

Skagit Watershed Council - Final Notes

Meeting of the Board of Directors, Zoom Call – 9:00am, October 1, 2020

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

Attending: Bill Blake, John Stein, Devin Smith, Michael Kirshenbaum, Jon-Paul Shannahan, Richard Brocksmith, Aundrea McBride

Absent: Jon Vanderheyden, Brendan Brokes, Andrew Bearlin

Called to order 9:04am

- Introductions, no quorum present until Jon Paul joined the meeting at about 9:45am. All decisions indicated below were made after Jon-Paul joined the meeting.
- Reviewed Agenda-approved with addition: approve appointments to Protection Subcommittee.
- Approve Board Notes for September 2020. Michael moved, Bill seconded, carried unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

- Committee reports:
 - Nominating Committee met and discussed possible silviculturists for the Board. There was also a discussion about expanding our representation to incorporate more interests responsible for more aspects of salmon recovery, such as cities and agricultural infrastructure. Related to LIO discussion.
 - Protection Subcommittee: Mike See, Skagit County, has been recommended for appointment. Motion by Bill to appoint Mike See, seconded by Devin, carried unanimously. Motion to provisionally appoint Kari Odden to Jane's seat on the Protection Subcommittee pending approval from Protection Subcommittee by Bill, seconded by Michael, carried unanimously.
- August Financial Report: nothing out of the ordinary. Bill moved to approve financial report, Devin seconded, carried unanimously.
- Audit Schedule: SWC policy is to conduct an external audit every 4 years, a policy which was self-imposed. Richard proposed we postpone this 2020 audit until next year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. ***This decision will be readdressed at next meeting.**
- Richard and Bill provided a quick briefing on last week's Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council, including updates on Governor's Riparian Work Group, Legislative Priorities, and salmon recovery obstacles.

Old Business

- Funding Plan: Revised with project sponsor and RCO input to include \$1.6M in returned, old PSAR funds, split among as few projects as possible that could spend it in next year (reach-level acquisition and South Fork channel construction). This new funding plan will replace what was submitted to SRFB last month by LECC. An agreement was added to the South Fork construction project for monitoring sustainability of created habitat. LECC members asked to consider contingency should Day Slough acquisition project fall through. Either reach-level acquisition or the Swinomish Channel project may be best positioned to use those SRFB funds since they can act more quickly and are near the top of the list. Bill moved to accept the new funding plan (attached below), Jon-Paul seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

New Business

- LIO: Some Board members believe the lack of a Local Integrating Organization in Skagit is risking some opportunities for financial resources to improve natural resource concerns and may be worsening as the funding model shifts to more local decision-making. While there are bureaucratic distractions associated with the process for recovering Puget Sound, there could be value in meeting our mission as well if done thoughtfully with an eye towards minimal process. Devin Smith said that SRSC member Tribes have previously had some concerns with the establishment of an LIO for the Skagit, but are open to discussing the subject further. How to advance needs to be directed by relevant local and tribal governments. ***SWC directors and staff will develop a problem statement and some options just to begin that discussion.**
- John Stein nominated for Board Chair. Motion to elect John chair by Michael, seconded by Bill, carried unanimously. ***Ken Dahlstedt will be removed from the SWC bank accounts and official paperwork. John Stein will be added as the new chair.** He will need to co-sign checks occasionally according to our financial policies. ***We still need a new vice-chair—will discuss at next meeting.**
- ***Sauk River Habitat Plan updates and committee goals moved to next meeting agenda.**

Adjourn 10:10 am

2020 Skagit Watershed Council Approved List of Salmon Recovery Funding Board Projects - 9/30/20

v9.30.2020 - Approved by SWC Board of Directors 10.1.2020

Final Ranking	Project Name (Links to PRISM Factsheets)	Tier	Sponsor	Funding Request	Match	Total Project Cost	SRFB Funding 9/20	NEW PSAR Funding 7/21**	OLD* Returned PSAR Funding 10/20 expires 6/21	Notes
1	Barnaby Phase 2 Design	1	SRSC	\$463,926	\$81,900	\$545,826	\$463,926			
2	Skagit Watershed Acquisition IV	1, 2	SLT	\$1,000,000	\$176,471	\$1,176,471		\$635,160	\$364,840	Old PSAR goes to 18-2617
3	Collaborative Riparian Planting	1	SFEG	\$300,000	\$52,942	\$352,942		\$300,000		
4	Swinomish Chan. Fill Removal	1	SITC	\$249,999	\$44,119	\$294,118		\$249,999		recommend informing TWG at key pts
5	Debays Slough Feasibility	1	Skagit Co.	\$161,500	\$28,500	\$190,000		\$161,500		
6	Day Slough Acquisition/Restor	1	SCL	\$601,200	\$106,200	\$707,400	\$452,200	\$149,000		
7	Skagit Basin Riparian Replant	1	SRSC	\$266,475	\$47,025	\$313,500		\$266,475		
8	Barrier Assessment Phase 2	1, 2, 2S	SFEG	\$150,000	\$27,271	\$177,271		\$150,000		
9	South Fork Channel Construct.	1	Skagit Co.	\$2,065,699	\$364,535	\$2,430,234	\$114,840	\$1,340,699	\$610,160	contingent on extended expiration to fall 2021; Sponsor commits to monitor sustainability of constructed habitat
10	Skagit Forks Planting	1	SFEG	\$310,000	\$54,706	\$364,706		\$310,000		
11	Nookachamps Phase 2 Planting	1	SRSC	\$215,735	\$38,071	\$253,806		\$215,735		
12	Monitoring delta vegetation	1	SRSC	\$89,710	\$15,880	\$105,590	\$89,710			
13	Skiyou Ross Island Assessment	1	SRSC	\$244,045	\$43,075	\$287,120		\$244,045		
14	Day Slough Design/Construct	1	Skagit Co.	\$262,125	\$46,295	\$308,420		\$122,284		partial funding, not accepted until complete funding available
15	Day Slough Fish Pass. Improv.	1	SFEG	\$338,600	\$60,000	\$398,600				alternate
16	O'Brian Reach Feasibility	1	DOT	\$232,700	\$41,100	\$273,800				alternate
17	Cascade River Final Design	1	WDFW	\$147,059	\$0	\$147,059				alternate; recommend informing TWG at key points
Totals:							\$1,120,676	\$4,144,897	\$975,000	

*Hansen Minkler bridge returned \$1.6M in 2017-2109 PSAR, which "expires" July2021; SWC pays back Rapid Response Fund \$625K of old money, leaving \$975K

**Leaves out \$25K for potential future Wiley Slough adaptive management