

SUMMARY

PDR Oversight Committee Meeting
6975 Hannegan Rd.
March 21, 2008, 8:00 A.M.

Members present: Rod Erickson, John Gilles, Allison Aurand; Staff: Samya Lutz, PDS, Sarah Watts, PDS, Jim Perkins, Public Wks. Farm Friends: Henry Bierlink.

1. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

2. Review of minutes

The Jan 25th meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

3. PDS – Public Works partnership

Jim Perkins in attendance from WC Public Works. He & Samya discussed intent to work together to ease PDR process, with PW real estate dept expertise being utilized for property background research and closing.

4. Discussion of current PDR activities

Applicant Vernon Derr has been removed due to pending sale of property (\$1.2 mil contract w/earnest money). Two new applications have come in (hand-outs of preliminary ranking & property info). Discussion of whether they warrant re-ranking of Round VI. Assuming Bouchard & Bauthues carry forward through purchase & preliminary estimates are roughly correct, an additional \$250,000+ would be available for a third transaction. Preliminary scoring indicates Tjoelker and Perry (new applicants) would score just below Bouchard & Bauthues (high 40s).

The committee recommends the following new ranking to Council (Samya & Rod will take forward for approval):

1. Bouchard
2. Bauthues
3. Tjoelker
4. Perry
5. Carbee

6. VanderWerff

JP questioned the reasoning behind the smaller properties being high priority. Committee discussed value of location – in the heart of the best farmland in WC.

Discussion of funding available for current PDR purchases. If Tjoelker is 3rd on list, may not have enough money for full purchase. Council's discretion whether or not to allocate more than 50% of funds for purchases out of local Conservation Futures.

Interest in PDR program is increasing. HB would like to see pursuit of State funding for purchases. Feds have said no new applications for funds this year, except for those who were awarded last year (Whatcom County was not). Hopefully WC will be able to re-apply in 2009.

5. Committee Vacancies

This committee is still shy two members (farm supplier, banking/real estate). Allison and Henry had ideas of people to contact. (HB: Todd Sewell and Nick Morgan.)

6. Next Committee Meeting

The next meeting of the PDR Committee is tentatively planned for Friday, June 20th.

Signed,

Rod Erickson, Chair PDR Oversight Committee