

Skagit Watershed Council Final Notes

Meeting of the Board of Directors, via Zoom, November 5, 2020

(Underline indicates decision point; parentheses indicate attachment #; ***bold indicate action item**)

Attending: Bill Blake, John Stein, Devin Smith, Michael Kirshenbaum, Jon Vanderheyden, Brendan Brokes, Andrew Bearlin, Richard Brocksmith, Aundrea McBride, Holli Watne

Absent: Jon-Paul Shannahan

9:03 am Call to Order

- Introductions, Determined Quorum, and Approved Agenda with addition of start time discussion (#1)
- Approve Board Notes: October 1, 2020 (#2A and #2B) with track changes, motion by Bill, second by Brendan, approved by consensus.

Executive Director's Report

- Approved September Financial Reports (#3) and 1-year postponement to SWC Audit Schedule, motion by John, second by Brendan, approved by consensus.
 - External, financial audit every 4 years is established in SWC Financial Policies. Would have been due end of 2020 (looking at 2019-2020 fiscal year) but would like to postpone until 2021 due to COVID and complications in communication, etc. Will resume the process in approximately one year or as early as feasible with COVID. ***Will clarify timelines at next month's meeting.**
- Committee Reports and Workplans
 - TWG and Protection Subcommittee: Aundrea provided update. ***Devin would like copy of communication with WSDOT re: O'Brian Reach Feasibility project.** Kari Odden moving to PS and Regina Wandler (both SLT) moving to TWG.
 - CEC: Holli provided update. Working on 'Illuminate Skagit' in place of Illuminight Winter Walk, to be a couple of months long and broadening appeal. Most school districts are participating. Going all virtual in classrooms, luminary contest, and culminating event 1/29/2021.
- 2021 SWC Meeting Schedule (#4) and Lead Entity Schedule Update. Dates look fine so far. ***Board would like to adjust their meeting time to 10:00-noon rather than 9:00-11:00am to best accommodate everyone's schedules.**

Old Business

- Approved Updated SRFB/PSAR Funding Plan (#5 and attached), motion to approve by Brendan, second by Jon, approved by consensus. Acknowledged excellent collaboration of the team to best advance all projects in a time effective manner.
- Local Integrating Organization Draft Problem Statement (#6) — ***Next step is planned discussion with tribes and county after the first of the year.** Problem statement has been drafted and some truisms identified, such as wanting a simple process that acts as much as possible as opposed to plans or talks. Perspectives were shared on what's working now and examples of problems in other watersheds. We are managing an ecosystem, which needs a big team, so how can we help others be successful? A neutral table presents opportunities.
- SWC Board Nominating Committee Update and Officer Discussion—JP is up for re-election at December Members' Meeting. We need a vice-chair. ***We need a discussion about county participation first, so reaching out as election is certified would be next.**

New Business

- Sauk River Habitat Plan Update (#7) – Request for quotes and qualifications has been drafted and shared with Tribes, with meeting planned 11/16/2020. Once contractor is selected, would negotiate task orders by phase as scope to align with other emerging efforts (Ross Island Reach Assessment, Skagit geomorphic assessment) becomes more clear.
- 2021 Legislative Priorities Discussion — PSP process ongoing due to COVID, but briefing 11/19/2020 at SRC. North of Falcon habitat plan. ***Each Director will bring 5 minutes worth of organizational legislative priorities to the next meeting so SWC can strategize how best to support common goals moving forward.**

For the Good of the Order and Adjourn 11:00

Next SWC Board Meetings (all by Zoom):

- December 3, 10-noon
- December 9, SWC Council of Members and Holiday Party, 330-5pm
- January 7, 10-noon
- February 4, 10-noon