



## MEETING MINUTES

### Conservation Land Bank Commission Meeting December 16, 2022 Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Commission Members in Attendance:**

Jim Skoog, District 1, position 1  
Sandi Friel, District 2, position 2  
Miles Becker, District 3, position 3  
Brian Wiese, at large, position 4

Mike Pickett, at large, position 5  
David Meiland, at large, position 6  
Christa Campbell, at large, position 7

**Commission Members Absent:** None

**Land Bank Staff in Attendance:** Shauna Barrows, Charlie, Behnke, Lincoln Bormann, Peter Guillozet, Eliza Habegger, Doug McCutchen, Aaron Rock, Jacob Wagner, Amanda Wedow, Tanja Williamson

**Land Bank Staff Absent:** Erin Halcomb

**County Council Liaison:** Christine Minney

**County Administrator:** Absent

**Public in Attendance:** 4 individuals over the course of the meeting.

Topic	Key Discussion Points & Agreements
<b>Call to Order</b> 8:35 am	Chair, Sandi Friel, called the meeting to order.
<b>Public Comment</b> 8:36 am	None
<b>Adoption of Minutes</b> 8:37 am	The draft November 18, 2022, minutes were reviewed. There was a correction. Minutes were approved.
<b>Chair and Commissioner's Report</b> 8:38 am	Christa Campbell shared a community member's enthusiasm for the Land Bank's annual reports.

<p>Nomination of 2022 Officers 8:39 am</p>	<p>Sandi asked the 2023 officer's nomination committee for their recommendations. Christa Campbell was nominated as Chair; Brian Wiese was nominated for Vice-chair; and Mike Pickett was nominated for Finance Officer. All nominees were voted in unanimously.</p> <p>Commissioner candidates in attendance introduced themselves: David Duke, Peggy Bill, and Marilyn O'Connor.</p>
<p><b>Partner Update – San Juan Preservation Trust (SJPT)</b> 8:46 am</p>	<p>Absent</p>
<p><b>Council Liaison</b> 8:47 am</p>	<p>Christine Minney reported the Council adopted the <a href="#">2036 Comprehensive Plan Update</a> and approved the <a href="#">Recreation, Open Space, and Stewardship Plan (ROSS)</a> at the end of November and celebrated outgoing council member, Jamie Stephens', accomplishments at the December meeting. She noted the budget was passed at that same meeting.</p> <p>The Lodging Tax Advisory Committee met and heard from 39 organizations, with approximately 35 awarded funding, totaling \$2.2M in overall awards. Christine highlighted the need for volunteers for many County Advisory Committees and noted all vacancies can be found on the <a href="#">County's website</a>. Christine also shared that liaison negotiations will take place in the new year and it's possible someone else will be assigned to the Land Bank.</p>
<p><b>Director's Report</b> 8:51 am</p> <p>Lopez Hill Addition Conservation Easement (CE)</p> <p>Acquisition Process Discussion</p> <p>Utility Easement at Coffelt Farm Preserve</p>	<p>Lincoln noted there was a scheduling issue with the public hearing required by Council and hopes to present the conveyance of the Lopez Hill Addition Conservation Easement (CE) at the first regularly scheduled county council meeting in January 2023. He briefed Council on the project of selling a CE to the San Juan Preservation Trust (SJPT) on the property as was agreed to previously as a condition of purchase.</p> <p>The acquisition process group - Mike Thomas, Lincoln, Grant Carlton, and Amy Viera – have been going through drafts and that process will continue into the new year. He believes it will lead to future revision of the policy manual.</p> <p>Lincoln brought forth the idea of conveying a utility easement at Coffelt Farm Preserve to the neighbor to the north. The neighbor would like to bring in power to her property; Lincoln noted two options:.1) go along the road and cut in through her property, which is heavily treed. He noted that would involve a lot of cutting and destruction. 2) Connect off the utility box which is by the parking area at Coffelt. The power would go under the parking area to the property line and requires no tree cutting. He suggested option 2 and will come back to the Commission with more information at a future meeting. The conveyance will also require a public hearing in front of County Council as well. There was discussion</p>

<b>Director's Report continued</b>	Lastly, Lincoln shared that he serves on the board of the <a href="#">Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition</a> (WWRC), which advocates for funding for Washington wildlife and recreation programs. He received great news that Governor Inslee released the 2023 budget and there is \$120M allocated for WWRP, which is a record. And it looks like the WWRP board will meet in the San Juans in June 2023.
<b>Stewardship Report</b> 9:03 am  Orcas Island  Status of Coffelt Farm Lease       San Juan Island	<p>Lincoln said the lease is still with the Prosecuting Attorney for review and he doesn't foresee any issues, however the timing is problematic and won't be able to go in front of Council with a public hearing before the end of year – another scheduling issue. He hopes to put the Coffelt Farm lease in front of Council at the same time as the Lopez Hill Addition CE at the first regularly scheduled meeting of 2023. Sandi asked if the lease needs an extension.</p> <p>There was consensus and kudos for the end of year Stewardship Report and photo documentation.</p> <p>Doug noted the last week was a big push for San Juan Island, which went really well, and highlighted help from a year-round Department of Natural Resources (DNR) fire crew, the Samish Indian Nation Department of Natural Resources, and the Island Conservation Corps. Doug highlighted the incredible information sharing between the different groups AND DNR picked up the whole tab for the project, originally meant to be a cost-share, a \$12-13K gift to the project.</p>
<b>Outreach and Volunteer Report</b> 9:09 am	Tanja reported that she's working on the end of year highlights and event planning for 2023. Sandi asked about volunteer recognition possibilities at end of year; Tanja noted events that have been hosted in the past haven't been well attended. Christa suggested an ad in the local papers.
<b>Future Agenda Items Discussion</b> 9:14 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staffing – staff to report back at a future meeting</li> <li>• Improvement of communications with County Council</li> <li>• Traditionally important landscapes and flora and fauna, and access for tribes of the region within current and future preserves</li> <li>• The Land Bank's collective big dream/goal for the overall resiliency of the islands and the bioregion</li> <li>• Wetland mitigation</li> </ul>
<b>Meeting Adjourned</b> 9:25 am	Chair, Sandi Friel, adjourned the meeting.
<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	The next LBC meeting is scheduled to take place January 20, 2023.