Erickson-Brown and Ms. Barrentine, with the final letter to be signed by Ms. Krainick. Larry Pickering seconded the motion, and the Commission approved it unanimously.

April Sanders of KCC member Kathy Lambert's office re-raised a suggestion from earlier in the meeting about a possible proposed amendment to this year's King County Comprehensive Plan, to clarify language in the draft Plan's Appendix A addressing the intended geographical scope of the Snoqualmie Valley FFF process. She said Councilmember Lambert's office would be willing to draft and sponsor the proposed amendment, but Ms. Sanders did not believe it would receive votes at KCC without official support from the Commission. This support would need to come by the next Monday to ensure a 2016 vote. Ms. Barrentine advised this support would need to occur through action at today's meeting, and could not be done through phone or email. Mr. Vos made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pickering, that a revision to the draft of Appendix A be finalized by Amy Holmes on behalf of the Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

The discussion shifted to review of the language in the FFF Advisory Committee Final Report, beginning with Ms. Erickson-Brown and Mr. Vos's recommended revisions. Commissioners offered many further suggestions, all noted by Ms. Barrentine, for new or revised language.

Joan Lee of DNRP advised that the County would relay to FFF participants the Commission's strong support for the Advisory Committee's work and the Commission's concerns about bias in the draft of the Final Report. She said there would be an email to FFF participants, giving the opportunity to weigh in on the Commission's proposed revisions to the Report. She proposed this review could be completed by the New Year. She requested the Commission consider signing an agreement approving the Committee Action Recommendations, to help progress in the ongoing FFF process.

Several issues with the Report were raised that Commissioners believed require further work: proposed composition of the FFF 2.0 Committee and task forces, a mechanism to enforce "bundled" progress of each FFF caucus's priorities, and ensuring follow-through of proposed pilot projects. Mr. Vos suggested forming a subcommittee to assist County staff to find a solution to those issues prior to next Commission meeting. Meredith Molli, Ms. Erickson-Brown, Mr. Vos, and Mr. Pickering volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

### **Updates – King Conservation District, Snoqualmie Watershed Improvement District**

- **King Conservation District (KCD):** Josh Monaghan reported a possible future settlement of a KCD-involved legal case could provide funds for agriculture strategic planning at a County level; more information is forthcoming. He also noted KCD is working with Joan Lee and DNRP on a grant project to clearly define the concept of "farmability." The rough draft of this work, he said, is ready to send to local farmers for review.
- **Snoqualmie Watershed Improvement District:** Cynthia Krass reported the District's new water bank is up and running, and seeking Snoqualmie Valley farmers in search of water rights for 2017. She advised interested parties to contact her for further information.

***Meeting Adjourned at 12:45 pm***

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**Next Meeting**

Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 4:00 pm  
Pike Place Market, Seattle