



Meeting Summary

Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2021

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

WebEx Video Conference Due to Covid-19 Pandemic

I. ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at 6:34 pm. Roll Call made.

Members Present: Brendan Addis, Michelle Girts, Matthew Jones Marie LaManna, Sue Marshall, Michelle Maynard Charlie Tumelty and Josh Seeds.

Members Absent: none

Staff Present: Justin Maynard, Eric Lambert, and Alice Millward

Public Present: Tanya Settles, Sandra Martin-Boehm* (*to be appointed new CWC)

No minutes available to approve.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None. No requests for access, comments and/or questions were received by staff as of 6:15pm on Sept. 1, 2021. The current notification process has been clarified

III. PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION / RECOMMENDATION / ACTION

Public Works - Clean Water Division

Clean Water Division Outreach - Eric Lambert, Clean Water Outreach Specialist.

- The Pet Waste Behavior Change: The 2019 current permit requires Clark County to track the effectiveness of a public behavioral change. We are focusing on the Canines for Clean Water to meet this requirement. Outreach staff are utilizing a community-based marketing model and one of the targeted populations is multi-family housing and veterinarians. As part of this study, they have held educational tabling sessions along Cougar Creek trail and conducted "poop counts." They will be evaluating what has worked and what hasn't worked during this pilot project. The signs along the trail were damaged and/or stolen and will not be replaced. The need for more garbage cans was noted.
- The new Stream Health Report will be presented in Spring 2022.
- Eric is nearly finished the Storm Water Facilities Maintenance project. To continue to expand our message, the educational materials (videos and printed materials) have been translated into Spanish and Russian. There's a You-Tube live stream of the training. He hopes to have the training in person in October but that is dependent on the Covid numbers and what our safety people say.
- The Clean Rivers Coalition received an EPA grant to develop a program regarding the best management practices for pesticides and natural yard care practices. One of the more public facing educational endeavors is the Clean Water public service ads on Channel 12 "Follow the Water – Connect the Drops" campaign which



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features videos of the Columbia River. On July 16, they had their LatinX focus groups with Lara Media. Lara Media will also be presenting at the SW Partners Symposium their findings.

- The winning videos of the Clean Water Coalition's student video contest were played at the Vancouver Movies at the Park on Aug. 6, at Ft. Vancouver. Go to Stormwater Partner's website to see winning videos.
- The Storm Water Partners will be having their virtual symposium the second week of November and the CWC will be invited. Please let Eric know if you have any topics you'd like to see addressed at the symposium.
- The Student Watershed Monitoring Network starts this month.
- Eric is working with the Conservation District on their PoopSmart Clark campaign. This will be targeting the East Fork of the Lewis River as well as county wide. Clean Water's role is to be support for our partner agencies and will also provide some monitoring work.

Justin Maynard, Clean Water Division Manager gave a brief update:

- Clean Water is doing a lot of work with the resources they have. He knew Clean Water did a lot but now he really understands just how busy and stretched thin the department is.
- Jeff is diving back into infrastructure and focusing on particularly on an outfall along Whipple Creek and other watershed planning areas.
- Rod is overseeing the watershed modeling and planning with MILL2 work that is a requirement of the NPDES permit.
- Lower Columbia Urban Streams (LCUS) monitoring is very complex and intensive. Our staff is taking literally hundreds of measurements at each site.

Alice Millward, Clean Water Commission Staff Liaison, gave update on several matters.

- Welcome to soon-to-be officially appointed commissioner Sandra Martin-Boehm. We are very excited to have her experience working with C-Tran. She is not a voting member yet, but we appreciate her attending / calling in during her camping trip.
- Ahmad is no longer the PW Director. Finance Manager Eva Haney has been appointed to be the Interim PW Director. She will need to focus on a lot of personnel staffing changes at operations and wastewater treatment plant.
- No Fieldtrip this year due to the Delta variant surge. Possibly, we will be able to have one Fall 2022.
- For the three commissioners whose terms end in December, please let Alice know by Sept. 30, if you would like to continue serving on the CWC.
- We will be having our Fall Special Meeting on October 7th. Henry Schattenkerk will be presenting information on the clean water mapping and GIS process. Alice is looking into other speakers.
- Staff is very busy in Clean Water. We currently have a couple employees out on leave. This is the busy inspection and monitoring time. The heat wave induced low water levels and covid safety protocols have made these tasks more difficult. Monitoring staff is also scouting and preparing for the next water year LCUS sites.



Tanya Settles, The Kaleidoscope Group, gave a presentation *Connecting DEI to the Mission of the Clark County Clean Water Commission*. The PowerPoint slides are available on the county website. Some of the highlights include:

- Being consciously inclusive and intentional
- The development of DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) and its evolution process
- The various dimensions of diversity
- The concept of water equity
- Why DEI matters to the CWC: The amounts of rain may fall in equal amounts, but the effects will disrupt peoples' lives differently depending on many factors.
- Flooding events, impacts and intersectionality on diverse communities which can create more negative impacts for these communities
- Bridging the CWC's mission to solutions
- Building community engagement
- Be like water. Water always finds a way!

Working Group Updates: Research, Partnerships and Outreach

All three Working Groups reported on their progress and member assignments.

- **Research Group** (M. Maynard-chair, Addis, Tumelty, Josh)
 - Commissioner Michelle Maynard reported the Brendan had created a stakeholder/resource letter and wanted to know if anyone had any comments or changes to the Creek Renaming project. The Partnerships group offered to help reach out and contact the various groups.
 - They plan to have a new research topic by the next regular meeting.
- **Outreach & Education Group** (Jones-chair, LaManna)
 - Commissioner Jones reported that he and Marie will be presenting the Salmon Safe initiative information to the Clark County Parks Board at their next meeting in October.
 - They are interested in assisting in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) aspects of the educational and outreach commitment. They will be contacting Elaine Placido at Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership (LCEP) to discuss how they have address this so successfully in their program.
 - The group is interested in looking into the WDFW National Volunteer of the Year, River Junkies who is a local nonprofit who focuses on creating annual river clean ups.
 - Education and Outreach Group is planning to work with Eric on his Canines for Clean Water behavioral change efforts whenever they are needed



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- **Partnerships Group** (Girts-chair, Marshall, replacement CWC)
 - Commissioner Girts reported they have not met recently, are willing to work with Research to contact the various agencies regarding the naming project.
 - Partnerships can work towards seeking out partnerships that could leverage the 6-year and 20-year capital plans.
 - Commissioner Girts agreed to step in the role as the chair again. Once Commissioner Martin-Boehm is official, they will plan to meet.

IV. COMMISSION DISCUSSION TIME

- Matt Jones is a member of the Lower Columbia Estuary Program's Board (LCEP). They will be having an online fundraising effort on 9/25 since the delta surge has cancelled their in-person event.
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- Commissioner Girts was curious to learn more about what the county / Clean Water is doing specifically with regards to climate change (for example flow management, species declines/impacts and water quality).
- The Commissioners would like to thank Tanya Settles for coming and giving a very informative presentation.

VI. ADJOURN – 9:13 PM

Summary provided by: Alice Millward, Clark County Staff Liaison / 564.397.5267

Audio recordings of this and most previous Clean Water Commission meetings are available through the county website at:
<https://www.clark.wa.gov/public-works/clean-water-commission>.