



MEETING MINUTES

Conservation Land Bank Commission Meeting

February 16, 2024

Hybrid Meeting

San Juan Island Grange

Commission Members in Attendance:

Marilyn O'Connor, District 1, position 1

Ann Marie Shanks, District 2, position 2

Peggy Bill, District 3, position 3

Brian Wiese, at large, position 4

Mike Pickett, at large, position 5

Amy Trainer, at large, position 6

Tim Clark, at large, position 7

Commission Members Absent: None

Land Bank Staff in Attendance: Charlie Behnke, Lincoln Bormann, Peter Guillozet, Erin Halcomb, Doug McCutchen, Aaron Rock, Amanda Wedow, Tanja Williamson

Land Bank Staff Absent: Shauna Barrows, Tyler Goodman, Eliza Habegger, Jacob Wagner

County Council Liaison: Christine Minney

Public in Attendance: 9 individuals over the course of the meeting.

Topic	Key Discussion Points & Agreements
Call to Order 8:31 am	Vice-Chair, Peggy Bill, called the meeting to order.
Public Comment 8:31am (0.01)	Kathy Morris highlighted the upcoming San Juan Islands Agricultural Summit on March 8 th and 9 th , which will be held at Camp Orkila on Orcas Island.
Adoption of Minutes 8:35 am (1:34)	The draft January 19, 2024, minutes were reviewed. There were corrections. Minutes were approved.
Partner Update – San Juan Preservation Trust (SJPT) 8:38 am (4:00)	Conservation Director, Vickie Edwards, noted the Cady Mountain Preserve Conservation Easement project is on target to close February 26 th .

Council Liaison 9:09 am (5:32)	<p>Christine Minney gave the following highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Council approved the sale of a Conservation Easement to the San Juan Preservation Trust (SJPT) for Cady Mountain Preserve at a special meeting and public hearing held February 6, 2024. • An interim management plan is in place while the County searches for a new county manager. Health & Community Services Director, Mark Tompkins, will serve as the Interim County Manager with Parks and Fair Director, Brandon Andrews, serving as the Interim Assistant County Manager. • The County Fair announced it's 2024 theme: "A Century of Growing: 100 Years at Home" and will be held Thursday through Sunday this year. • The 2024-2025 Budget in Brief was published and posted to the County website in tandem with the 24/25 biennial budget. • Vessel Turn-In Recycling Day is coming in April. Applications are open for the Vessel Turn-In Program (VTIP) managed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to help prevent boats from becoming derelict or abandoned and to keep pollution out of our marine habitats. • Christine took part in the County's two-day Tribal Engagement Training. • Christine welcomed the Land Bank's two newest commissioners, Ann Marie Shanks and Tim Clark, who were appointed to the Land Bank Commission on February 6, 2024.
Chair and Commissioner's Report 8:50 am (16:37)	<p>Peggy revisited her request from last month for follow up regarding the letter the Land Bank drafted in November intended to go to the Tribes following the decision to retain ownership of the Watmough Preserve Addition (Higgins property). Christine acknowledged the delay in response and stated Council decided to wait until after the Tribal Engagement training to review the letter, noting that the training was originally scheduled for January, but changed to February due to Covid.</p> <p>Peggy reiterated her desire for a meeting with land managers as a follow up to a hunting accident that occurred on Lopez Island last November. There was discussion.</p> <p>Peggy asked for volunteers for sub-committees. Assignments are as follows:</p> <p>Climate and Sustainability Advisory Committee: Tim</p> <p>Ag Lease Review Committee: Tim, Mike</p> <p>Quarterly Partner Meeting with SJPT: Peggy, Brian and SJI TBD</p> <p>Finance: Marilyn</p> <p>Communications: Mike, Marilyn, and Ann Marie</p>
Finance Report 9:10 am (36:36)	<p>Aaron gave an introduction of finance and budgeting presentation for new commissioners.</p>

Presentation: Guidance on the Open Public Meetings Act and Political Activity by Amy Vira, Prosecuting Attorney 9:30 am (53:30)	Amy Vira shared a power point presentation and answered questions regarding the Washington Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA).
Break 10:18 am – 10:26 am (1:44:40)	
Stewardship Report 10:26 am (1:44:50)	After reviewing the Land Bank Naming Policy, staff proposed designating the North Shore property as North Shore Preserve. Brian stated he had two alternatives and will have Lincoln forward to the Commission. There was discussion. Erin noted naming has some time sensitivity as SJPT hopes to move forward with signage and promotion. Lincoln suggested tabling the naming and deciding at the April meeting.
Director's Report 10:37am (1:55:55)	Lincoln asked the Commission to review the DRAFT Strategic Plan and get edits to him by Tuesday, February 20, so he can pass them on to the consultants. Next step will be to share the final DRAFT plan with the County Council and then share with the public. There was discussion.
Outreach/Volunteer Report 10:22 am (2:09:05)	Tanja noted she has multiple meetings coming up with partner organizations and collaborative events, such as working with County Noxious Weed Board for National Invasive Species Awareness Week and San Juan Island Family Resource Center for Screen Free Week in May. There was discussion regarding the social media statistics Tanja included in the meeting materials. Tanja will put together a summary to help explain terminology. There was discussion around social media and how it's used locally for outreach.
Public Comment 11:06 am (2:25:40)	There was none.
Meeting Adjourned 11:07 am	Vice-chair, Peggy Bill, adjourned the meeting.
NEXT MEETING	The next LBC meeting is scheduled to take place March 15, 2024, at the San Juan Island Grange.