

**Skagit County Agriculture Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**  
**June 14, 2017, 7 pm**  
**Skagit County Administration Building**

**Members in Attendance**

Nels Lagerlund	Murray Benjamin	Kraig Knutzen	Terry Sapp
Scott Hanseth	Tim Van Hofwegen	Steve Omdal	Michael Hughes
Greg Lee	Barbara Cleave		

**Members Absent**

Steve Bertelsen      Sloan Johnson

**Others in Attendance**

Will Honea, Skagit County Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney  
Roger Wechsler, Co-Owner of Samish Bay Cheese  
Dan Berentson, Public Works Director  
Don McMoran, WSU Extension Director

**Call to Order**

Nels Lagerlund called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

**Meeting Minutes**

April meeting minutes corrected (Cleave). *Murray moved to approved the corrected minutes, Greg seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Proposed Jurisdiction Change – Will Honea**

A letter is available on the Skagit County website outlining the proposed Swinomish jurisdictional changes. Swinomish have amended their constitution to include jurisdiction over unclaimed lands. This constitution amendment changes land use of ‘unclaimed lands’ to a permanent consent, versus consultation prior to use. On June 26<sup>th</sup> to Division of Indian Affairs in Washington DC will review the amendments and will be asked to clarify what unclaimed lands means and where jurisdiction occurs.

**Local Issues – Contaminating Pollen, Don McMoran**

A pollen contamination issue of a 15 acre cabbage field occurred recently. This has identified an increasing need for an ordinance to support immediate actions to protect seed crops. Don McMoran will be looking into a county nuisance ordinance for this that impacts health, safety and welfare, given that the AAB supports this.

*Murray moved that the AAB agreed to support Don’s effort to be able to protect seed crops in the future from cross pollination; Barbara seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Local Issues – No Food Service Allowance, Roger Wechsler**

Samish Bay Cheese has a new production and Retail location on Bow Hill Road and are looking to SPF to assist in creating an allowance for limited food service on direct farm-raised products. AAB members were asked for their input before proceeding. It was concluded that Samish Bay Cheese has a store and not a restaurant, and this may be considered an accessory structure, subsidiary to the retail process. This promotes local agriculture.

**Other Business – Don McMoran**

WSU has been hosting an educational series. This is the most workshops they have had in one year in their history. An irrigation system evaluation efficiency grant has been made to Skagit County WSU.

Upcoming events:

- Grain Field Day, End of June
- President of WSU, Bread Lab Tour, July
- WSU NWREC Annual Field Day, July 13, 2017

**Adjourn**

*Murray moved to adjourn, Michael seconded.*

Next meeting July 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 7 pm.