

Skagit County Agriculture Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2017, 6 p.m.
Skagit County Administrative Building

Members in Attendance

Murray Benjamin	Barbara Cleve	Michael Hughes	Sloan Johnson
Kraig Knutzen	Nels Lagerlund	Greg Lee	Terry Sapp

Members Absent

Steve Bertelson	Scott Hanseth	Steve Omdal
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Others in Attendance

Don McMoran, WSU Extension
Richard Brocksmith, Director, Skagit Watershed Council

Call to Order

Chairman Nels Lagerlund called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the October 13, 2016 meeting were considered for comment or change and were approved as presented after a motion by Murray and a second by Michael.

Elections

Michael Hughes was nominated for Vice Chair by Greg. Barbara made a second. Nels Lagerlund was nominated for Chair by Murray. Greg made a second. No other nominations were made. The nominees were approved as a slate by unanimous vote.

Volunteer Stewardship Program

No member of County staff was present for a presentation and no further discussion ensued.

Other Business

Member Resignation

Nels apprised the members that Jim Carstens resigned from the board. Discussion involved the likely imminent announcement of the board vacancy by the commissioners and member outreach to persons in District 3 who might have an interest in serving.

Skagit Watershed Council

Richard Brocksmith provided an overview of Skagit Watershed Council including its organizational make-up, mission and purpose, history, and some current projects in which it is involved. The Council is non-profit, was created in 1997, and works to generate

collaboration among parties concerned with salmon habitat. Some exchange with members extended discussion to agricultural interests in habitat restoration projects and issues.

Joint Meeting of Agriculture Advisory Board and Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland

A brief review of the meeting on December 21, 2016 was provided by the several members of AAB who attended. Members voiced encouragement to continue the practice of joint meetings and to identify other ways of sharing information of common interest. Concern was stated that AAB meetings and SPF meetings are scheduled at the same time monthly. Building agricultural products processing facilities in the ag zone is a subject of common concern.

Don reminded members that the Ag Summit is scheduled for February 25 and shared a flier about it. He also reported that a group of ag leaders meets for breakfast at the Farmhouse Inn at 7:00 a.m. on the first Friday of each month.

Nels confirmed that the next AAB meeting would be on February 8.

The meeting was officially adjourned at 8:10 p.m. after a motion by Barbara and a second by Michael.

Minutes by Terry Sapp