

AGENDA

Conservation Easement Program Oversight Committee

Planning and Development Services – Northwest Annex

5280 Northwest Dr, Bellingham, WA 98226

Central Conference Room

or

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86379014229?pwd=VGJ4OGpBUjZUN2pVZEtkZ1RkbGNqUT09>

Passcode: cepoc

Friday, February 24, 2023

8:30 – 10:00 AM

- 1. Welcome, announcements, public comments, & agenda review (10 minutes)**
- 2. Approval of previous meeting minutes (5 minutes)**
- 3. Updates since previous meeting (5 minutes)**
- 4. Discussion items/business (60 minutes)**
 - Vice-Chair Election
 - CEP Administrator Transition
 - Expanding the Farmer Committee Position
 - Affirmative Agricultural Conservation Easements
- 5. Public comments (5 minutes)**
- 6. Next meeting (5 minutes)**
 - April 28th or May 26th, 8:30-10:00 AM- Online and In-Person Option
 - Future agenda items
 - Committee Update to New Staff
 - Jen's Editorial

Included in the meeting packet (or provided at the meeting):

- January Meeting Minutes

Community members who require special assistance to participate in a committee meeting are asked to contact the meeting facilitator at least 4 business days in advance. Please contact meeting facilitator, Becky Snijder van Wissenkerke, at 360-778-5956 or rsnijder@whatcomcounty.us.

**CEP Oversight Committee
Meeting Summary
January 27, 2023**

Start Time:	8:30 a.m.
Location:	Online Meeting and In-Person at Northwest Annex, 5280 Northwest Drive, Bellingham, WA

Meeting Highlights
There were 10 people in attendance (5 of the 6 voting members; 1 PDS staff member; 2 Ex-Official; 2 Guests).

Attendees – Members	Affiliation	Present
D’Agnolo, Sean	Producer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Glyzinski, Jen	Real Estate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jones, McKale	Producer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mackay-Brown, Heather	Incorporated, Non-farmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Neely, Burr	Unincorporated, Non-Farmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schissler, Paul	Farm Supporting Business	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
VACANT	Producer	<input type="checkbox"/>

Quorum Present	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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PDS Staff	Affiliation	Present
Becky Snijder van Wissenkerke	CEP Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>

Attendees – Ex-Official/Contributing	Affiliation	Present
Alex Jeffers	WLT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Alan Chapman	WCD Supervisor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>

Attendees – Guests	Affiliation	Present
Ali Jensen	WCHD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Guest	Unknown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>

Determination of a Quorum/ Welcome

We have a Quorum for the meeting.

Public Comments

Paul acknowledged the program's improvements and thanked the committee.

Announcements

No announcements at this time.

Approval of Minutes – October

Jen moved to approve the meeting minutes. Heather seconded. **The motion passed with all in favor.**

Updates Since Previous Meeting

Paul reminded the committee that Council approved an additional 1 FTE in staffing for the CEP in 2024 and asked the department to start recruitment early.

Discussion Items/BusinessCommittee Terms & Elections

Becky shared that Jeff resigned from the committee and now there is an opening for a farmer position. The committee asked that this vacancy be announced to past CEP participants. The committee then reviewed current membership and terms. It was noted that this is the last year that Sean and Jen can serve before their second terms expire. Becky will check if members can reapply for third term after taking a break.

The committee discussed altering the membership positions to reflect the program's expansion to forestry and ecological interests. The current membership has three farmers but no one with forestry expertise. One suggestion was to change one farmer position to allow for someone with farming or forestry experience. The committee will discuss more at the next meeting.

The committee held officer elections for the year. Jen was voted as chair with all in favor. The election for vice-chair was postponed to the next meeting to allow time for input from all committee members.

Review Draft Food System Plan

Ali gave the history of the community food assessment, community engagement, and drafting of the food system plan. The committee reviewed Goal 2 of the draft food system plan and provided feedback.

Farmland Access Forum Update

Becky provided an update on the Farmland Access Forum Steering Committee's first meeting. The group is defining their focus, then will develop a timeline for hosting a forum.

Public Comments

No closing comments at this time.

Future Agenda Items

- Jen's Editorial Update
- Affirmative Agricultural Conservation Easements
- Farmland Access Forum Update
- Expanding the Farmer Committee Position
- Strategies for Easement Types (Sub-Programs)
- Coordinate CFF Use
- Pursuing REET 3

Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Friday, February 24, 2023, 8:30-10:00 AM. This will be a hybrid meeting with an in-person and remote option.

Meeting adjourned at 10:03 AM.