

SKAGIT WATERSHED COUNCIL  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Skagit Watershed Council Conference Room  
October 4, 2012

The meeting began at 8:40 a.m. with Carolyn Kelly, Dave Pflug, Bob Everitt, Bob Carey, Ken Dahlstedt, Steve Hinton and Shirley Solomon in attendance.

The September 6 meeting notes were acknowledged.

**Financial.** No Budget Report this month.

**Watershed Coordinator Report** (written report only). The report consisted of all SRFB Funded Acquisitions in the Skagit as of September 2012.

**Ranking for PSAR Priority Projects Request.** In July the Recovery Council made a decision to develop an \$80M PSAR request, with \$30 M allocated to the representative list developed by each watershed per the agreed-upon allocation formula and \$50M allocated to large-scale, priority projects list developed through an agreed-to process. Ten out of the thirty high priority proposals received made the cut based on a technical scoring system. The Recovery Council will revisit this ranking if the legislature makes such a request. Two proposals were submitted by the Council, Fir Island Farms and Illabot Creek Alluvial Fan, which ranked #5 and #20 respectively.

**Annual Lunch Debrief.** Seventy five people attended the lunch.

**Briefing on Farms, Fish and Flood Initiative.** Bob Carey introduced the project known by its acronym 3FI. The mission of the project is to: Create and Advance mutually beneficially strategies that support the long-term viability of agriculture and salmon which reducing the risks of destructive floods. Bob explained that the Fisher Project was seen as a pilot effort with 3FI taking those lessons to the next level. This project is a “coalition of the willing” and the logical next step from the Tidegate Fish Initiative.

**2012 SRFB Round.** All five Skagit submittals have been cleared by the SRFB Review Panel.

**PSNERP.** The Council has been informed that the candidacy of the North Fork Levee Setback has been reconsidered and will be added to those moving forward to the next level of review. Shirley and Mary meet with the PSNERP Team on October 11 to determine next steps.

**Transition Planning Continued.** Jay presented the various pieces of the program package that are presently under development as a way to frame the discussion: drafts of a transmittal letter, program guide contents, lead entity coordinator and other staff duties and funding sources. Together these form the draft straw man proposal of the package that must be agreed to by this Board in

order to constitute the so-called “turnkey” program that can be effectively transferred.

The presentation was silent on the steps necessary to introduce and move forward the concept within SCOG and the discussion initially centered on what those steps should be. There was agreement that there be an initial overture made soon to the SCOG Chair and Executive Director to introduce the lead entity program by means of a short white paper and to conduct a preliminary “testing of the waters” regarding receptivity to the idea of SCOG taking responsibility for the program. The presumption is that this meeting would result in an invitation to address the full SCOG Board. All agreed that a “smart and coordinated” process of approaching and working with SCOG would be necessary and that this Board would need to “keep moving forward” to meet the schedule of a lead entity change by the end of the fiscal year.

Discussion then moved to possible program structures within SCOG, namely a new and autonomous Natural Resources Committee with different options for membership, that is government only or broader membership similar to the Watershed Council Board membership. There was no agreement on preferred structure with most Board members favoring the latter. This could perhaps be ameliorated by means of an advisory committee attached to the government only option.

Regarding the funding option, Pflug requested that it be made clear that SCL funding is conditional on a year-to-year basis.

Board members agreed that they would vet the draft program package internally within their organizations and come prepared to offer substantive feedback at the November 1 Board meeting.

**Council Dissolution Process.** A provisional list of actions needed to dissolve the organization was handed out and summarily reviewed.

**2013 SRFB Process.** The schedule will be developed with the June 30, 2013 end date in mind.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.