



MEETING MINUTES

**Land Bank Commission Meeting
September 11, 2009
Council Hearing Room, San Juan County Legislative Building**

Commission Members in Attendance: Amanda Azous, Nancy Greene, Nancy Jones, Mary Blackstone, Tom Cowan, and Jim Skoog.

Commission Member in Attendance via teleconference: Lisa Wolford.

Commission Members Absent: None.

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

Land Bank Staff Absent: Ruthie Dougherty and Eliza Habegger.

Public in Attendance: Eileen Drath, Louise Dustrude, Jim Higgins, and Mark and Cinda Pierce.

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 August 14, 2009 minutes were reviewed. There were corrections.	Mary Blackstone moved to accept the August 14, 2009 minutes. Tom Cowan seconded. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
<u>Chair's Report</u> <u>San Juan Preservation Trust (SJPT) Board</u>	Amanda Azous reported that a subcommittee will be formed with Land Bank commission members and SJPT board members to facilitate shared efforts. It was decided that Amanda Azous, Jim Skoog and Nancy Greene	

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	will represent the Land Bank.	
<p><u>Chair's Report continued</u> <u>Proposed Ordinance Amending San Juan County Code Chapter 12.08, County Parks</u></p>	Amanda reported that on August 25 th the proposed ordinance amending San Juan County code chapter 12.08, County Parks passed unanimously by the San Juan County Council.	
<p><u>Mt. Ben Preserve</u></p>	Amanda asked Land Bank commissioners and staff to form a subcommittee to work out access issues with neighboring property owners.	Nancy Jones, Mary Blackstone, Lincoln Bormann, and Doug McCutchen will participate in the subcommittee.
<p><u>Finance Report</u></p>	Mary Blackstone reviewed the conservation area fund and stewardship fund financial statements, which reflected the Amended Budget approved by the County Council on August 11, 2009. There was discussion.	Nancy Jones moved to accept the monthly CAF and Stewardship financial reports. Nancy Greene seconded. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
<p><u>Director's Report</u> <u>Trust for Public Land (TPL)</u></p>	Lincoln Bormann reported on the summary of interviews conducted by TPL for the <u>San Juan Islands 2016: Plan for an integrated systems of parks, trails, and natural areas for the people of San Juan County</u> project. There was discussion.	
<p><u>Public Comments</u></p>	<p>Eileen Drath, San Juan Island Trails Committee member thanked the Land Bank for its efforts toward recently donated trail easements along Cattle Point Road, noting the process has taken years to complete.</p> <p>Mary Blackstone and Amanda Azous also gratefully acknowledged trails committee members, David Dehlendorf, and Cinda Pierce saying it could not have been done without them and Lincoln Bormann, who also was very instrumental.</p>	
<p><u>Director's Report continued</u> <u>SJ / Cattle Point Road Trail Easements</u></p>	Easements are scheduled on the Sept. 28 County Council consent agenda for. Easements allow construction of a public trail on a 10 foot-wide strip along the road, donated by Nishitani and Hurd. While not connected, it is something to build on.	
<p><u>SJ / Frazer Homestead Preserve Trail</u></p>	Trail project on this preserve is nearing completion; with over 275 volunteers hours contributing to the project this summer alone.	Display ad acknowledging volunteers will be placed in newspapers and a letter to the

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	Volunteer Phil Schoeber spearheaded trail efforts, and a formal acknowledgment to leaders and volunteers was discussed.	editor thanking volunteers will be drafted.
<u>Lopez / Strachan CE</u>	This donated conservation easement is scheduled on the Sept. 28 County Council consent agenda.	
<u>SJ / Historical Museum HP&CE</u>	Revised draft is in review process.	Lincoln will continue moving forward with this project.
<u>Orcas / Tompkins Trail Easement Donation</u>	Lincoln has gone through title process where easement can be placed. Property almost connects Fowler's Pond and Judd Cove Preserves.	Lincoln will continue moving forward with this project.
<u>SJ / Erickson</u>	Ag Guild proposes a permanent farmers market for the location. Ongoing discussions with Town of Friday Harbor and Ag Guild. Currently working on how contract will take shape; foreseeable the Town will hold title, Land Bank a historic preservation and conservation easement, while Ag Guild holds the lease. Target date for closing: End of 2009. Nancy Greene outlined how this project fits into many parts of the Land Bank's mandate. Jim Skoog commended the Town's efforts in bringing this project to fruition.	Town Council will take this to vote Sept. 17, 2009 at 5pm.
<u>SJ / Mar Vista</u>	Lincoln is ready to begin purchase and sale agreement discussion with seller; acquisition not likely with the high market price. The Land Bank had been unable to find a partner in the purchase. Nancy Greene inquired about a possible conservation easement approach to protect the golden paintbrush.	Commission consensus- Lincoln to make an offer for purchase and sale agreement and also explore subdivision possibilities with seller.
<u>9:30am Public Hearing - Proposed 2010 Expenditure and Acquisition Plan</u>	The proposed 2010 Expenditure and Acquisition Plans were reviewed. There was discussion. Consensus for changes to budget included reflecting a more conservative REET projection and keeping administration costs under 10%. 9:45am Public Comments - There were no public comments.	Mary Blackstone moved to accept the Proposed 2010 Expenditure and Acquisition Plan with changes. Nancy Greene seconded. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
<u>Break</u>	9:50 – 10:00 a.m.	

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<u>Director's Report continued</u> <u>Lopez / Buffum CE</u>	Lincoln is waiting to hear back.	Lincoln will continue moving forward with this project.
<u>Stewardship Report</u> <u>Fisherman Bay Spit Dock</u>	Contractor has addressed bank stabilization issues for cultural resources protection. Project is moving forward.	
<u>Use Request- False Bay Creek Preserve</u>	Waterfowl hunting request on preserve. Ecological assessment has been completed by Eliza Habegger and the draft management plan has yet to be created.	Doug McCutchen will contact Peter Dardanelli to discuss use request.
<u>Frazer Homestead Preserve</u>	Lease issues including water sources and soil quality were discussed. Commission asked Tim Clark to prepare a feasibility/cost study for water improvements. The application process will commence after water issues are resolved.	Feasibility/cost study to be reviewed at Oct. 9 commission meeting.
<u>Volunteer Efforts</u>	Lincoln reported a huge effort volunteer this summer on trail construction, noxious weed removal and stewardship of preserves; over 560 volunteer hours have been logged this quarter (June – September) with still more hours coming in.	
<u>Unusual Use Request- Mike Bertrand</u>	Looking for a location to train dogs in winter for dog sled racing. There was discussion.	
<u>Meeting Adjourned</u>	11:20pm - meeting adjourned.	
NEXT MEETING	October 9, 2009 at Orcas Fire Department, Station 21, 45 Lavender Lane, Eastsound, Orcas Island.	