

KING COUNTY AGRICULTURE COMMISSION

MEETING NOTICE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2019

3:00-6:00 P.M.

PRESTON COMMUNITY CENTER

MEETING AGENDA

3:00	Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and Introductions Approval of Agenda Approval of Minutes (October, November, December) 	Leigh Newman-Bell, Chair Pro Tem
3:05	Old Business - Updates (approx. 3 min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission Details <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bev Ordinance Action KCD Letter Fuel Tax Letter KC Ag Program Land Conservation Initiative Local Food Initiative King Conservation District Beefing Up Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patrice Barrentine Richard Martin Leann Krainick Mike Lufkin Josh Monaghan Darron Marzolf, Leann Krainick, Patrice
3:35	Public Comment related to a specific agenda item <i>3 minutes/person</i>	Leigh Newman-Bell
3:40	Officer Nominations and Elections	Leigh Newman-Bell
3:50	Farm, Fish , Flood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure and Process Overview (10) - Beth What FFF needs from the Commission (5) – Josh, Nayab, Meredith Buffer Task Force – Beth leDoux (5) Regulatory Task Force – Eric Beach (5) Ag Land Resource Strategic Plan Task Force – Patrice (5) Task Force Breakouts for Feedback (20) 	Beth leDoux, FFF Project Manager, , Josh Monaghan, FFF Ag Caucus Chair, Meredith Molli, FFF IOC Ag Commission and Reg Task Force and Nayab Khan, Ag Task Force
4:40	Break	
4:50	FFF Feedback Report Out <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buffer (3) Regulatory (3) Strategic Plan (3) 	Commissioners
5:00	Strategic Planning Brainstorm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field Trip 	Leigh Newman-Bell
5:30	Recognition of Commissioners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation 	Patrice Barrentine
5:50	General Public Comment <i>3 minutes/person</i>	Leigh Newman-Bell
5:55	Concerns of Commissioners	Leigh Newman-Bell
6:00	Adjourn	Leigh Newman-Bell

NEXT MEETING: FEBRUARY 13, 3-6PM, PRESTON COMMUNITY CENTER



King County
Water and Land Resources Division
 Department of Natural Resources and Parks
 King Street Center
 201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600
 Seattle, WA 98104-3855
206-477-4800 Fax 206-296-0192
 TTY Relay: 711

King County Agriculture Commission
DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 10th, 2019 – 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Preston Community Center, Preston

Commissioners Present					
Meredith Molli, Chair	N	Year Eng	Y	Darron Marzolf	N
Leigh Newman-Bell, Vice-Chair	Y	Lily Gottlieb-McHale	Y	Rosella Mosby	N
Roger Calhoon	N	Nayab Khan	Y	Paul Pink	Y
Sarah Collier	Y	Leann Krainick	Y	Kevin Scott-Vanderberge	N
Ex Officio Members Present					
Fereshteh Dehkordi, DLS	N	Josh Monaghan, KCD	Y	Kevin Wright, WSU	Y
County Staff/Representatives Present					
Patrice Barrentine, DNRP	Kathy Lambert, KC Councilmember		Mitch Paine, DNRP		
Eric Beach, DNRP	Mike Lufkin, DNRP		Katherine Taylor, DNRP		
Hugo Garcia, DLS	Richard Martin, DNRP		Scott (?), DNRP (?) – not signed in		
Christine Jensen, DLS	Megan Moore, DNRP		Katy Vanderpool, DNRP		
Guests Present					
Angela Donaldson, Farmers Insurance	Cynthia Krass, Snoqualmie Valley WID				

Action Summary

- **Actions: Approval of Agenda & September 2019 Meeting Minutes; Support Letter to KCC/Executive on KCD Agriculture Workplan**
- **County, Commission, and Organization Updates**
- **Presentations: Flood Insurance and Flood Preparation**
- **County Presentations: Shoreline Code; Puget Sound Clean Air Initiative; Flood Code Amendments**

Meeting called to order by Leigh Newman-Bell at 3:05 pm

Approval of Meeting Agenda (ACTION)

Leann Krainick motioned to accept today’s agenda as written. Sarah Collier seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (September 12, 2019) (ACTION)

Leigh Newman-Bell asked for a correction to a misspelled name. Paul Pink motioned to approve the minutes as amended; Lily Gottlieb-McHale seconded. With one abstention, the motion carried otherwise unanimously.

Old Business – Updates

- **Commission Details (Patrice Barrentine)**
 - Ms. Barrentine reviewed the current Commission roster. Leigh Newman-Bell and Rosella Mosby have opted not to serve another term. Kevin Scott-Vanderberge has agreed to serve another term. Ms. Barrentine said recruitment will likely aim to fill 10-12 of the available 15 spots. The selection committee is creating a list of potential recruits, and will return next month with recommendations. Ms. Newman-Bell noted that while many names were generated at today’s selection committee meeting, Commissioners may offer suggestions to Ms. Barrentine until the end of next week, with a cutoff at the end of this month. Ms. Barrentine added that farmers should represent the majority of filled seats, more than other agriculture fields.
 - Commission Chair and Vice-Chair elections are next month. Commissioners were encouraged to consider serving in one of these positions and reach out to Ms. Barrentine or Meredith Molli if interested.

- Farm Fish Flood (FFF) will be the focus of November’s Commission meeting, to be held at Pike Place Market.
- King County’s winery ordinance update passed King County Council’s (KCC) Committee of the Whole this week, and will now proceed to the full KCC. Ms. Barrentine will provide updates as soon as possible.
- **King County Agriculture Program (Richard Martin)**
 - Tomorrow is the first formal “dive” into the work of the immigrant refugee farmer support effort, to get an understanding of who is involved, and their resources and issues. Asset management will also be addressed.
 - Bee Cha is also working on significant improvements to County-owned farms. Mr. Martin suggested this next spring or summer, the Commission might visit one of these farms.
 - Rick Reinlasoder and other County staff are examining the County’s farm plan public rule, which is in need of updates. This will come with a formal presentation to seek Commission input after the first of the new year.
 - While no land committee meeting is scheduled for November, Mr. Martin requested one be scheduled as soon as possible, hopefully before next Commission meeting, or in January. The County seeks Commission guidance on drafting a new vision for the County’s Farmland Leasing Program.
- **Farm Fish Flood 2.0 (Richard Martin, Josh Monaghan)**
 - The next Implementation Oversight Committee (IOC) meeting is 9:00 am – 4:00 pm on October 24, at Carnation Farms.
 - Next week, the buffers task force will take final input on recommended buffer sizes for Snoqualmie Valley waterways. The meeting is next Wednesday.
 - The agriculture strategic plan task force is currently doing a “deep dive” into learning and research.
 - Angela Donaldson, flood caucus chair, reported that some scoping mechanisms are now being vetted through representatives of all three FFF caucuses. The potential for 2D modeling in the Snoqualmie Valley will also be discussed at the upcoming regulatory task force meeting.
- **Land Conservation Initiative:** There were no updates.
- **Local Food Initiative (Mike Lufkin):**
 - Food System Infrastructure: This involves cold/dry storage, commercial kitchens, and other infrastructure necessary for the food industries. There have been many discussions this past year about creating a multi-use shared facility near the county’s urban core. The stakeholder group has compiled the framework for this facility. A request for proposal (RFP) for a consultant to look at key concerns has been issued, with submissions hoped for by October 15 and a kick-start for the project in early November. The consultants will look at each potential site to gauge its usability for customers. Farmers’ market organizations, individual farmers, and food rescue organizations are some groups being targeted for this effort.
 - Several farm organizations, including Sno Valley Tilth and Viva, arranged an educational tour in September for immigrant refugee farmers to visit farms in the Snoqualmie and Sammamish Valleys. More of these tours are anticipated going forward.
 - Mr. Lufkin and his team are compiling a resource/how-to document for aspiring farmers, which he hopes to bring a draft of to the Commission soon.
 - Fresh Bucks: There are several funding challenges facing the program. USDA’s FINI grant originally funded it but ends at the end of 2019. The City of Seattle’s program is well-funded due to its sweetened beverage tax dollars, but outside of Seattle it’s unclear where funding will come from. The Department of Health (DOH) and other entities received funding from the legislature to continue the program on a smaller scale. DOH also convened stakeholders to submit a new grant proposal to USDA, but were unsuccessful in getting the grant. The stakeholders will return to discuss what may create a more stable funding program going forward.
- **King Conservation District (Josh Monaghan)**
 - Agriculture drainage maintenance work with the County has finished for the year. It was a successful season overall, with additions such as closer fish monitoring. Final data is still coming in.
 - Partial funding for several drainage projects next year has been provided by the Flood Control District.
 - KCD’s advisory board will meet Monday night to make final decisions on Regional Food Grant applicants. Winners will be announced at next month’s meeting.
- **Farm Bureau (Patrice Barrentine):** King/Pierce Farm Bureau’s annual meeting is October 14. Dinner and a guest speaker will be featured. About 15 spaces remain, and RSVP is required.
- **Beefing Up Infrastructure (Patrice Barrentine):**
 - The mobile processing unit is anticipated to be operational by Thanksgiving.
 - The Washington Beef Commission will help promote and spread word about the unit.
 - In response to producer concerns, the processing site will now look at doing meat cuts inside its truck, as a small USDA cut/wrap facility. It may also be the only site in western Washington that will scald pigs. Darron Marzolf at Marzolf Meats should be contacted to sign up to use the facility.

Public Comment (Related to Specific Agenda Item)

There was no public comment during this period.

Shoreline Code Update – Eric Beach, DNRP Regulatory/Permitting Specialist

Mr. Beach addressed concerns on how pending County shoreline code updates may affect agriculture. Current language has been forwarded to KCC, with no new changes from the prior draft. Mr. Beach reviewed the language with Christine Jensen at Department of Local Services' permitting division, and determined that aside from a couple of favorable agriculture drainage definition changes – one involving groundwater – there is nothing major to affect agriculture.

Paul Pink asked if the Commission could review the document as well. Mr. Beach agreed to check, but reiterated that the current markup doesn't show any major changes. Josh Monaghan wanted assurance that the active legislation is in step with the Commission's intended goals. Mr. Beach confirmed the document is going to KCC for further review, then will be distributed for public comment before a final version is voted on. The state Department of Ecology is also reviewing the document.

Mr. Monaghan requested seeing the current state of the document when available, and that the Commission be made aware at which points they can weigh in on it. Mr. Beach agreed to compile a timeline. Patrice Barrentine added that there is ample time for comment to be made on the document.

Flood Insurance and Flood Preparation – Angela Donaldson, Farmers Insurance Group

Ms. Donaldson distributed a series of informational documents addressing flood insurance coverage in King County. She discussed how this insurance can fit into a farmer's management portfolio, how they can understand the mechanism, and reduce flood risk.

She explained specifics of the federal flood insurance program. It was created in the 1960s because flooding is the most common and costly natural disaster in the country, and this is expected to continue with climate change. The program is intended to help communities and property owners protect and rebuild assets after a flood. In addition to federal standards, King County has its own rigorous minimum standards, resulting in up to a 40% cost discount to residents of communities here; most places see at most a 25% discount. The annual premium in King County is under \$500.

King County joined the federal program in the late 1970s. Therefore, any structures built before then – including many farm structures in the county – were built without any risk understanding of flooding, or sufficient information to apply the rating system to them. Transition and evolution of flood insurance will require more information, including surveys and flood depths. Congress sets the basic rating model. Ms. Donaldson stressed that a more sustainable insurance program needs to be created. A major downside is that the program is legislatively approved, and can expire. She said the program would have more stability if it were a sustainable financial model.

Follow-up questions raised the following concerns and comments:

- Nayab Khan asked how often FEMA updates the 500-year and 100-year flood standards, and their premiums. Ms. Donaldson replied this is typically implemented on a regional basis. King County falls under FEMA's Region 10. King County is currently updating their flood maps, many of which have not been updated since the 1970s-1990s. She said modernization is key to understanding risk. She also cited a recent hydrology study in the Snoqualmie Valley, which provided critical data on this issue. Communities can also file for letters of map revision, which Carnation and Snoqualmie have done. She noted that currently maps don't necessarily reflect all infrastructure.
- Ms. Donaldson was unaware of any FEMA documents specifically addressing farmer issues, but there are bulletins available related to agricultural buildings.
- New flood insurance policies have a 30-day wait period before taking effect.
- Disaster management is not the same as risk management; a disaster must be federally declared and does not build communities. The primary focus of insurance is sustainability and resilience to disasters.
- The full 40% discount for King County residents is for floodplain residents, and is taken off the raw premium.
- Washington state has one of the highest flooding rates in the country, due to there being more water here.
- Urban flooding and stormwater are not included in the flood maps.
- Anyone in unincorporated King County may buy flood insurance.

Puget Sound Clean Air Initiative Fuel Standards – Patrice Barrentine, DNRP

Rosella Mosby raised a concern about the Puget Sound Clean Air Initiative at last month's Commission meeting. The initiative, focused on King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish counties, is intended to improve regional air quality. It involves looking at a clean fuel standard, such as implementing "carbon credits" for those who produce cleaner fuels. Those who do not produce cleaner fuels – with some exemptions – may be penalized or have to buy carbon credits.

The concern raised by Ms. Mosby is that agriculture is not included as an exemption in the current draft of this initiative. Thus, many farmers – as fuel consumers – may see a sizable increase in per-gallon fuel costs, due to costs passed down from the producers. The public comment period for the document lasts until January 6, 2020, and includes comments submitted by mail or email. A hearing is scheduled at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle for December 19, 2019. The Commission, in its advisory role to KCC, is allowed to take a stance on the issue.

After some discussion, it was agreed among Commissioners that Leann Krainick, Paul Pink, and Sarah Collier would draft a response letter to present to KCC. It was suggested the Commission oppose the initiative strictly on its agricultural basis, rather than the whole document. It was also recommended the letter push for an exemption in the initiative for agriculture, as well as call out misleading bullet points about agriculture cited in the initiative’s literature. Patrice Barrentine agreed to help finalize the draft, and add it as an agenda item for next Commission meeting.

KCD Future Food/Farm Program Work & Commission Support Letter – Josh Monaghan (ACTION)

In a prior Commission meeting, KCD asked the Commission to write a letter of support for KCD’s proposed five-year workplan, which is up for renewal. The question being posed is if people want KCD to continue its work, and are willing to continue paying the rates to support it. Josh Monaghan said KCD believes their work nexuses well with the Commission’s priorities, and Commission support would make a big difference in KCC’s decision.

Councilmember Kathy Lambert encouraged more public testimony, particularly farmers, at Commission meetings, suggesting implementation of a Skype option as well. She also encouraged farmers in urban areas to write in their support, as many urban Councilmembers are unaware of KCD’s work. Katherine Taylor, legislative affairs coordinator for KC DNRP, said that while DNRP values KCD’s work and wants it to continue, there is some apprehension among stakeholders that the current rate proposal may not pass KCC. The Executive transmitted his own proposal for KCD’s rates, sponsored by Councilmember Lambert, as Ordinance 0424. This would cover a five-year period and continue current programming with a modest increase for inflation. The ordinance would be open to being backed out or amended at any time over the five-year period.

After some discussion, it was agreed among Commissioners that the proposed letter should be sent, but with some edits. It was advised to have the letter ready to include in the testimony packet for KCC’s Local Services Committee meeting on October 28. Patrice Barrentine recommended the Commission’s executive committee review the draft.

Leann Krainick motioned to allow the Commission’s executive committee to edit the final draft of this letter in support of KCD to transmit to KCC, including the comments made at today’s meeting. Sarah Collier seconded the motion. A friendly amendment was suggested, and accepted, to transmit this letter to KCC and copy the Executive as well. The amended motion carried with unanimous approval.

-- BREAK --

Flood Code Amendments Summary – Mitch Paine, DNRP River/Floodplain Mgmt. Section

Mr. Paine provided the Commission context for coming updates to King County’s flood code. He noted that since 1978, \$31.5 million has been paid out in flood claims in King County. The updates are prompted by a requirement in the national flood insurance program, that a participating jurisdiction must adopt and enforce a floodplain ordinance. King County has an unincorporated area that participates in this program. If the County meets the stated requirement, and proves it to FEMA, the County is eligible for a variety of FEMA grants. The hope is to, in addition to meeting minimum FEMA regulatory requirements, meet some higher state standards.

There are two main factors driving the urgency of these updates:

- 1) Preliminary flood maps are coming effective next year. By mid-2020, the County must have a minimally-compliant code, or will be kicked from the national program.
- 2) FEMA is auditing the County’s Floodplain Management Plan, reviewing the code and ensuring it is being enforced properly.

The public comment period for the amendments is October 4 – 27. The amendments mainly clarify technical changes, and County definitions that don’t match FEMA’s. Mr. Paine said this shouldn’t affect anyone in the communities, and nothing in the proposed changes involves increases, except where required for federal minimum compliance.

He highlighted some of the changes, some of which should have no major impact to agriculture. One outlines specific standards for accessory buildings, including for agriculture; another prohibits new water wells in a floodway. The main change of concern to agriculture involves compensatory flood storage requirements. Language added to County code several years ago stated these requirements would be waived if “zero-rise” standards were met. However, FEMA determined this language does not meet their code requirements and requires the County to remove it to stay in the

national program. Any fill brought into the floodplain must have compensatory storage. Mr. Paine noted that off-site compensatory storage is still allowed in the code. Patrice Barrentine clarified that approved agricultural activities, such as bringing in manure/compost, would not be considered fill unless the amount of material brought into the floodplain raises water levels. Mr. Paine confirmed this is called out in the proposed code language.

Josh Monaghan voiced concern about the threat to the County's farm pad program, which has helped many farmers. Many are worried about what will happen if the County's "zero-rise" modeling approach is lost. Ms. Barrentine agreed this could impact the future of farming in the Snoqualmie Valley. She said the Farm Fish Flood (FFF) Agriculture Strategic Plan task force will look at this issue, and it's good for the Commission to be aware as well. The farm pad program is on hold while the County reviews options, such as if FEMA might consider a modeling approach.

Paul Pink asked if the Commission could have any impact on progress with FEMA. Richard Martin said an option is to search for compensatory storage and determine if any is available. If not, the agriculture strategic plan task force will seek options outside the floodplain. The most difficult option is working with FEMA to help them understand the County's situation. He said this would be a long road and the County is exploring options for what it can do now.

General Public Comment

There was no public comment during this period.

Concerns of Commissioners

- **Leann Krainick** reported there is an upcoming update to WAC 246-203-130, titled "Keeping of Animals," put forth by the state Board of Health. This addresses processes for discharging manure. She stressed the public comment period on the update is brief, and information is available for review on the Board of Health's website.
- **Patrice Barrentine** asked for confirmation there is no comment the Commission wishes to make on the flood code amendments, as comment is due by October 27. No comments were voiced.
- **Leigh Newman-Bell** reminded Commissioners to send Ms. Barrentine recommendations for new Commissioners. She confirmed a letter is going to KCC for KCD support, and that a selection committee meeting should be held before November's Commission meeting. She also offered to provide detailed directions to Pike Place Market Commons for next month's meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:48 pm

Next Meeting

November 14, 2019, 3:00 – 6:00 pm, Pike Place Market Commons, Seattle



King County
Water and Land Resources Division
 Department of Natural Resources and Parks
 King Street Center
 201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600
 Seattle, WA 98104-3855
206-477-4800 Fax 206-296-0192
 TTY Relay: 711

King County Agriculture Commission
DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 14, 2019 – 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Pike Place Market Commons, Seattle

Commissioners Present					
Meredith Molli, Chair	Y	Year Eng	N	Darron Marzolf	N
Leigh Newman-Bell, Vice-Chair	Y	Lily Gottlieb-McHale	N	Rosella Mosby	N
Roger Calhoon	N	Nayab Khan	N	Paul Pink	N
Sarah Collier	Y	Leann Krainick	Y	Kevin Scott-Vanderberge	N
Ex Officio Members Present					
Fereshteh Dehkordi, DLS	Y	Josh Monaghan, KCD	Y	Kevin Wright, WSU	Y
County Staff/Representatives Present					
Patrice Barrentine, DNRP	Richard Martin, DNRP		Jackie White, KCC (Lambert)		
Melissa Borsting, DNRP	Megan Moore, DNRP				
Mike Lufkin, DNRP	Ted Sullivan, DNRP				
Guests Present					
Dane Scarimbolo, Four Horsemen Brewery	Dominique Torgerson, Four Horsemen Brewery		Gwen Vernon, citizen		

Action Summary

- **Actions: None made, due to lack of quorum present**
- **Updates: County, Commission, and Organizations**
- **Updates/Discussion: Puget Sound Clean Air Initiative Fuel Standards; Winery Code Striker Amendment**

Meeting called to order by Meredith Molli at 3:10 pm (NO QUORUM)

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Patrice Barrentine reported that due to several last-minute illnesses and conflicts, several Commissioners and County staff slated to present today could not attend. Meredith Molli advised that due to the lack of quorum, the planned Fish Farm Flood (FFF) update for today’s meeting should be moved to the January 2020 meeting. No voting actions can be taken today, including amending and approving today’s agenda, but items can be discussed.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (October 10, 2019)

This item was not voted on due to lack of a quorum present. The vote will be moved to the January 2020 meeting.

Old Business – Updates

- **Commission Details (Patrice Barrentine)**
 - Commissioner Recruitment:
 - Eight new members are sought. Recruitment has been delayed, but will begin in earnest in the next two months. Ms. Barrentine will send out a list of possible recruits. One application has been received, and a citizen present today asked for an application as well.
 - Year Eng, Leigh Newman-Bell, and Rosella Mosby have opted to complete their current terms but not renew. Kevin Scott-Vanderberge, Darron Marzolf, and Roger Calhoon have agreed to renew their terms.
 - Meredith Molli will step down from the Commission after today, though she is willing to continue serving a role in FFF for the coming year if needed. Ms. Newman-Bell will act as interim Commission chair for this month and January 2020.

- Ms. Barrentine raised the topic of the proposed shoreline code update, asking if the Commission wished to comment on it, as its legislation is already moving forward.
- The KCD workplan rate proposal support letter from the Commission will be transmitted soon after today.
- **King County Agriculture Program (Richard Martin)**
 - New Acquisition Review Process: Mr. Martin discussed a perceived lack of examination of farming interests when the County acquires new lands, and what is being done to address it. A recent case of concern involved the Flood Control District moving a house on an acquired property without convening any discussion. At the request of the FFF farm caucus and agriculture strategic plan task force, a new process is being implemented. This will include an acquisition request form, which has added three questions to screen for potential agricultural interests. If any of the questions answer in the affirmative, the advocate for the acquisition must engage the County agriculture team on any implications to farming. Then, a formal recommendation would be filed, which may or may not be accepted, but would still go on record. This will have major impacts to the County agriculture team's work and any lands acquired by DNRP.
 - Final Approval/Granting of Conservation Futures Funds: \$10.6 million was authorized for use in multiple APDs and Vashon, including matched TDR funds. This essentially doubles prior activities, and reflects a push from the Land Conservation Initiative to fund more acquisitions. The funding limits spending in a specific area, not necessarily a specific parcel. Ted Sullivan agreed to bring firm data to the Commission in February.
 - Snoqualmie Flood: The recent flood was very high for October. A survey by the Snoqualmie Valley Preservation Alliance received responses from 33 farmers in the valley. Of those, 26 reported damage. Estimated median loss was \$4,000, and the mean \$16,000, but losses ranged from \$300 to \$120,000. This indicates much work is needed by the County on several issues. These include communication with farmers, particularly the Hmong community, and financial avenues to compensate farmers for losses. Ms. Barrentine is gathering data on potential barriers to participating in these programs, while Bee Cha is working with the Hmong community. Mr. Cha and Ms. Newman-Bell are also working with several farmers. Mike Lufkin suggested speaking with Viva Farms, as they have training on these barrier issues. Mr. Martin noted the FSA did not believe the flood damage was enough to warrant a disaster designation, which he is looking into. Ms. Barrentine added that King County Emergency Management and the Local Food Initiative are working closely with FSA to better integrate education and outreach. She will bring more information on this in 2020.
- **Land Conservation Initiative:** There were no updates.
- **Local Food Initiative (Mike Lufkin):**
 - Training Brochure: Mr. Lufkin's team is working on an informational brochure for use by incubator/training programs for prospective farmers. Information covered will include developing business plans, financing, finding locations, and more. A draft will be brought to the Commission at next meeting, and the brochure will also be available on the Farm King County website.
 - Local Food Facility: A project has been in the works for several years to address needs voiced by the food entrepreneur and processing communities, for a facility that provides services and infrastructure such as cold/dry storage and commercial kitchens. Needs assessments are being done and data captured by various organizations to more specifically quantify these needs. Funding has been acquired from KCD and other organizations. Economics and architecture firms have been hired to determine feasibility of such a facility, and a couple of parties have expressed interest in being "anchor tenants" for the facility. Mr. Lufkin also agreed to discuss with Fereshteh Dehkordi her concerns about permitting requests from these types of facilities.
 - A meeting will be held at King Street Center in Seattle January 23 to discuss progress in LFI key issue areas.
- **King Conservation District (Josh Monaghan):** Mr. Monaghan reported that yesterday's KCC Local Services committee hearing on KCD's five-year workplan rate proposal went positively. Over the past couple of weeks, KCD and the Executive's team have worked to find a number they can all agree on. This updated proposal will be forwarded to the full KCC, and funding is hoped to be available near the New Year. Mr. Monaghan thanked all involved in this process for their hard work.
- **Beefing Up Infrastructure (Patrice Barrentine):** While there have been major acquisitions and progress, the operational start date for the mobile meat processing unit has been moved to the end of December. Darron Marzolf is already taking reservations for the unit and has a wait list. There is no information or brochure to be distributed yet, but any interested users can contact Ms. Barrentine to reach Mr. Marzolf.

Public Comment (Related to Specific Agenda Item)

Dane Scarimbolo, co-owner of Four Horsemen Brewery near Kent, spoke of his concerns on the County's proposed winery ordinance. He said the current language in the ordinance is harmful to breweries and distilleries, as well as the farmers and small businesses they directly work with. He said breweries and distilleries were not considered in the

Sammamish Valley winery study, and should be removed from the ordinance, and that there should be better studies to protect farmers and small businesses. He emphasized the importance of allowing money to be spent in rural areas of King County, as the budget for things like infrastructure in these areas may be exhausted in the next few years.

Dominique Torgerson, Mr. Scarimbolo's sister and Four Horsemen co-owner, said she didn't believe it was known how badly the ordinance has affected their establishment, how their operations have been hindered. She said they want to protect agriculture, but feel that certain types of agriculture are being prioritized or discriminated against. She reiterated her brother's comments about a need to support businesses in unincorporated King County to fund local infrastructure like roads. She said King County is the worst in the state for supporting unincorporated area businesses. She suggested rewording the ordinance and removing the wording for breweries and distilleries. She noted that on-site manufacturing is legally required for breweries and distilleries, and cannot be separated out.

Officer Nominations and Elections – Patrice Barrentine

Nayab Khan and Lily Gottlieb-McHale have expressed interest in being nominated for officer positions. Ms. Barrentine said she hopes to get more people interested. However, no action can be taken at today's meeting due to the lack of quorum. Leigh Newman-Bell will serve as interim Commission chair through January 2020.

Puget Sound Clean Air Initiative Fuel Standards – Leann Krainick, Sarah Collier

Leann Krainick recapped her discussions with Sarah Collier about the draft letter proposed last meeting in response to the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency's (PSCAA) new clean air initiative fuel standards. She said most of the PSCAA is made of County representatives. The Executive is a representative, but has delegated his authority to DNRP Director Christie True. Therefore, the draft letter is addressed to her instead of KCC.

Ms. Collier said she and Ms. Krainick reviewed the initiative's draft language, which specifically talks about regulating transportation fuel. Red-dye diesel, designated for off-road use, is specifically not a part of that. Elsewhere in the proposed rule, however, red-dye diesel is included in the definition of transport fuel. Ms. Collier said it should be clarified that red-dye diesel is not a part of this. There are other policies included in this initiative that will also affect agriculture. The public comment period for this proposal ends January 6; since the Commission cannot take a formal action today, Ms. Collier said she hopes that Commissioners as individuals will send feedback to Director True. There is also an in-person hearing on the proposal December 19 at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle.

Meredith Molli and Rosella Mosby added another concern, about small farms being forced to pay a road tax on fuel that goes in tractors, since many of these farmers fill up cans at local gas stations and transport them to their farms. This would increase costs for these farmers. There was discussion on the difficulty in addressing this as a specific rule, but it was agreed PSCAA should be made aware of this concern and the letter should include language reflecting it.

Patrice Barrentine and Richard Martin suggested scheduling a conference call of Commissioners to take a formal action on this letter before the public comment deadline. Ms. Barrentine agreed to set this up before December 10. Ms. Krainick said any further comments on this letter should be directed to Ms. Barrentine. Ms. Collier offered to help incorporate today's suggestions into the draft. Ms. Barrentine will send out any needed documents for review.

Farm Fish Flood – Beth leDoux, FFF Project Manager; Meredith Molli; Josh Monaghan; Nayab Khan

This item was not addressed at today's meeting due to a lack of quorum and absence of the presenters. The presentation will be moved to the January 2020 meeting agenda.

Farm Fish Flood, continued (Agriculture Strategic Plan Task Force) – Patrice Barrentine

This item was not addressed at today's meeting due to a lack of quorum. The presentation will be moved to the January 2020 meeting agenda.

Winery Code Striker Amendment 1 – Patrice Barrentine

Ms. Barrentine said a new striker amendment to the County's proposed winery code ordinance update has been submitted, the breakdown of which is included in today's meeting packet. She said 8 ½ of the 10 specific concerns pointed out in the Commission's April 2019 letter to KCC have been included in the new legislation, and detailed each of these points. She asked anyone with specific questions to contact her.

Meredith Molli asked if anyone could address the concerns raised in today's public comment period. Ms. Barrentine said the ordinance is not a "perfect" document, that concerns raised in the Sammamish APD are being applied to the entire County. There will be pathways for code violators to come into compliance, including a 6-12 month business license to those demonstrating an effort to be compliant, as well as an appeal process. Ms. Molli asked if someone who had been allowed to operate their establishment in-home before would now have to move that establishment elsewhere.

Fereshteh Dehkordi replied that the ordinance’s language has changed so much that Department of Local Services (DLS) is no longer certain, but the agency would have a better idea once final language is approved and effective.

Dane Scarimbolo, one of the aforementioned public commenters, stated he appealed a County 2017 decision alleging his establishment operated in a not-allowed zone, because he believed it had been allowed before and that permitting authorities were wrong in his case. He claimed people found in violation of County code had been “extorted” into signing agreements under a threat of losing their property, when they didn’t realize they had a right to appeal the County’s decision. Dominique Torgerson, his sister and co-owner of his establishment, said the County inconsistently enforces its code and refuses to acknowledge changes to it, enforcing only select parts. Ms. Dehkordi replied that a comprehensive definition of breweries was recognized by DLS, and this was a reason for the proposed new ordinance.

Ms. Barrentine asked Commissioners if they wished to make any further comment. Ms. Krainick asked for clarification on the “special events” portion of the striker, which Ms. Barrentine agreed to review and relay back to her. Ms. Barrentine said the current striker has passed KCC’s Committee of the Whole, and will go before full KCC December 4. She noted that other amendments could still be proposed.

General Public Comment

Dane Scarimbolo and Dominique Torgerson made additional comment on their winery ordinance concerns. They asked that the ordinance apply only to the area in which the relevant studies were made, the Sammamish Valley. They voiced concern about establishment owners receiving conflicting information from the County about when/if a permit is needed, which may result in enforcement action against them.

Concerns of Commissioners

- **Leigh Newman-Bell** reminded anyone parking in the Pike Place Market garage to see her for validation.
- **Leann Krainick** thanked Meredith Molli for her work in service with the Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm

Next Meeting

Conference call action meeting, December 2019 – Date/Time/Location TBD

Full Commission meeting: Thursday January 9, 2020, 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm – Location TBD



King County
Water and Land Resources Division
 Department of Natural Resources and Parks
 King Street Center
 201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600
 Seattle, WA 98104-3855
206-477-4800 Fax 206-296-0192
 TTY Relay: 711

King County Agriculture Commission
DRAFT Special Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 12, 2019 – 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Conference Call from King Street Center (Orca Room), Seattle

Commissioners Present					
Leigh Newman-Bell, Interim Chair	Y	Lily Gottlieb-McHale	N	Rosella Mosby	Y
Roger Calhoon	Y	Nayab Khan	Y	Paul Pink	N
Sarah Collier	Y	Leann Krainick	Y	Kevin Scott-Vanderberge	Y
Year Eng	N	Darron Marzolf	N		
Ex Officio Members Present					
Fereshteh Dehkordi, DLS	N	Josh Monaghan, KCD	N	Kevin Wright, WSU	Y
County Staff/Representatives Present					
Patrice Barrentine, DNRP – in person	Megan Moore, DNRP – in person				
Councilmember Kathy Lambert	Jackie White, KCC (Lambert)				
Guests Present					
None					

Meeting Action Summary

- **Discussion/vote on response letter to Puget Sound Clean Air Initiative fuel standards proposal.**

Meeting called to order at 4:01 pm by Leigh Newman-Bell

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Sarah Collier motioned to accept today’s agenda as written. Roger Calhoon seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment (Related to Specific Agenda Item)

There was no public comment during this period.

Puget Sound Clean Air Initiative Fuel Standards Response Letter – Leann Krainick, Sarah Collier (ACTION: Vote)

At a prior meeting, the Commission was made aware of a proposed update to transportation fuel standards by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA), affecting King County and others in the Puget Sound area. Concern was voiced by Commissioners about this proposal’s likely consequences to agriculture, particularly increased costs. However, due to lack of a quorum at November’s meeting, the Commission was unable to formally vote on the draft response letter proposed at that meeting. Since public comment on the initiative is due January 6, prior to the next regular Commission meeting, this special meeting was scheduled to hold that vote.

Ms. Krainick said that as DNRP Director Christie True is part of the PSCAA, the letter is addressed to her instead of King County Council (KCC). Its intent is to advise Director True of the initiative’s unintended likely consequences to agriculture. Ms. Collier said since last Commission meeting, she added clarifying language to Ms. Krainick’s draft, as well as a point from former chair Meredith Molli about the burden on small farms who are not at a scale to purchase red-dye diesel fuel.

There was discussion among Commissioners about numerous potential negative impacts from this proposed initiative to all aspects of farming. Leigh Newman-Bell advised this meeting should focus on editing the letter so Commissioners are comfortable sending it. Several suggestions were made to modify language and emphasis of specific points in the letter, tracked by Patrice Barrentine. Ms. Krainick asked if KCC should be copied on the letter. Jackie White of

Councilmember Kathy Lambert's office replied that while this is not imperative if the letter is not intended to go before KCC, it wouldn't hurt to keep KCC in the loop if the Commission deems it important. Ms. Krainick suggested copying KCC on the letter.

Ms. Krainick motioned to send and transmit the PSCAA letter to Christie True and those copied, and allow leave to the chair to approve any additional minute changes at her discretion. Rosella Mosby seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

General Public Comment

There was no public comment during this period.

Concerns of Commissioners

- **Leann Krainick** stressed the importance of having a quorum at next Commission meeting, so the election for new officers can be held.

Meeting adjourned at 4:43 pm

Next Meeting

January 9, 2020, 3:00 – 6:00 pm, Location TBD (likely Preston Community Center)

AGRICULTURE COMMISSION

Enabling Legislation: K.C.C. 2.40

Staff Liaison: Patrice Barrentine, DNRP;

Phone: 206-477-1556;

Email: patrice.barrentine@kingcounty.gov

Purpose/Mandate: The Commission advises the King County Executive and King County Council on agricultural policies and programs, including, but not limited to, existing and proposed legislation and regulations affecting commercial agriculture, land use issues as they impact agriculture, implementation of the livestock ordinance, and ways to maintain, enhance and promote agriculture and agricultural products in the region.

ESJ Update for 2019: No recruitment was conducted in 2019. The commission reflects the agriculture sector in King County in key ways. Of the 14 members, 9 are farmers, 5 are in agricultural research, retail, or processing. 8 are female, 6 male. Three were born outside of the United States. At least four religions are represented. All districts but KCC District 1 are represented.

Estimated expenditures spent on the operation of the board/commission in 2019:

Total Expenditures for 2019: \$30,000

Estimated staff hours spent on the operation of the board/commission in 2019:

Total Number of Staff Hours: 513

Total Number of Members – 15

Pos. No.	Name	KCC District	Background / Representing	Date Appointed	Term Expires	Number of Appointed Terms
1	Lily Gottlieb-McHale	9	Enumclaw APD, new/immigrant farmers, farmland preservation, access to farmland	11/19/18	2/28/21	1 Full
2	Paul Pink	9	Enumclaw APD, farmer and tractor sales	1/5/18	2/28/21	1 Full
3	Amy Holmes	8	Vashon, business/finance, policy, regulatory, farmland preservation	9/18/15	2/28/20	1 Partial / 1 Full
4	VACANT				2/28/22	
5	Year Eng (Lue Cha)	2	Sammamish APD, Farmers Market/CSA/ Farm Stand Management, Hmong farmer, bilingual	1/5/18	2/28/20	1 Full
6	Leigh Newman-Bell	4	Pike Place Market, Farmers Markets, bilingual, supports Hmong farmers	9/18/15	2/28/20	1 Partial / 1 Full

Pos. No.	Name	KCC District	Background / Representing	Date Appointed	Term Expires	Number of Appointed Terms
7	Bruce Elliott	5	Lower Green APD, policy/regulatory, Farm Bureau, Beef Cattle	2/26/16	2/28/22	2 Full
8	Kevin Scott-Vanderberge	2	Portage Bay Grange (urban farm/feed store), Business/Finance/Marketing	10/5/18	2/28/20	1 Partial
9	Leann Krainick	9	Enumclaw APD, dairy, large farm, business/finance, processing, policy/regulatory, fluid milk, compost	9/18/15	2/28/21	2 Full
10	Rosella Mosby	7	Upper Green APD, Mosby Farms in Auburn, vegetables, policy, food access	1/5/18	2/28/20	1 Full
11	Darron Marzolf	3	Snoqualmie APD, livestock farmer/butcher Marzolf Meats	1/5/18	2/28/20	1 Full
12	Nayab Khan	3	Snoqualmie APD, Henna Blueberry Farm and Eulora, LLC (software)	1/5/18	2/28/22	1 Partial / 1 Full
13	Meredith Molli	3	Snoqualmie APD, new farm, business/finance, restaurant, Farmers Market, vegetables	9/18/15	2/28/21	2 Full
14	Sarah Collier	4	Director for the Farm & Market Department at Tilth Alliance in Seattle	1/5/18	2/28/22	1 Partial / 1 Full
15	Roger Calhoon	3	Sammamish APD, New Farm, Business/Finance, Processing, Policy/Regulatory, Agritourism	9/18/15	2/28/20	1 Partial / 1 Full

Major Achievements in 2019:

- Advised Council and testified on Proposed Ordinance 2018-0241, Winery/Brewery/Distillery (WBD) Regulations and reviewed Proposed Ordinance 2018-0241.2
- Studied the King County farmers market sector through presentations and discussion with market managers from some of King County's 40 farmers markets
- Provided direction on County agriculture programs including Farmland Preservation, Permitting and Regulations, Local Food Initiative, Beefing Up Infrastructure, Agriculture Drainage Assistance, Farmland Leasing and Farm, Fish, Flood
- Reviewed and/or advised on policies including Puget Sound Clean Air Agency's Proposed Clean Fuel Standard, Flood Code Amendments, Shoreline Code, King Conservation District Work Plan, Parks Levy and Land Conservation Initiative, Fish Passage and Restoration

Proposed additions to the Agriculture Commission's Policies and Procedures

1.9.20

Current Policy

5.3.1. Executive Committee:

- 5.4.4.1. Membership. The Executive Committee shall be composed of officers of the Commission.
- 5.4.4.2. Powers. The Executive Committee shall act on behalf of the Commission when time constraints make it impossible for the full Commission to act.
- 5.4.4.3. Meetings. The Executive Committee shall meet as required to perform its duties.
- 5.4.4.4. Reports. The Executive Committee shall report as needed to the Commission and give full information on its proceedings, if any.
- 5.4.4.5. Responsibilities. The Executive Committee shall monitor work of the Commission with assistance of the Staff liaison. The Executive Committee shall be responsible to the Commission and reports to it.

5.4.5. Additional Duties.

The Executive Committee shall:

- Maintain Commission focus on mission statements.
- Maintain Commission focus on goals and objectives.
- Communicate Commission priorities to the Staff liaison.
- Consider community input in setting priorities.
- Make recommendations consistent with existing policies, programs, laws and regulations.
- Review proposals falling outside regular committee guidelines.
- Prepare correspondence on advocacy issues.

Proposed Additions (only the items highlighted in yellow)

1. Elections and Terms:

- a. Officers shall be elected by the Commission to fill vacancies.
- b. Officers of the Commission shall include a Vice-Chair, a Chair, and a past Chair. This is the executive committee.
- c. Officers shall serve through one year for each executive committee position (vice-chair, chair and past chair). .
- d. Officer elections will take place each year in October with terms starting January 1st.
- c. The Recording Secretary shall be the staff liaison.

2. The Executive Committee (The past chair may participate in these activities or not at their discretion.)

- a. Shall set and approve the agenda for each meeting.

- b. Shall create and dismiss committees, with approval of the Commission.
- c. Shall investigate alleged violations of the Commission Code of Conduct and shall make recommendations to staff on appropriate remedial action as set forth in section VI.D.

3. The Commission Chair:

- a. Shall preside at all meetings of the Commission, and at other special meetings, as appropriate. The chair is an ex-officio member of all committees.
- b. Is responsible for keeping Commission deliberations focused on the agenda item under discussion and for moving Commission meetings through the agenda in a timely fashion.
- c. Is responsible for assuring that all Commission members have equal opportunity to participate in Commission discussions and decisions.
- d. Shall close discussion when all viewpoints have been heard.
- e. Has a vote, May participate in all Commission discussions and shall vote to break any ties that arise during Commission actions.
- f. Shall create and dismiss committees, with approval of the Commission.
- g. Shall be responsible for official Commission communications. .
- h. Shall serve as Past Chair at the end of their term.
- i. Shall investigate alleged violations of the Commission Code of Conduct and shall make recommendations on appropriate remedial action as set forth in section VI.D.

4. The Vice Chair:

- a. The Vice Chair shall act on behalf of the Chair when necessary and will serve as Chair-elect assuming the role of Chair at the end of the Chair's term.

5. The Past Chair:

- a. Shall preside as the Chair in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair.

King County Agriculture Commission

2020 Meeting Schedule

Date	Time	Location
January 9	3-6 pm	Preston Community Center
February 13	3-6 pm	Preston Community Center
March 12	3-6 pm	Preston Community Center
April 9	3-6 pm	Preston Community Center
May 14	3-6 pm	Preston Community Center
June	none	
July 9	3-6 pm	Preston Community Center
August	none	
September 10	3-6 pm	Preston Community Center
October 8	3-6 pm	Preston Community Center
November 12	3-6 pm	Preston Community Center
December	none	