

**PDR Oversight Committee
Meeting Summary
February 26, 2021**

Start Time:	8:30 a.m.
Location:	Online Meeting One Staff Member located at Northwest Annex, Central Conference Room, 5280 Northwest Drive, Bellingham, WA

Meeting Highlights
There were 12 people in attendance (5 of the 7 voting members; 1 PDS staff member; 3 Contributing Members; and 3 Guests).

Attendees – Members	Affiliation	Present
Brar, Jagjiwan	Producer	<input type="checkbox"/>
D’Agnolo, Sean	Producer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Glyzinski, Jen	Real Estate	<input checked="" 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	PDR Program Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>

Attendees – Ex-Official/Contributing	Affiliation	Present
Chris Elder	PW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Alex Jeffers	WLT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Henry Bierlink	AWB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>

Attendees – Guests	Affiliation	Present
Kate Lenzer	Unique Places	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Michael Scisco	Unique Places	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ali Jensen	WC Health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>

Determination of a Quorum/ Welcome

We have a Quorum.

Public Comments

No public comments at this time.

Announcements

Becky summarized the discussion about agricultural mitigation that occurred at the joint Agricultural Advisory Committee/ PDR Oversight Committee meeting on February 10, 2021. Discussion included an overview of the 2016 framework and reports, identified a need to develop a policy, and included a broader discussion of farmland preservation and the need to use all available tools to preserve farmland.

Approval of Minutes - January

Heather motioned to approve the January meeting minutes. Sean seconded. **The motion passed with all in favor.**

Discussion Items/Business

Elect Officers

After a discussion, Heather motioned to elect Paul Schissler as Chair and Sean D'Agnolo as Vice-Chair. Jen seconded. **The motion passed with all in favor.**

Review Low-Income Assistance Policy

The Committee reviewed the proposed Low-Income Assistance Policy. This policy would allow for the PDR Program to provide financial assistance to cover the Lot of Record review fee for low-to-moderate income PDR applicants. The Committee approved the proposed policy.

Conservation Futures Fund Process

Paul drafted a summary of the Conservation Futures Fund processes in place and proposed processes to consider. The Committee identified a need to coordinate across departments to further define the processes. The Committee supports the proposed process to designate 50% of Conservation Futures Funds for conservation easement

acquisitions. Increasing the percent designated funds up to 100% was also discussed as was a ballot measure to increase the Conservation Futures Funds property tax. If more funding is secured for the PDR Program, the Program can have the potential to purchase select conservation easements without grant funding, which would significantly decrease the time an applicant waits before an easement is purchased. Becky will check internally to see what next steps are needed to pursue the creation of a formalized process. Becky will also inquire about other potential Conservation Futures Fund uses.

Strategy for Outreach

The Committee discussed outreach strategies for 2021. The goal is to focus on gaining interest from large agriculture and forestry land holders by building community support. Strategies discussed include:

- PDR Program Ambassadors- Inquire with past PDR applicants to see if anyone wants to serve as an ambassador and share their experience with prospective applicants.
- Partner Outreach- Utilize local organizations to give presentations and share info about the program. Inquire with sister programs across state to see what others do for outreach. Also consider outreach to Council and lenders (banks).
- Mailers- Utilize targeted mailers focused on large agriculture and forestry land holders. Send follow-up mailers after presenting to local organizations.
- Tracking- Keep track of contacts and results from outreach. Use these statistics in presentations to Council.

Future Agenda Items

- Review Proposed Code and Guideline Changes
- Outreach Strategy
- Conservation Futures Fund Process Update
- Agricultural Mitigation Update

Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Friday, March 26, 2021, 8:30-10:00 AM. This will be an online meeting only.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 AM.