



DRAYTON HARBOR SHELLFISH PROTECTION DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2007
Time: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Place: Marine Drive Harbormaster Conference Room – Blaine

Agenda

1.	4:00	Review Agenda and Previous Meeting Summaries
2.	4:05	Port Water Quality Report- Julie Hirsch, HCS
3.	4:45	Water Quality Update- Erika Stroebel, Whatcom County Public Works
4.	4:55	Council Resolution Adopting Updated Recovery Plan- Geoff Menzies
5.	5:15	Status of the OSS Inspection Program and Sensitive Areas Identification – John Wolpers, Whatcom County Health
6.	5:35	2007 Drayton Harbor Projects- Erika Stroebel
7.	5:55	New Business / Next Agenda / Meeting Date

Future 2007 Meetings

Date	Time	Location
July 18	4:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Marine Drive Harbormaster Conference Room, Blaine
September 19	4:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Marine Drive Harbormaster Conference Room, Blaine
*November 14	4:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Marine Drive Harbormaster Conference Room, Blaine

* Note: This meeting will take place on the second Wednesday of November, to avoid conflicts with Thanksgiving holiday schedules.

MEETING ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members: Jan Hansen, Pam Taft, Kathy Cullen, Bjorn Hrutfiord, and Geoff Menzies

Others: John Wolpers (WC Health), Carl Weimer (County Council), Remy Stratton (WC Public Works), Erika Stroebel (WC Public Works), Jason Pentzer (WS Dept. of Agriculture), Joan Clark (Beach Watcher), Jackie Goodsir (Blaine Hoby Farm), and Don Hrutfiord (Farmer)

Members Absent: Charlie Hawkins and Bob Williams

MEETING CONTENTS:

1. Review Agenda and Previous Meeting Summary

No changes were made to the agenda and the March 2007 meeting summary was approved as is.

2. Port Water Quality Report—Julie Hirsch, Hirsch Consulting Services (HCS)

Handouts distributed: 2006 Blaine Harbor Water Quality Monitoring Summary, March 2007

Julie gave a brief presentation on the Water Quality Report for Blaine Harbor/Drayton Harbor. -- Conclusions and recommendations were noted in the report much of which was carried from last year and prior. Monitoring occurred from the fall of 2005, has continued through 2006, and will be reduced to three sampling events in 2007. Fecal coliform data was reviewed including comparisons due to variation of sampling conditions (wet weather vs. dry). TMDL will be forthcoming. Julie highlighted conclusions (7 are noted in the summary) including reduced monitoring, the failure to meet Washington State FC standards in 2006 all sample stations within Blaine Harbor and Station J at the mouth of Drayton Harbor, long-term trends, salinity, dissolved oxygen levels, and bird counts. Her main recommendation is for the agencies involved to prioritize the recommendations (14 are noted in the summary) to move forward.

Committee members discussed information about monitoring of the geometric means in the recreational vs. the commercial marina, feasibility of the continuance of sampling at different stations, and determination of sources (including the discharge of boater waste in Canadian waters). Long-standing recommendations have been submitted to the Port in a letter last October, however the committee has not gotten a response from them.

3. Water Quality Update—Erika Stroebel, Whatcom County Public Works

Handout circulated: 2006 Blaine Harbor Water Quality Monitoring Summary, Executive Summary

Erika provided a summary with the current status of all the marine stations under conditional approval including datasets of meeting the 14 geometric mean. The report has multiple pages and includes raw data being analyzed. There were meetings with DOH and DOE and the aim is for greater awareness of multiple datasets out there and the use of the data. There was discussion of significant increases in the different stations during harvest time which can have a negative impact. Water quality sampling continues.

4. Council Resolution Adopting Updated Recovery Plan—Geoff Menzies, Chair

Handout distributed: Draft Resolution Approving the Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District Recovery Plan—2007 Update (Introduced to Whatcom County Council 5/8/07)

This plan has been a priority for the committee, and it has been set before the Council by Carl Weimer. It's not as exhaustive as other Council resolutions, however there is a key element for the Council to begin exploration of creating a dedicated funding source for the Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District. There are questions as to where responsibilities lie on this. Carl invited members to the Natural Resources Meeting the following week where the resolution will be discussed. Because the County is in the middle of a budget cycle, and funding would need to be added for this on the next budget cycle.

Action Item: Geoff to draft up a thank you letter to Council for adopting of the plan. Committee members approved.

5. Status of the OSS Inspection Program and Sensitive Areas Identification—John Wolpers, Whatcom County Health

On April 2, 2007, OSS rules and regulations went into effect. There has been a very good rapport with designers and installers

6. 2007 Drayton Harbor Projects—Erika Stroebel, Whatcom County Public Works

7. New Business/ Next Agenda/ Meeting Date

George Boggs reported that they are revisiting their annual plan at the Conservation District. They will receive a 30% budget increase from the state for the livestock program, indicating the governor's confidence in the program. Additional funding is expected from Planning & Development Services (PDS).

The District will send a representative to the Natural Resource Committee meeting.

A flyer was distributed for upcoming panel discussions on April 18 for Mud and Manure Management, and on April 25 for Pasture Management, both to be held at the Lynden Public Library at 6:00 p.m.

PDS is working to develop a comprehensive plan for the County that is focused on inspection efforts in the watershed. The goal is a team-approach program working with landowners.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.