



Location: King County South Wastewater Treatment Plant, Renton 4-6pm

### 1. Welcome & Introductions of New Committee Members

**Chair John Stokes** welcomed the Committee to the March 16, 2016 meeting. There were no new members present.

### 2. 2015 Annual Report & Budget Review

**KCD Staff Deirdre Grace** introduced the 2015 Annual Report by telling the Committee that the document they were about to review was very similar to the 2014 Annual Report reviewed in November 2015. She noted that the Report was in draft form and that KCD Staff was looking for the Committee's valuable input before sending it out for design and that the finished Report would have a more polished, human-interest format.

**KCD Staff Brandy Reed** reviewed the *Forest Health Management* section of the Report noting the Program Goals, Results and Accomplishments for both Rural and Urban Forestry and informing the Committee that 2016 work is on track to scaffold onto the 2015 work accomplished.

Comments from Committee members included:

**John Taylor** – will KCD be adding more cities to the Urban Forestry roster going forward?

**Facilitator Shawn Bunney** reminded the Committee that the Implementation Plan called out working with 15 cities over 5 years and in 2015 alone, KCD has committed to work with 8 cities however, the City of Kirkland has dropped out and the money they were allotted has been reallocated to enhance other approved projects.

**Heather Trim** – questioned whether adding the placement of an Americorp IP should be listed under Program Accomplishments since it was a staffing issue.

**Chair John Stokes** – suggested highlighting expectations and accomplishments in this section.

**KCD Staff Josh Monaghan** reviewed the *Food & Farming* section of the Report beginning with the Rural Farm Planning. He noted that typically 150 people request technical assistance and there were 205 requests in 2015 and that distinguishing between the need for simple technical assistance and a full farm plan moves more people through the process and saves money and resources. The goal is to have 3 years' worth of follow up on BMP implementation based on farm plans. Additionally, Josh discussed new and existing equipment loan/rentals.

**John Taylor** asked how to KCD could work to generate more farm plan requests. **Josh Monaghan** told the Committee that 25-30% of farm acreage are currently covered under a farm plan and **KCD**

**Consultant Eric Nelson** commented that some County programs require farm plans and that drives farmers to seek farm plans. **John Taylor** noted that a farm plan from KCD offers some remedy from permitting and mitigation.

**Heather Trim** asked about the 3 year follow up and wondered if it was enough time to show implementation change. She suggested that collecting on going data would help with grant writing by showing capacity need. **George Irwin** commented that 5 year follow up might be a better indicator of implementation since ag change occurs slowly and land use plans themselves change.

**Josh Monaghan** went on to review the Sub Basin Target work in the Boise, Newaukum, 2<sup>nd</sup> and Pussyfoot Creeks. He detailed the partnership between American Farmland Trust and KCD to target upcoming work on the Newaukum Creek in 2016 and that there are pending talks with Washington Department of Ecology to possibly delist Boise Creek's e.coli contamination. **Heather Trim** noted that the de-listing is a huge story that needs to be told.

Additionally, **Josh Monaghan**, talked about Ag Drainage work in the Snoqualmie Valley. This work was not a part of the Implementation Plan, but came about through a grant with King County Flood Control District and has been highly successful in getting 11,300 lineal feet of agricultural drainage ditch dredged and cleared, resulting in 75 acres of farmland back in production and another 407 acres with improved productivity.

**John Taylor** praised KCD's work on ag drainage and Farm, Flood, Fish noting that landowners do not trust the County, which makes KCD's role in this work vital.

**Josh Monaghan** went on to review the Regional Food System Grants and Urban Agriculture programs noting that work is underway to re-evaluate KCD's soil testing program toward a more self-assessment, soil fertility education and metrics (crowd sourcing) based approach.

After noting that the 2016 Regional Food System Grants would launch the next day (Thursday, March 17), **Nancy Tosta** asked about the amount of funding available for 2016 and was told that there may be some money set aside to fund "strategic" projects ---those with value that may not have a grant sponsor but are important in measuring the importance of other Regional Food System Grant project's successes.

**Brandy Reed** returned to review the *Shorelines and Habitat* section of the Report. After review of the data aggregation of completed projects, Brandy said that the final Report will tell the story of buffers created, stream beds enhanced, and habitat restored. **Heather Trim** suggested that the first page of this section be a "WOW" page and **John Taylor** recommended that a breakdown of urban vs rural (specifically incorporated vs unincorporated) would be valuable information.

**Brandy Reed** introduced **Kristen Reichardt** as KCD's K-12 Stormwater & Adult Shoreline Education Program Coordinator who is working to engage youth and landowners through both traditional rural ag workshops (363 residents/landowners attended in 2015) and urban shoreline education around stormwater (NPDES) and shoreline protection and enhancement.

**John Taylor** reminded KCD staff that cities have SWIM rate funds to pay for stormwater education and **Brandy Reed** noted that cities pay for the educational opportunities that KCD is able to provide them.

**Brandy Reed** also discussed the LIP (Landowner Incentive Program) calling it the program where money hits the road to implement best management practices for 101 landowner/managers in 2015.

**John Taylor** asked once again that this program show breakdown by urban vs rural (specifically incorporated vs unincorporated).

During the Budget review, **Board of Supervisor Auditor, Max Prinsen** fielded the following comments:

**John Stokes** asked how steady a revenue source that outside grants were and how they are managed and tracked. **Max Prinsen** said that KCD has historically received grants. He also noted that KCD has an operating reserve fund that serves as a safety net that can be used as needed to honor our commitments. He did, however, note that the Board of Supervisors predict that 5 years from now, the same work will likely not be implemented for the same amount of money, but that there are no plans for a request for an increased rate and charge under the current 5 year ILA.

**Nancy Tosta** suggested an Executive Summary to the Budget would be helpful. **John Taylor** said there would be value in getting the final, polished version of 2016 Annual Report out to Seattle, Bellevue and SCA.

### 3. KCD 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Activity Update

In consideration of time, this Agenda item was tabled to the next meeting on Wednesday, April 20, 2016.

### 4. Administrative Matters

**KCD Board of Supervisor Chair, Dick Ryon**, discussed the current candidate search for a new KCD Executive Director. He noted that the process to this point has taken approximately 8 months and with the help of a consultant the Board and Executive Staff are looking at options and have determined that a full time, manager, maintainer and visionary will be the best fit. So far KCD has received 30 resumes but would like to see 80-100 and hope to have a subcommittee from the Advisory Committee review resumes in May 2016.

**Facilitator Shawn Bunney** said that an Executive Advisory Committee meeting is being called for April 20 at the King County Wastewater Treatment Plant to review the 2016 Strategic Plan. The special meeting is needed to meet timeline requirements to get the Advisory Committee's input before KCD Board approval and submission to Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) in June. There was discussion that additional time was needed to get input from SCA also.

**Brandy Reed** told the Committee of KCD's efforts at the 2016 Legislative Days in February. Staff and Board members met with 30 of the 51 King County's representatives with the special ask of offering tours of KCD funded projects within their jurisdictions.

**Facilitator Shawn Bunney** updated the Committee on the WSCC's election interpretation that does not require a run-off election if an incumbent runs unopposed. Since Max Prinsen ran unopposed, the election was cancelled and Max Prinsen retained his Board seat for a term of 3 years.

**KCD Staff, Deirdre Grace** passed around a sign-up sheet asking Committee members to sign up for an Equity and Social Justice Working Group. She said that they would likely meet four times before the end of the year. **John Taylor** updated the Committee of the County's efforts to secure a candidate to fill the Advisory Committee Equity and Social Justice seat.

## 5. Next Steps

An Executive Advisory Committee meeting was called for Wednesday, April 20, 2016 from 4 – 5:30 pm at the King County South Wastewater Treatment Plant to discuss the 2016 Strategic Plan.

## Meeting Adjourned

### In Attendance:

Name	Representing
John Stokes, Chair	City of Bellevue
Jim Berger, Vice Chair	SCA, City of Carnation
George Irwin	Rural Landowner
Brenda Fincher	SCA, City of Kent
Dick Ryon	KCD, Board of Supervisors, Chair
Erika Morgan	SCA, City of Black Diamond
Karen Mauden	Urban Landowner
Alison Bennett	City of Bellevue
Hiedi Popochock	King County
John Taylor	King County
Shelby Jors	King County Ag Commission
Heather Trim	Environmental Partner
Nancy Tosta (by phone)	SCA, City of Burien
Doreen Booth	SCA Staff
Josh Monaghan	KCD Staff
Melissa Tatro	KCD Staff
Deirdre Grace	KCD Staff
Brandy Reed	KCD Staff
Max Prinsen	KCD Board of Supervisors, Treasurer
Kristen Reichardt	KCD Staff
Eric Nelson	KCD Consultant
Shawn Bunney	Facilitator