

Municipality of Anchorage

Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission

Room 155 - City Hall 632 West 6th Avenue Anchorage, Alaska

ACTION SUMMARY

12:00 Noon Wednesday, December 18, 2013

Regular Meeting

I. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Present: Dan Billman

Dan Bosch

Tamás Deák, Chair

Brett Jokela Holly Kent David Nyman

Rick Sinnott, Vice Chair

Excused: Cherie Northon

Bob Pawlowski

Staff: Thede Tobish, Senior Planner, Community Development Department,

Planning Division, Long-Range Planning Section

Guest: Jeff Urbanus, Public Works Department, Watershed Management Section

II. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:05 p.m.

III. ACTION SUMMARY

A. Regular Meeting of November 27, 2013

Commissioner moved to approve the November 27, 2013 minutes. Commissioner Nyman seconded.

Commissioner Sinnott noted that in two places Jessy Coltrane's name was misspelled and needed correcting.

With the corrections, the November 27, 2013 minutes were passed.

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IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Stream Setback Ordinance Project

Jeff Urbanus from Public Works' Watershed Management Section introduced the most current draft ordinance that he and the Long-Range Planning Section have been working on. Following mapping exercises and data analyses, the planning team produced a draft new setback ordinance. This draft introduces a graduated setback distance, based on stream type, floodplain width, extent of existing development, while attempting to factor in national trends and findings. The proposed draft introduces a graduated, hard to soft setback zone that varies depending on stream from 25' to 150".

The Commission offered several clarifications to the language, including consideration about how to identify drainages when there is no defined edge, and a clause about "orderly development" on section B. 1. Urbanus also noted that new to the ordinance includes a setback requirement for drainages (non-stream conveyances). Staff agreed to the Commission's recommendation to provide a draft resolution in support at the January meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Report on DeBarr Road Overflow Sampling

Jeff Urbanus gave a brief update on the status and findings of the water (ice) sampling from the recent overflow flooding at the south edge of the old municipal dump at the edge of Merrill Field. Watershed Management staff had taken sets of grab-samples, and results were coming back in parts. With some of the data returned at this date, it is clear that the water includes leachate out of the old dump. Samples came from the source at the bluff bottom, in the above ground storm drain collection ditch, and in the nearby section of Chester Creek. Samples show water is 100% leachate at the source site and in the storm drain. AWWU is aware of the issue and working on resolutions.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS/STAFF REPORT (none)

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Bosch moved to adjourn. Commissioner Kent seconded.

The motion passed without objection.

The meeting adjourned at 1:16 p.m.