



## MEETING MINUTES

### Conservation Land Bank Commission Meeting June 21, 2024 Hybrid Meeting Orcas Island Library

**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:** Lincoln Bormann, Peter Guillozet, Erin Halcomb, Amanda Wedow, Tanja Williamson

**Land Bank Staff Absent:** Shauna Barrows, Charlie Behnke, Tyler Goodman, Eliza Habegger, Doug McCutchen, Aaron Rock, Jacob Wagner

**County Council Liaison:** Christine Minney

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

Topic	Key Discussion Points & Agreements
<b>Call to Order</b> 8:30 am (0:14)	Chair, Brian Wiese, called the meeting to order.
<b>Public Comment</b> 8:32am (0:36)	Joe Cohen shared his support of the Land Bank and suggested the Land Bank estimate a ballpark figure for stewardship funding requirements for perpetuity.
<b>Adoption of Minutes</b> 8:35 am (6:06)	The draft May 17, 2024, minutes were reviewed. There were corrections. Minutes were approved.

<p><b>Partner Update – San Juan Preservation Trust (SJPT)</b> 8:38 am (6:20)</p>	<p>Conservation Director, Vickie Edwards, reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vickie, along with Director of Philanthropy, Kristin Buckley, attended the Cady Mountain Preserve Opening Celebration. She shared it was a great day and looks forward to collaborating again this summer.</li> <li>• The Preservation Trust is hosting their summer social, July 20<sup>th</sup>, at the North Shore Preserve, from 1pm to 4pm.</li> <li>• The draft North Shore Preserve conservation easement (CE) completion date has been bumped to mid/late July.</li> <li>• Vickie reminded everyone that Director of Communications and Outreach, Craig Canine, is retiring at the end of the month. He is currently training his replacement, Kelvin Baker.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Council Liaison</b> 8:43 am 11:36)</p>	<p>Christine Minney gave the following highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• County Parks, Recreation, and Fair will begin construction for a new skatepark on Lopez Island. Construction will begin in early July and the new, approximately 6,300 sq ft skatepark. The new cast-in-place, concrete skatepark will replace the existing, failing plywood.</li> <li>• Health &amp; Community Services released a Notice of Funds Available (NOFA) for the Home Fund program’s 2024 funding round. Responses will be accepted through July 15, 2024. Eligible recipients are nonprofit agencies, housing authorities, private for-profit affordable housing providers, and public agencies.</li> <li>• San Juan County is taking steps to protect the historic courthouse in Friday Harbor. After a <a href="#">2022 study</a> deemed the building “structurally deficient” the County is seeking grant funding to secure this valuable piece of local history.</li> <li>• As of June 18th, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) has closed recreational shellfish harvesting in San Juan County due to unsafe levels of Paralytic Shellfish Poison (PSP). This closure includes all species of molluscan shellfish including clams, geoduck, scallops, mussels, oysters, and snails.</li> <li>• New County Manager, Jessica Hudson, has a tentative start date of July 15<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Chair and Commissioner’s Report</b> 8:49 am (17:56)</p>	<p>Marilyn attended the June 15<sup>th</sup> Cady Mountain Preserve Opening Celebration and thought it was a beautiful event and was great to see former Land Bank Director, Dennis Schaeffer, and his wife, in attendance. Marilyn encouraged all to visit the preserve.</p> <p>Anne Marie attended a guided walk at Coho Preserve led by Tyler Goodman, Orcas Island Field Assistant. The walk was one of many scheduled activities to celebrate the Gathering of the Eagles Canoe Journey. Anne Marie noted Tyler did a great job and found the walk very informative; lots of good questions! She also met with the Clean Water Advisory Committee to discuss concerns regarding water flow at Coho Preserve’s Cascade Creek.</p>

<p><b>Chair and Commissioner's Report continued</b></p>	<p>Tim attended Canoe Journey events on Lopez and found them very inspiring. He also attended the Clean Water Advisory Committee meeting and noted there was a brief discussion regarding Cascade Creek water flow at Coho Preserve, but the bulk of the meeting dealt with the County's Comprehensive Plan, as well as some discussion regarding a portable concrete plant on San Juan Island.</p> <p>Brian also attended Canoe Journey events and felt it was a great success on Orcas.</p>
<p><b>Director's Report</b> 8:56 am (24:20)</p> <p>Land Bank Efforts to Confront Climate Change Presentation</p> <p>Acquisition Cost Analysis</p>	<p>Lincoln gave a <a href="#">presentation on Land Bank efforts to confront climate change</a>. He noted he gave the same presentation to the League of Women Voters a couple weeks earlier. He shared the Salish Seeds Project is working on a "How to Grow Native Wildflowers" guide which will be available as a community resource soon and suggested contacting Tanja for further information. There was discussion around the topic of basalt, its use in soil amendments, and the grant opportunity from the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation that would help fund local application of basalt. The work would be done in concert with the Yale Center for Natural Carbon Capture, the Conservation District, University of Washington, and other partners. The hope is that this pilot project will spark expanded efforts along similar lines throughout Washington State and elsewhere.</p> <p>Lincoln also presented a summary table of Land Bank acquisitions over time. Updated Table attached.</p>
<p><b>Break</b> 9:54 am – 10:02 am (1:22:50)</p>	
<p><b>Outreach/ Communications Report</b> 10:02 am (1:22:56)</p>	<p>Tanja highlighted upcoming events. In June Camp Eagle Rock Summer Camp Walking Wednesdays kicks off in Driggs Park, working on Nature Rx themed walk series, prepping for County Fair and trail opening at John O. Linde Community Park/Beaverton Marsh Preserve on August 3 and North Shore Preserve on September 28.</p>
<p><b>Stewardship Report</b> 10:06 am (1:27:37)</p> <p>Orcas Island</p> <p>Draft Crescent Beach Preserve Stewardship and Management Plan</p>	<p>Peter hosted a public meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> regarding North Shore Preserve updates. He shared final design plans for the property and proposed no parking along Glenwood Road. Peter stated there was support for no parking along Glenwood Road from meeting attendees, as well as preserve neighbors. He will bring the proposal to the County Council for approval. Seven contractors attended the recent North Shore pre-bid meeting and Peter is currently waiting on permits. In response to the Draft Crescent Beach Preserve Stewardship and Management Plan (SMP), Peter noted receiving good comments on forestry work and more interest in tidelands.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Tim Clark moved to adopt the Draft Crescent Beach Preserve Stewardship and Management Plan as presented by staff. Peggy Bill seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by Commissioners present.</p> <p>Erin has been working on two grant applications for a possible acquisition on Orcas Island, and she and Lincoln met with the steering committee for the Wildfire Protection Plan update. The committee hopes to have a draft plan available by year</p>

	<p>end which will include public outreach. Erin noted the lead agency is the San Juan Islands Conservation District. Erin has also been working on the Draft Watmough Bay Preserve SMP. There was discussion around SMP and the Land Bank’s role and how the County’s plan influences the Land Bank program.</p>
<p><b>Public Comment</b> 10:37 am (1:57:47)</p>	<p>Kathy Morris shared an idea of the Land Bank hosting a round table discussion at the 2025 Agricultural Summit.</p> <p>Tanja read a comment on behalf of Tracey Cottingham: Thank you Marilyn, for your concern about letting the public know about the Yale test. Tracey saw a very good article today that shows how a climate resilience test can really backfire and she will forward the article.</p> <p>Peggy asked if there were any hunting updates. Erin responded that she had talked with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and they are creating a calendar to have more staff presence during the hunting season and plan to have more educational material as well.</p> <p>Brian would like to see topics “future agenda items” and “items for discussion and approval” added to the monthly commission meeting agenda.</p>
<p><b>Meeting Adjourned</b> 10:44 am (2:04:48)</p>	<p>Chair, Brian Wiese, adjourned the meeting.</p>
<p><b>NEXT MEETING</b></p>	<p>The next LBC meeting is scheduled to take place July 19, 2024, at the San Juan Island Grange.</p>

### Summary of Values of Land Bank Purchases

Number of Purchases / Donations	Appraised Value of Purchases 1990-2022	Land Bank Expenditures	Partner Expenditures	Non-acquisition partner contributions	Donations of Property	Land Bank Assists on Other Projects
68 / 7	\$87.6M	\$49M	\$33.5M	\$1.9M	\$7.5M	\$12.4M
<b>Total Purchase Price</b>	<b>\$82.9M</b>		<b>Total Partner Contributions: \$53M</b>			
<b>Number of CE Purchases / Donations</b>	<b>Appraised Value of Purchases 1990-2022</b>	<b>Land Bank Expenditures</b>	<b>Partner Expenditures</b>		<b>Donations of CEs</b>	
33 / 15	\$10.7M	\$7M	\$1.8M	n/a	> \$5M est.	
<b>Total Appraised Value LB Projects: \$98.3M*</b>		<b>Total Appraised Value All Projects: \$109.4M*</b>				
<b>Total LB Expenditures: \$56M</b>		<b>Total Partner Contributions All Projects: \$62.1M</b>				

\*Does Not Include CE Donation Value

7-15-24