



## MEETING MINUTES

### Land Bank Commission Meeting

June 17, 2011

Craft Room, Mullis Community Senior Center, 589 Nash Street, Friday Harbor, San Juan Island

Commission Members in Attendance: Tom Cowan, Doug Strandberg, Lance Evans, Lisa Wolford, Nancy Greene, and Amanda Azous.

Commission Members Absent: Jim Skoog.

Land Bank Staff in Attendance: Lincoln Bormann, Doug McCutchen and Diane Kinnaman.

Land Bank Staff Absent: Judy Cumming, Ruthie Dougherty, Tim Clark and Eliza Habegger.

Public in Attendance: Alice Hurd, Pamela Gross, Eileen Drath, and Louise Dustrude.

Topic	Key Discussion Points & Agreements	Actions and Next Steps
<u>Call to Order</u>	8:30am the meeting was called to order.	
<u>Adoption of Minutes</u>	The May 20, 2011 minutes were reviewed. There were corrections.	Amanda Azous moved to accept the May 20, 2011 minutes. Lance Evans seconded. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
<u>Chair's Report</u> <u>Media</u>	Tom Cowan reviewed the recent articles in local publications: Three letters to the editor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sandy Strehlou of Town of Friday Harbor for Land Bank participation with Downtown Historic Tours.</li> <li>• Doug McCutchen for local hospitality</li> </ul>	

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<u>Media continued</u>	<p>support for American Hiking Society volunteer week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steve Ulvi of San Juan Island Trails Committee for island trails and Land Bank renewal.</li> </ul>	
<u>Renew Our Land Bank Update</u>	<p>Pamela Gross, San Juan co-chair of the committee reported signatures will continue to be gathered though the end of July.</p> <p>Renewal committee's goal is to reach 3000 signatures.</p> <p>Fundraising needs momentum.</p> <p>Committee will have an indoor booth at the San Juan County Fair August 17-20 which will kick off the campaign effort.</p> <p>Land Bank commissioners reported the latest efforts from their districts. There was discussion.</p> <p>Land Bank commissioners were reminded to seek public input, listen to what is said and pass on to the renewal committee.</p> <p><b>Committee co-chairs:</b></p> <p>San Juan – Dave Zeretzke &amp; Pam Gross</p> <p>Orcas – Harvey Himelfarb &amp; Dave Zoeller</p> <p>Lopez – Tom &amp; Sally Reeve</p> <p><b>Land Bank Commission liaisons to the renewal committee:</b></p> <p>Jim Skoog, Lisa Wolford, and Tom Cowan will provide a communications conduit so the renewal effort is well informed of Land Bank priorities and vice versa.</p>	
<u>Public Comments</u>	<p>Eileen Drath of the San Juan Island Trails Committee reminded folks that June 25<sup>th</sup> the Know Your Island Walk series takes place at the Land Bank Beaverton Marsh Preserve. The next Land Bank hosted walks are September 24 at Mitchell Hill and October 22 at Third Lagoon Preserve.</p>	
<u>Realtor Outreach Meetings</u>	<p>Doug Strandberg and Lincoln will meet with Windermere Realtors June 27 and give a presentation and handouts in an effort to educate purchasers on the Land Bank program.</p>	

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<u>Finance Report</u>	Lincoln Bormann reviewed the May 31, 2011 Conservation Area Fund and Stewardship & Management Fund financial statements. Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) collections are 10.72% above 2010 and 8% above 2009 to date. There was discussion.	<b>Motion:</b> Lisa Wolford moved to accept the May 31, 2011 financial statements. Nancy Greene seconded. There was no discussion. <b>Motion passed unanimously.</b>
<u>Director's Report</u> <u>San Juan</u>	Taylor phase II – Purchase and Sale agreement approval update: Bonding scenarios are in review by commissioners. Decision not required immediately. Purchase is not scheduled until 2012 allowing time for scrutiny. There was discussion.  Doug Strandberg inquired if possible to increase bonding amount.	Lincoln Bormann will research if it is possible to increase bonding amount.
<u>Proposed 2011 Amended Expenditure and Acquisition Plan</u>	San Juan County Council members approved the proposed plan.	
<u>Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Grant Proposals</u>	Lincoln Bormann reported that the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) received \$42 million in funding. Compared to last year's \$70 million it will limit their ability to fund projects, however the selection criteria and integrity of the program remain in place.	
<u>Island Maps</u>	Land Bank staff has nearly completed updates on all island maps of preserves and conservation easements. Maps will be displayed at the San Juan County Fair, used in promotional materials and on the website.	
<u>2011 San Juan County Fair</u>	Land Bank will participate in the Stewardship Network of the San Juans green tent area. Displays and activities were discussed.	
<u>Land Bank Event Calendar</u>	<b>May 21</b> – Orcas, Coffelt Farm – Bird the Farm public walk (Ruthie, Kim Middleton) <b>May 22-28</b> – SJ, American Hiking Society Work Week (Cady Mtn, Turtleback – Doug) <b>May 22 – 26</b> – Orcas, Washington Conservation Corps: Turtleback (Ruthie) <b>May 24</b> – Orcas, Native Plant Society Hike on Turtleback	

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<u>Land Bank Event Calendar continued</u>	<p><b>May 30</b> – SJ, 328 Caines Street weed pull (Diane)</p> <p><b>June 1-30</b> – Orcas Island Library display (Ruthie)</p> <p><b>June 3</b> – Orcas, Deer Harbor 4<sup>th</sup> grade beach seine (Tina Wyllie-Echeverria)</p> <p><b>June 4</b> – Lopez, Nat'l Trails Day Walk Your Rock: Hummel Lake, Lopez Hill (Tim)</p> <p><b>June 4</b> – Orcas, Coffelt Farm introduction to beekeeping (Jim Coffin, Keith Jones, and Owen Cass)</p> <p><b>June 24</b> – Orcas, Northwest Natural Resources Group forestry seminar on sustainable forestry practices for land owners</p> <p>Commissioners thanked staff for their increasingly busy spring efforts and outreach programs.</p>	
<u>Director's Report</u> <u>Orcas / Jolley</u>	Lincoln presented to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board for a grant that could be used for acquisition of the Jolley property on the west shore of Orcas. If successful, this acquisition could be part of an effort to protect up to 6,000 feet of undeveloped shoreline. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife representatives noted the presence of salmonids on their field trip to the property. There was discussion.	Lincoln will continue moving forward with this project.
<u>Break</u>	9:52 – 10:07am	
<u>Director's Report continued</u> <u>Lopez / Odlin South lease</u>	Lincoln has finalized the lease terms with the Department of Natural Resources. County Council will review lease in June and the transaction will close before the end of June. There was discussion.	
<u>Lopez / Buffum Conservation Easement</u>	Buffum appraisal should be completed by end of July. Lincoln will schedule a meeting with the Buffums and district three commissioners Tom Cowan and Nancy Greene.	Lincoln to schedule meeting with Buffums.
<u>San Juan / Middleton trail easement</u>	Trail easement has been finalized and recorded with the County. Only five properties remain to complete the trail puzzle from Friday Harbor to American Camp, along Cattle Point road.	

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<u>San Juan / Middleton trail easement continued</u>	Alice Hurd commented on the importance of the Middleton piece and the project.	
<u>Orcas / Hardman</u>	Lincoln reported on a potential project to acquire 1.6 acres on the northwest shoreline of Orcas. The property includes over 200' of shoreline and tidelands, and could be a significant shoreline access point for the public. There was discussion.	Lincoln will continue moving forward with this project.
<u>San Juan / Webb</u>	Lincoln explained how the San Juan Preservation Trust is working toward the purchase of this 75 acre property – including oyster farm – which is adjacent to the National Historical Park’s English Camp Unit. \$2.8 million in acquisition funds remain from the National Parks’ Mitchell Hill transaction and would go towards this purchase. There was discussion.	
<u>Stewardship Report</u> <u>Orcas</u>	<p>Mt. Baker Road and Trail Improvement Project Eastsound, Orcas Island – Land Bank staff suggested placing signage about the project on Stonebridge - Terrill and organizing public walks to educate citizens prior to commencing work.</p> <p><b>Background:</b> March 25<sup>th</sup> the Land Bank Commission approved the conceptual acceptance of proposed wetland mitigation by San Juan County Public Works on Stonebridge -Terrill Preserve.</p> <p>Public Works agreed to host an open house in June or July 2011 to initiate the project. Tree plantings will start in Fall 2011 and ground work to begin May/June 2012.</p> <p>Turtleback Mountain - June “Lost Oak Trail” work parties taking place – trail to open soon.</p>	<p>Land Bank will host public forums to discuss the project and the Land Bank’s role.</p> <p>Land Bank staff will craft a general policy for Land Bank preserve mitigation.</p>
<u>San Juan</u>	<p>Third Lagoon - Doug McCutchen discussed a recent exchange between Department of Natural Resources and a local resident removing driftwood at the preserve.</p> <p>Deadman Bay – Doug reported continued heavy usage by commercial kayak companies as a land site. Staff will also monitor if the new parking fee at Limekiln State Park affects parking along the roadside.</p>	

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<u>San Juan continued</u>	<p>Westside – Power poles have been replaced by Opalco.</p> <p>328 Caines Street – Management of the property began with invasive weed removal. Goal is to open the green area to public access in time for the San Juan County Fair in August. Property owners have agreed to a one year license agreement for this purpose.</p> <p>San Juan part-time field assistant Jesse Douglas-Seitz was introduced to the commission and welcomed by all.</p>	
<u>2010 Annual Report</u>	Commissioners were pleased with the production of the 2010 Land Bank annual report and thanked staff for their efforts.	
<b><u>Meeting Adjourned</u></b>	11:01am - meeting adjourned.	Tom Cowan adjourned the meeting.
<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	July 15, 2011 ~ 10:15am at Lopez Public Library, Community Meeting Room, 2225 Fisherman Bay Road, Lopez Island.	