



## MEETING MINUTES

### Land Bank Commission Meeting July 15, 2011

Community Meeting Room, Lopez Public Library, 2225 Fisherman Bay Road, Lopez Island

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

Commission Members Absent: Lance Evans.

Land Bank Staff in Attendance: Lincoln Bormann, Judy Cumming, Tim Clark, Doug McCutchen and Diane Kinnaman.

Land Bank Staff Absent: Ruthie Dougherty and Eliza Habegger.

Public in Attendance: Bob Myhr, Jamie Stephens, Sally Reeve, Adrienne Adams, and Julie VanCamp.

Topic	Key Discussion Points & Agreements	Actions and Next Steps
<u>Call to Order</u>	10:22am the meeting was called to order.	
<u>Adoption of Minutes</u>	The June 17, 2011 minutes were reviewed. There were corrections.	Nancy Greene moved to accept the June 17, 2011 minutes. Amanda Azous seconded. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
<u>Chair's Report</u> <u>Media</u>	Chair Tom Cowan reviewed the recent articles in local publications: Three articles in local publications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Odlin South Lease, Lopez.</li> <li>• Turtleback Mountain, Orcas – Lost Oak Trail opening.</li> </ul>	

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<p><u>Chair's Report</u> <u>Media continued</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Westside Preserve, San Juan – Susan Vernon “Late Blooming Lilies” Nature Notebook online article called out fauna at the preserve.</li> </ul>	
<p><u>8/19/2011 Land Bank Commission Meeting</u></p>	<p>Tom Cowan asked Vice-Chair Doug Strandberg to chair the August 2011 Land Bank commission meeting.</p> <p>Doug confirmed he would be in attendance and would chair the meeting.</p>	
<p><u>Land Bank Reauthorization Update</u></p>	<p>Tom Cowan introduced Sally Reeve and Julie Van Camp, members of the Renew Our Land Bank Committee (ROLB) from Lopez. All were welcomed and thanked for their volunteer efforts.</p> <p>Tom reported, on behalf of Pamela Gross, that 99% of the comments received by the Renew Our Land Bank committee have been positive. The potential conflict between the Land Bank and affordable housing has been raised by a few people.</p> <p>Land Bank commissioners focused discussion on the affordable housing problem currently facing farmers.</p> <p>Land Bank commissioners are interested in gathering information from members of the community on Land Bank priorities for the next twelve months.</p> <p><b>ROLB co-chairs:</b> San Juan – Dave Zeretzke &amp; Pam Gross Orcas – Harvey Himelfarb &amp; Dave Zoeller Lopez – Tom &amp; Sally Reeve</p> <p><b>Land Bank Commission liaisons to ROLB:</b> 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>	
<p><u>Finance Report</u></p>	<p>Lincoln Bormann reviewed the June 30, 2011 Conservation Area Fund (CAF) and Stewardship &amp; Management Fund financial statements. Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) collections to date have dropped to just under 1% less than last year at this time. There was</p>	<p><b>Motion:</b> Amanda Azous moved to accept the June 30, 2011 financial statements. Lisa Wolford seconded. There was no discussion.</p>

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<u>Finance Report continued</u>	discussion. The Draft Proposed 2012 Expenditure and Acquisition Plan was reviewed. A public hearing to review the plan for commission approval to be scheduled for the September 2011 Land Bank Commission meeting.	Motion passed unanimously.
<u>Public Comments</u>	<p>10:43 am Tom Cowan opened public comment time early, explaining that anyone arriving later to the meeting would also be given the opportunity to speak.</p> <p><b>Ann Palmer, Lopez</b> – Submitted a comment, read by Adrienne Adams, stating the importance of purchasing Lopez Hill and Odlin South as opposed to leasing from the Department of Natural Resources in an effort to secure these lands for future generations.</p> <p><b>Bob Myhr, Lopez</b> – Thanked the Land Bank for the Odlin South lease transaction stating the lease is a very positive addition of public lands for the community. Bob also reported on important agricultural acreage in Central Valley, Lopez and asked the commission to consider acquisition of that land.</p> <p>Current Watmough signage neglects to include acknowledgment of the San Juan Preservation Trust and San Juan County Land Bank joint effort with acquisition. Bob asked for the sign to be updated.</p> <p><b>Adrienne Adams, Lopez</b> – Thanked Tim Clark, Lopez Land Bank preserve steward, for his help with the new Lopez Hill trail signage.</p> <p><b>Sally Reeve, Lopez</b> – Lopez ROLB co-chair highlighted volunteer Julie Van Camp’s efforts with the campaign and explained how the committee’s booth at the fair would work.</p>	
<u>Director’s Report</u> <u>Island Maps</u>	<p>Countywide draft maps of Land Bank preserves and conservation easements were circulated for review. There was discussion.</p> <p>Maps will be displayed at the San Juan County Fair and used in promotional materials and on the website.</p>	Commissioners will give comments / corrections to Eliza Habegger.
<u>Bonding Scenarios</u>	Lincoln reviewed two new bonding scenarios for consideration. There was discussion.	Staff will incorporate the requested information into the

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	<p>Nancy Greene asked staff to keep a clear record of the decision-process for bonding to better inform future Commissions and staff.</p> <p>Commissioners asked that the scenarios incorporate the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List of all grants and income received for the life of the program for acquisitions.</li> <li>• Separate report on stewardship endowment growth.</li> </ul> <p>Commissioners asked staff to list all grant funding received for the life of the program on the scenario spreadsheet; to also include financial partners that are not necessarily grants.</p>	bonding scenarios folder.
<u>Orcas / Jolley</u>	<p>Lincoln submitted a grant proposal on July 15<sup>th</sup> 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. Department of Fish and Wildlife representatives noted the presence of salmonids on their field trip to the property. There was discussion.</p>	Lincoln will continue moving forward with this project.
<u>Lopez / Buffum Conservation Easement</u>	<p>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.</p>	
<u>Conservation Buyer Program</u>	<p>Lincoln reported that the Anderson property is scheduled to be shown to potential buyers. 40 acre parcel is zoned R10.</p> <p>Argyle lots, also part of the program, will be marketed.</p>	
<u>2011 San Juan County Fair</u>	<p>Land Bank will participate in the Stewardship Network of the San Juans green tent area. Displays and activities were discussed. Signup sheet for commission and staff was circulated. There was discussion.</p>	
<u>Stewardship Report Lopez</u>	<p>Tim Clark reported the Department of Natural Resources may remove creosote logs beginning July 27<sup>th</sup> at Fisherman Bay Spit and</p>	

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<p><b><u>Stewardship Report</u></b> <u>Lopez</u></p>	<p>Weeks Wetland. There was discussion. The Department of Fish and Wildlife will perform a survey at Fisherman Bay Spit for the Sand-verbena Moth, which may be listed as endangered. The moth has been found in British Columbia, Lopez Island, and Whidbey Island and is being assessed for possible listing as a threatened or endangered species. A decision should be reached in Fall 2011.</p> <p>July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks damage was minimal at Fisherman Bay Spit. Volunteers diligently removed all fireworks trash from the Spit the following day.</p>	
<p><u>San Juan</u></p>	<p>Doug McCutchen reported that Tansy Ragwort removal efforts are scheduled for July 6<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at Limekiln Preserve.</p> <p>Mitchell Hill trail workshop on San Juan Island with Doug M. and Nick Teague takes place July 21<sup>st</sup>.</p>	
<p><u>Orcas</u></p>	<p>Turtleback Mountain - Doug McCutchen reported the pedestrian “Lost Oak Trail” opened as a result of the hard work of volunteers and staff. Great reviews of the trail received from users. Recently a potential Sharptail Snake sighting occurred on Turtleback.</p>	
<p><b><u>Meeting Adjourned</u></b></p>	<p>12:13pm - meeting adjourned.</p>	<p>Tom Cowan adjourned the meeting.</p>
<p><b><u>Public Walk</u></b></p>	<p>1:00pm – Members of the public, Land Bank commission and staff walked portions of Lopez Hill and Watmough Preserves.</p>	
<p><b>NEXT MEETING</b></p>	<p>August 19, 2011 ~ 8:30am at Craft Room, Mullis Community Senior Center, 589 Nash Street, Friday Harbor, San Juan Island..</p>	