

Hood Canal Coordinating Council

JEFFERSON, KITSAP & MASON COUNTIES;
PORT GAMBLE S'KLALLAM & SKOKOMISH TRIBES



Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors Meeting Summary

10 March 2015; 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM

Location: Resort At Port Ludlow, One Heron Road, Port Ludlow, WA 98365

HCCC Board of Directors Present

Alex Gouley, Skokomish Tribe
David Sullivan, Jefferson County
Kathleen Kler, Jefferson County
Paul McCollum, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

Randy Neatherlin, Mason County
Rob Gelder, Kitsap County
Terri Jeffreys, Mason County

Call to Order, Introductions, Approval of Meeting Agenda

Randy Neatherlin, HCCC Chair, called the meeting to order. Jefferson County requested an addition to the agenda to include a Board letter of support to the senate regarding oil transportation safety concerns. A motion was made to approve the amended agenda; the motion was seconded and the agenda was approved.

Public Comment

The Chair opened the meeting for public comments. Thom Johnson (his e-mail was distributed to Board per his request) said that he is glad to see salmon recovery prioritization and the results on the agenda and is looking forward to hearing about it with continued discussions at the salmon recovery forum. Cheryl Baumann said that it is difficult to respond to the prioritization when they don't have the information.

Consent Items

All matters listed under Consent Items have been distributed to each member of the Board for reading and study, are considered to be routine, and will be enacted by one motion of the Board with no separate discussion. If a separate discussion is desired, that item may be removed from the Consent Items and placed as an additional topic by request.

- 1) Draft Board Meeting Summary 18 February 2015
- 2) HCCC In Lieu Fee Mitigation Program 2014 Annual Program Account Reporting

HCCC Board Outcome: A Motion was made by Paul McCollum to approve consent items, seconded by Rob Gelder, and the items were approved.

Salmon Recovery Prioritization

Scott Brewer, HCCC Executive Director, presented the salmon recovery prioritization approach and results. Document distributed: Guidance for Prioritizing Salmonid Stocks, Issues,

and Actions for the Hood Canal Coordinating Council--Executive Summary, dated March 2015. Scott showed a PowerPoint presentation to review the process.

This report has just become available and will be fully distributed tomorrow for feedback. This is the guidance for prioritizing salmonid stocks, issues and actions for the HCCC. It is the procedure for prioritizing actions based on a synthesis of the issues (or threats) that need to be addressed by actions aimed at recovering each of the salmon and steelhead stocks and it is intended to provide guidance for prioritizing project proposals.

Remember from past meetings, the components of salmon recovery prioritization will cover the highest priority stock to be addressed, the importance of issues being addressed, and the guidance will show the importance of the action being addressed. The logic chain shows the components (1) issue affecting stock, (2) relevance to stock, (3) causes of the problem, (4) potential solutions to the problem, (5) strategies or actions, (6) objectives in implementing actions, and (7) critical uncertainties recognized.

Scott referred to the key stocks of interest graphs showing partial results of stock prioritization and stock scores and reviewed the list. The prioritization allows us, for example, look at Big Quilcene for Summer Chum and it will lay out the different issues in order of importance. So if you had money for Quilcene and Summer Chum, you could see top actions to take. We can also compare issues at both the Big Quilcene and Chimacum. We can look at stages and feasibility to get an informed decision for prioritizing and next steps.

There was a discussion regarding use of this approach and results as Board guidance for the 2015 Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) and Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) funding rounds and other funding opportunities. Scott suggested with the initial prioritization that will be sent, we convene the HCCC Salmon Recovery Forum on March 17 or 18. We will also have the lead entity process moving through this concurrently as we're vetting projects. For the 2015 grant round this guidance can walk us through this process efficiently. We will make compelling changes. We request that the Board use this as the foundation for prioritization guidance for the 2015 round, and after that is done we will develop a comprehensive review process in the fall to focus on salmon recovery. This is the initial approach the Board agreed to previously. There is detail in the numbers, which will be shown in the larger document and the framework will be available for discussion. The goals are to identify the right projects to address the issues.

The Board discussed a review process during 2015 for our salmon recovery partners and the salmon recovery forum. This is a large group of interested parties, both technical and citizens, who will help with the prioritization. The Board asked if we addressed nearshore projects and how are we counting the benefit to multiple species. We have a scope of work in progress with Kathy Peters, Kitsap County, who is forming a different group, working concurrently to focus on nearshore efforts. When you get a project and some nearshore issues, it will be weighted with additional points to get at more than one species. That will take more time and patience by everyone because nearshore requires additional work and we have to compile the information to get to that prioritization.

Scott reviewed proposed 2015 funding round apportionment and percent of available funding and funding categories: 35% will go to summer chum, 35% to chinook, 10% to two nearshore projects, and 10% to nearshore assessment; 5-10% is flexible to adjust the aforementioned categories.

HCCC Board outcome: Rob Gelder made a motion for the Board to authorize staff to continue the development of the prioritization tools for distributing and refinement as presented. Paul McCollum seconded the motion, and the motion was approved. Scott or a subgroup of the forum will report back to the Board. The Board approved the salmon recovery prioritization approach and results as HCCC Board guidance for the 2015 Salmon Recovery Funding Board

(SRFB) and Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) funding rounds and other funding opportunities.

Calls for proposals are out because we won't know the funding amount until June 2015. As long as this is just guidance, that is fine. But regarding projects, it takes a lot of time to get things started, so we need to consider the complexity. We need to establish a foundation and structure and perhaps we can alleviate this by leaving an exemption of a majority passage of the Board for more money. That is built into the funding round apportionment at 10% already to allow flexibility. This is a goal that we value and this is the beginning of guidance.

HCCC Board outcome: A motion was made by Rob Gelder, seconded and approved to adopt the proposed 2015 funding round apportionment as described.

Lead Entity Program Advisory Groups Appointments

Alicia Olivas, HCCC Lead Entity Coordinator, reviewed the list of members appointed thus far. Document distributed: 2015 HCCC Lead Entity Advisory Group Membership (to date). Additional nominations will be reviewed by the Board. There are open slots for any additions. In the Technical Advisory Group (TAG), WDFW has replaced Doris Small with Chris Waldbillig. Alicia evaluated the list and found a need for shellfish industry representation (for staff recommendations). Chris Jones, who works at the Quilcene Hatchery, will represent the Citizens' Advisory Group (CAG). We have a need for an engineer so Dave Tucker from Kitsap County will assist to provide technical resources but not as a member. Mason County has a formal request for members and will provide names when that process is closed.

HCCC Board outcome: A motion was made by David Sullivan to appoint additional members as brought forward to the Board; the motion was seconded by Rob Gelder and approved.

Climate Adaptation Workshop Planning

Haley Harguth, HCCC Watershed Planning and Policy Coordinator, informed the Board of the upcoming regional Climate Adaptation Workshop, tentatively May 7, 2015, at the Kitsap Conference Center, Bremerton. She is working with Stacy Vynne at the Puget Sound Partnership. The workshop will generate a shared understanding for a regional approach to climate adaptation planning in Hood Canal. At the workshop local climate change data and impact projections will be presented; participants will identify vulnerabilities to climate impacts and discuss opportunities and strategies for adaptation. We have invited some great speakers to share the science. We will conduct a vulnerability assessment around Hood Canal. A foundation will be built for the next phase of comprehensive climate adaptation planning in Hood Canal. The results will be included in the Integrated Watershed Plan (IWP).

The Board asked about the publicity and if the information will be specific to Hood Canal or more generalized in terms of climate. We are gathering as much local research as possible to make it applicable to the watershed. Haley asked the Board to let her know of any resources.

HCCC Board outcome: Provided the Board with information regarding the development of the upcoming Climate Adaptation Workshop.

In Lieu Fee Mitigation Update

Patty Michak, HCCC Mitigation Program Manager, updated the Board on the Irene Pond project in Belfair. We implemented the compensatory mitigation action for credits. Before-and-after photos of the abandoned home, collapsed building, and trash pile were shown. A local firm was hired to do the demolition and another for the asbestos abatement. Mason Conservation District will start restoration planting work at the end of the month. This property is in the wetland buffer so that will be credits for us. Patty covered the mitigation actions in more detail and thanked the contractors and Ken VanBuskirk, a neighbor who keeps an eye on the property. Randy visited the Irene Pond property and was impressed with Patty's hard work and enthusiasm.

Patty gave an update on the Port Gamble southern mill site. We've gotten further in the design and technical review process and revisions had been made. Then Interagency Review Team (IRT) reviewed the plan and it was revised again. We are looking at a procurement procedure. We are also looking at an option agreement with the land owner, now in legal review. We are considering a prospective purchaser's agreement from Ecology and its applicability. There will be an RFP for the remediation clean-up work and a contract selection and award in August 2015. The award requires permits and restrictions.

HCCC Board outcome: Provided the Board with an update of the In Lieu Fee Mitigation Program.

Executive Director Report

The Jefferson County draft letter of support to the senate on the oil trains and safety did not require consideration as it was subsequently determined that the bill (5057) passed. It was suggested that members look at differences in the bill as proposed from house to senate individually

Scott provided an update on the Hood Canal Bridge assessment. The studies suggest negative impacts to salmon migrating. Paul McCollum, Haley Harguth, and Long Live the Kings, have helped with studies and as a contractor are working on the scope of work approved by the Board. Senators Rolfes and Hargrove have submitted a budget request to seek money for additional assessment. The next step for staff and partners is to determine an "action" item that will lead to a capital expense. There are many factors, such as lighting, bridge openings at different times, predator control, and allowing young fish to pass through. We will try to get a proviso to move this forward for initial traction for more assessment to understand the impacts. The Board added that the bridge project isn't really finished and that this could be included in WSDOT's future plans. This is a long-term issue and next year we should consider studies and plans after we know the impacts.

Scott explained the Puget Sound-EPA funding model and Tribes/Local Integrating Organization (LIO) Coalition. Since the inception of the Partnership there has been money to help in restoration of Puget Sound through the National Estuary Program (NEP) funding. HCCC has received grants for our regional stormwater and Hood Canal Regional Pollution and Identification Correction programs and to do work on the IWP and In Lieu Fee Mitigation program. We were one of the original LIO's designated by the Partnership and we have been receiving money as a result to help foster and achieve the items in the action agenda for the Hood Canal area. More LIO's are doing similar work for the action agenda. EPA's new model for allocating federal NEP funding for Puget Sound recovery is a combination of several models, designed to be responsive to complex needs. A direct allocation from a single entity to the region is proposed because LIO's know what is needed in our respective areas for prioritization. They will still use state agencies to award grants, but will organize around the Partnership's strategic initiatives. LIO's will get a direct allocation, starting July 2015 to September 2016, up from \$75,000 to \$200,000 targeted for near-term actions and prioritization. If the LIO's can show they have focused prioritization, then there could be a direct allocation to the region for projects. We have an opportunity to show what HCCC has been able to do so far and continue our efforts to work together to build and improve on what we have. This fits well into our IWP approach.

The intent is to learn more from the LIO's and inform EPA and the Partnership about the work happening at the LIO-level. The allocation formula has yet to be determined (the initial proposed allocation is equitable among all LIO's). Work on the Near Term Actions (NTA's) for inclusion in the action agenda to get approved for funding is required. The Board agreed that the executive director should continue to work with the other LIO's to develop an approach to move forward with this effort.

Public Comment and Hood Canal Happenings

The Chair opened the meeting for public comments and announcements. Robin Lawlis will look into the September board meeting schedule conflict to determine best date for the majority of the Board.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:00 PM. The next meeting is Tuesday, 14 April 2015, 1:00 to 4:00 PM, Oxford Suites, 9550 NW Silverdale Way, Silverdale, WA.

For more information about this meeting, contact Robin Lawlis, 360-394-0046 or rlawlis@hccc.wa.gov.

Hood Canal Coordinating Council
Board of Directors Approval

Signature on file

Chair