

CLALLAM  COUNTY
MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Draft Minutes

Date: Monday, January 27, 2020
 Time: 5:30 – 7:30 pm
 Location: Feiro Marine Life Center
 Minutes prepared by Helle Andersen

Members present:

P = Present E= Excused

P Bob Vreeland	P Robert Knapp	P Arnold Schouten	P Tim Cochnauer	City of Port Angeles
P Ann Soule	P Jeff Ward	E Mike Doherty	Greig Arnold	LEKT Open Position
P Lyn Muench	P Alan Clark	P Ed Bowlby	Jesse Waknitz	T&C Open Position

Ex-Officio Members / MRC staff/Members of the Public Present

Ioana Bociu, resident; Harold Kline, resident; Kevin Russell, resident; Lance Vail, resident; Nessa Goldman, resident; Melissa Williams, Feiro Marine Life Center Executive Director; Cathy Lear, Clallam MRC Coordinator; Helle Andersen, Clallam MRC Project Coordinator.

Call to Order/Introductions/ Changes to Agenda

None

Public Comment/Approval of Minutes

Melissa Williams informed the audience that kelp expert Tom Mumford will be speaking February 18th at 6 pm at Feiro Marine Life Center. The presentation is part of a speaker series organized by Feiro Marine Life center in partnership with Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary. The December minutes were approved.

“The Story of Water” Video

The video was well received by the audience. For more information on the video and project see Clallam County League of Women Voters’ website <https://my.lwv.org/washington/clallam-county/story-water>

MRC Climate Change Workgroup

Ann Soule began the update of the workgroup’s progress by passing out a list of Clallam MRC Climate Change-Related Events and Projects, 2015-2019 (attached). The next step is to finalize talking points so that District reps can open a dialog with their Commissioners in one-on-one meetings; one of the topics is to ask if they have ideas for us to work on. Reps will use the list and emphasize that climate change is the MRC’s number one concern. Jeff Ward pointed out that a lot of the monitoring work carried out by the MRC provides relevant information to better understand the environment and the impact of climate change. Alan is reaching out to NWSC for resources.

2020 Internship Program

After a short discussion the members decided to offer three internships in the spring and three internships in the summer. The spring internships will be smolt trapping on Tumwater Creek in collaboration with Lower Elwha Tribe and green crab trapping and removal in Neah Bay in collaboration with the Makah Tribe. The duration of both of these internships will be 80 hours. The third spring internship will focus on creating several videos about the MRC. The internship will be carried out in collaboration with Patric McInnis at Port Angeles high school. The duration of this internship is up to 150 hours. The summer interns will be working on the following projects: monitoring of pigeon guillemot breeding colonies, kelp bed monitoring and a combination of outreach to recreational crabbers and working with Jamestown on their green crab trapping and removal project. The duration for the three summer internships will be 80 hours. All internships will be paid mileage. Because the MRC Opportunity

grant RFP will not be published until April with funds becoming available in June the members decided to fund all internships through the NWSC grant. By doing so the projected amount for the internship program will exceed what was designated to that task in April 2019; this will require writing an amendment to the 2019-20 grant. The additional funds will be coming from the oil spill preparedness task (see agenda item summary below).

Review of Clallam MRC Vision & Mission Statements

The following revisions to the vision and mission statements were approved by the members:

Previous vision statement: CCMRC's vision is a healthy and protected marine ecosystem for future generations.

Revised statement: CCMRC's vision is a healthy marine ecosystem for future generations.

Previous mission statement: CCMRC's mission is to develop projects that achieve the following goals:

- Goal 1: Protect and restore nearshore ecosystems
- Goal 2: Use science to support decision-making
- Goal 3: Promote environmental stewardship.

Revised statement: CCMRC's mission is to develop projects that achieve the following goals:

- Goal 1: Protect and restore marine ecosystems
- Goal 2: Use science to support decision-making
- Goal 3: Promote environmental stewardship.

"Deep-Handshake" Partnership Workshop

The members had a brief discussion about the workshop. Ann Soule suggested that we make it a celebration of the work everybody is doing with an emphasis on common priorities. It will also provide an opportunity for all participants to share information on what they are currently working on. It should not be promoted as a "fundraiser" even though it may function as such. Jeff Ward suggested that we reach out to Jefferson MRC to participate in the event or organizing a joint MRC meeting similar to the meeting we held two years ago. The members decided to start planning for the event in March (topic on the March agenda) for the workshop to take place late summer or early fall.

Current Action Items before the BOCC

Robert Knapp informed the members that the first phase of the Jamestown Oyster Project has been approved by the hearing examiner. The hearing examiner requested monitoring to be conducted and ruling of the second phase will occur after the monitoring results have been reviewed. The tribe still needs to receive federal permits for the project.

Melissa Williams briefly summarized the other action item – cleanup of the Port Angeles Harbor. Department of Ecology will host an open house Tuesday January 28th 6:30 – 8:30 pm at the Olympic Medical Center. During the open house they will present the alternatives for the cleanup effort and provide the audience an opportunity to ask questions. Public comment period runs from January 16 through March 16, 2020.

NWSC Update

Allan Clark provided an update of the NWSC meeting January 31, 2020. Anna Toledo, Island MRC coordinator, informed the Commission about their sea level rise workshops and Linda Ridder, president of Sound Water Stewards, gave a presentation of their work. Dana Oster is back from her sick leave and is working on the kelp conservation & recovery plan. Nicole Jordan's replacement has been hired and the Commission is going forward with hiring a short-term ecosystem coordinator.

Project Updates

Oil Spill Preparedness: Arnold Schouten and Jeff Ward gave a brief summary of how the MRC and the team led by WDFW have provided HAZWOPER and oiled wildlife training in the past. The HAZWOPER class used to be large with numerous federal employees receiving the 8-hr refresher course for their 24-40 hr. course. In the last couple of years there has been very few if any federal employees taking the 8-hr. HAZWOPER class. The WDFW team has therefore decided to move the training to Vancouver, WA. For years Island Oil Spill Association came to Port Angeles and provided two oiled wildlife classes (search & capture and intake & rehabilitation) using live birds. Last year IOSA was no longer able to provide the training and Focus Wildlife was contracted to teach one 8-hr oiled wildlife class. Jenny Schlieps from Focus Wildlife is against using live birds and the class include more lectures with a little hands-on of dead birds. Because Arnold, Jeff and Ed Bowlby didn't think last year's oiled wildlife training provided the participants a good sense of how to handle birds and because of the lack of the 8-hr HAZWOPER class in Port Angeles, the subcommittee thought it would be a good time to step back and re-access what oil spill related training the MRC should and can offer. Jeff also mentioned that he has been asked to present in an oil spill preparedness course provided by WSU in Snohomish. Instead they suggested providing a more general outreach to the community about oil spill preparedness including the increase in tanker traffic. Such an outreach could be done in a public forum. Ed suggested including a presentation in the upcoming Celebration of Science & Technology. The members decided to not provide the oiled wildlife training in 2020. This decision will require an amendment to the 2019-20 NWSC grant.

Good of the Order

The members will decide to hold the February meeting Feb. 24th.

Public Comment

None

Adjourn

The meeting ended at 7:30 pm.