

Skagit County Conservation Futures Advisory Board
Meeting Summary
March 12, 2024

Members in Attendance

Scott DeGraw	Audrey Gravley	Andrea Xaver	Sarah Stoner (ex-officio)
Margery Hite	Jim Glackin	Owen Peth	

Members Absent

Keith Morrison

Staff and Others in Attendance

Jenn Johnson, Skagit County Public Works (partial attendance)
Kai Ottesen, Belle Bean Services (partial attendance)

Scott called the meeting to order at 7:30AM.

Review Agenda, Introductions

Agenda approved.

Approve February 13 Meeting Summary Jim made a motion to approve minutes; Andrea seconded. All in favor.

Special Guests: Skagit County Assessors' Office

Danny Hagen, Skagit County Assessor, and Annette DeVoe, Chief Deputy Assessor, shared their roles and work in the Assessor's Office. Discussion included a look at the Current Use Farm & Ag tax designation status, use of 'excess land' tables, the different breakout zones based on soils, and market value and ratio studies.

Property Updates

The group discussed updates on the properties currently in queue for agricultural conservation easements. The queued applicants encompass 600 acres and 14 development rights.

Marketing & Application Process

Operating Procedures for Advisory Board: Draft

Scott shared that operating procedures are being drafted for the Conservation Futures Advisory Board. These include clarifying quorum and the election cycle process for board chair, among other procedural items. The procedures are based on established operating procedures of the Ag Advisory Board.

Monitoring Updates

Kai reported that monitoring work is wrapped up for 2023 easements, with 186 easements monitored.

Member Updates

Members reviewed the information discussed earlier in the meeting by guests from the Assessors' Office, Danny Hagan, Skagit County Assessor, and Annette DeVoe, Chief Deputy.

Financial Summary

The financial summary is updated for March 2024 and reflects easement properties closed and recorded.

Administrative

CFAC 2024 Meeting Dates

April 9

May 14

June 11

July 9

August 13 (tbd)

September 10

October 8 (tbd)

November 12

December 10

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM