

Belfair Sewer Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – Thursday, April 24, 2014

http://www.co.mason.wa.us/ac/belfair_sewer/

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A regular meeting of the Belfair Sewer Advisory Committee (BSAC) was called to order on April 24, 2014, at 6:05 pm by Jack Johnson, Chair, with a quorum present.

Members: Jack Johnson, Jennifer Hines, Judy Scott, Bob Harris, Annetta Knight, Greg Waggett, Lee Swoboda

County staff: Tom Moore, Brian Matthews

Guests: Jeff Carey, Kaye Massie

Motion: Judy moved to accept the minutes as emailed 23 April. Annetta seconded. Motion passed.

Motion: Lee moved to accept the agenda as amended. Annetta seconded. Motion passed.

Discussion item: Greg reported on his investigation of the storm water management fee levied in Kitsap County [1]. The Kitsap County assessment is for storm water management pursuant to the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) [2] and is for storm water only. The money is collected into an enterprise fund restricted to use solely for storm water mitigation. The same taxing vehicle is not available for funding sanitary sewers.

Discussion item: Tom walked the Committee through Title 9 of the County's SANITARY SEWER ADMINISTRATION CODE [3], at it relates to the NORTH BAY CASE INLET WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY.

Discussion item: Jack led a discussion of the analysis of utility consolidation the County commissioned, forwarded by John Cunningham in his email on 10 April 2014:

- July 2007 PowerPoint® presentation by FCS GROUP [4] to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC);
- February 2011 "Issue Paper" prepared for the County by FCS GROUP;
- February 2011 PowerPoint® presentation by FCS GROUP to the BOCC.

Some of the options presented include elements of the consolidated county-wide utility the Committee is considering and may be useful in developing the details for our final recommendation to the BOCC.

Action item: Re-forward the 10 April John Cunningham email to Committee members. **Action:** Jack

Discussion item: The Belfair UGA includes large parcels classified as timber land per Chapter 84.34 RCW "OPEN SPACE, AGRICULTURAL, TIMBER LANDS — CURRENT USE — CONSERVATION FUTURES." These parcels are unlikely to be developed short term, which impacts the development regulations and infrastructure within the UGA. The Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) is considering recommending redrawing the Belfair UGA boundaries to remove parcels of timber land and would like BSAC support. #timberland

Action item: Discuss whether to recommend removing timber land parcels from the Belfair UGA to the PAC and BOCC. **Action:** Unassigned

Discussion item: The taxing and fee options are different for utility district per Title 54 RCW "PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICTS" and a Utility Local Improvement District (ULID) per Title 36.94 RCW "SEWERAGE, WATER, AND DRAINAGE SYSTEMS" (Atch A). The Committee needs to weigh the advantages and disadvantages of both before recommending an option.

Discussion item: The Committee continued discussion of a consolidated water-sewer utility vs a consolidated sewer-only utility. The water-sewer utility appears to provide some O&M advantages, but the Committee warrant from the BOCC is limited to sewers.

1 Re action item 10 Apr 2014

2 Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, as amended by the Clean Water Act of 1977 and the Water Quality Act of 1987. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clean_Water_Act

3 Re action item 16 Sep 2013

4 <http://www.fcsgroup.com>

Motion: Greg moved that the Committee move forward with a recommendation for a county-wide utility including all current and future county-owned water and sewer utilities, but focusing on sewers only. Jennifer seconded. Motion carried with one abstention.

Discussion item: The BOCC will be holding a "5th Tuesday" meeting in Belfair this month. This is a good opportunity to provide a status report in a public venue to update the Commissioners and local residents of Committee progress.

Action item: Present a brief overview of Committee progress at the BOCC meeting on 4/30/14.

Action: Jennifer

Public comment: Jeff reiterated his concern that the Committee's recommendations, such as utility consolidation, may increase the cost to sewer customers in the North Bay and Rustlewood districts. Jack reassured him a major Committee goal is to keep sewer rates stable for as long as possible in all three sewer systems.

Discussion item: Bob expressed concern about the slow progress of the Committee. Annetta felt our previous discussions have brought us to a point where we can begin providing substantive recommendations. Tom suggested limiting the agenda to one or two items at a time to be discussed at each meeting rather than a list of items, with a final consolidated strategy to the BOCC rather than piecemeal recommendations.

The Committee agreed on meeting dates of 15 and 29 May, 6:00 pm at the Port of Allyn meeting room.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Scott, secretary

Attachments

A. *ULID Process* - City of Lakewood [5]