

**Agricultural Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
February 9, 2022**

Start Time:	4:04 p.m.
Location:	Virtual Meeting - Zoom

Meeting Highlights

There were 8 people in attendance (5 of the 8 voting members; 2 staff members; 1 and Ex-Officio).

Attendees – Members	Affiliation	Present
Chapman, Alan	Whatcom Conservation District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gill, Jagwinder	Producer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Groen, Steven	Producer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hento, Barbara	Producer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kubalek, Roger	Producer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
McDermott, Matthew	Producer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Singh, Gurjit	Producer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Stranik, Dakota	Producer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Producer	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Fam Program Expertise	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Processor	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Consumer	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Whatcom Family Farmers	<input type="checkbox"/>

Quorum Present

YES **NO**

Attendees – Ex-Official/Contributing	Affiliation	Present
Bierlink, Henry	Ag Water Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Boggs, George	Conservation District	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gillies, John	Farm Expertise	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elea Van Weerdhuizen	FFA Youth	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hall, Alex	NRCS	<input type="checkbox"/>
Benedict, Chris	WSU Extension	<input type="checkbox"/>

Attendees - Staff	Present
Joshua Fleischmann	X
Chris Elder	X

Others Present

Roll call and determination of a quorum

A quorum was present.

Open session to take public comment on agricultural issues

There were no public comments.

Officer Elections

Alan Chapman was nominated and confirmed as the Committee Chair. Position of vice-chair was not voted on. The committee will wait for other committee members to be present before waiting to nominate a vice-chair.

Meeting Schedule

Alternative dates/times were discussed for regularly scheduled AAC meetings. There was no clear preference. Staff will follow up to try to identify a time that will work for most members.

2021-2022 Work Plan

The committee discussed the Agricultural Strategic Plan priorities in consideration of whether they are still relevant and within the scope of the committee's objective and role. The committee believes these items remain relevant for their consideration and continued work.

The committee also discussed other items that may support agriculture in Whatcom County, including, but not limited to:

- Port of Bellingham involvement in supporting agriculture
- AAC outreach to other organizations to see what support they could use
- Food security/resilience

New Business

No new business was discussed.

Dismissal and Next Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2022 from 4-6 p.m. to be held virtually.