



JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

615 Sheridan Street ♦ Port Townsend ♦ Washington ♦ 98368
www.jeffersoncountypublichealth.org

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST

TO: Board of County Commissioners
Philip Morley, County Administrator

FROM: Jared Keefer, Environmental Health Director
Michael Dawson, Water Quality Lead

DATE: January 28, 2013

SUBJECT: Jefferson County Clean Water District Advisory Council
Recommendations

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

The Jefferson County Clean Water District Advisory Council is submitting their 2012 Recommendations to the Board.

ANALYSIS:

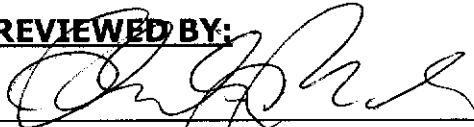
The Jefferson County Clean Water District Advisory Council finds that the Jefferson County Water Quality Division has used Clean Water District funds to pursue a number of cost-effective projects that have restored and protected clean water in Jefferson County, and helped remove four pending shellfish growing area downgrades. The District also funds critical response services to complaints or pollution emergencies. The Clean Water District Advisory Council also finds that these programs should continue and be developed to enable the response to complaints and emergencies throughout the district. In addition, the Advisory Council believes the District could assess, prioritize, and work to remove water bodies from the EPA 303(d) list and conduct other activities to protect and restore water quality in Jefferson County.

The council made its recommendations at their last meeting in December 2012 and included a package of activities to conduct in 2013. The recommendations and package of activities are attached.

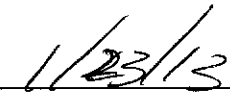
RECOMMENDATION:

The council submits the attached 2012 Clean Water District recommendations to the Board for consideration and action.

REVIEWED BY:



Philip Morley, County Administrator



Date

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Jefferson County
Clean Water District Advisory Council

Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners
P.O. Box 1220
Port Townsend, WA 98368

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Dear Commissioners,

The Jefferson County Clean Water District Advisory Council finds that the Jefferson County Water Quality Division has used Clean Water District funds to pursue a number of cost-effective projects that have restored and protected clean water in Jefferson County, and helped remove four pending shellfish growing area downgrades. The District also funds critical response services to complaints or pollution emergencies. The Clean Water District Advisory Council also finds that these programs should continue and be developed to enable the response to complaints and emergencies throughout the district. In addition, the Advisory Council believes the District could assess, prioritize, and work to remove water bodies from the EPA 303(d) list and conduct other activities to protect and restore water quality in Jefferson County.

Therefore, the Clean Water District Advisory Council has adopted Recommendations 1 and 2, below.

Recommendation 1: The Clean Water District funds should be more inclusive of local needs. At a minimum, the activities in the package described in Attachment A should be undertaken.

Recommendation 2: The Board of County Commissioners should ensure CWD funding for the recommended activities and programs by allocating sufficient resources from the General Fund, raising the assessment fee, evaluating the expansion of the assessment fee to areas of Port Townsend, partnering with Port Ludlow, or a combination of these.

We thank you for your attention to these important matters, and for your continued service on behalf of the citizens of Jefferson County. Please do not hesitate to contact me at mdawson@co.jefferson.wa.us or 360-385-9444 x301 with questions or to discuss these recommendations further.

Sincerely,



Michael Dawson
Jefferson County Environmental Health Specialist
Member, Jefferson County Clean Water District

Jefferson County
Clean Water District Advisory Council

Attachment A: Clean Water District Activities 2013

At its December 4 meeting, the Clean Water District Advisory Council adopted the following package of activities for the Clean Water District to conduct in 2013. The Council agreed that this package could be amended in the future as needs change.

1. See the current grant-funded projects through to completion.
2. Maintain current program function: Water Quality Monitoring for adverse impacts and trend analysis, PIC activities, Education & Outreach activities. Improve program design, development and implementation.
3. Use and increase CWD assessment funds to operate the program, leverage grant funds, and conduct select activities not supported by grant funds.
 - a. Implement a targeted and coordinated pursuit of grant funding that addresses county shellfish protection or water quality. Assess, prioritize, and work to remove water bodies from the EPA 303(d) list.
 - b. Investigate activities that other Clean Water Districts in Puget Sound conduct.

Goals:

 - i. To become more effective in our own operations, and
 - ii. To work with other districts to gauge interest in a coordinated monitoring program. If interest exists, begin to develop such a program. In future years, manage and disseminate data. Establish periodic reporting structure for trend analysis.
 - c. Seek other partnerships in support of the East Jefferson Watershed Council.
 - i. Work with legislators to amend RCW 90.82 to eliminate the WRIA sunset provision,
 - ii. Work to create an interlocal agreement to support EJWC, and/or
 - iii. Include EJWC in CWD-funded grant applications, when possible.
 - d. Support lake toxic algae monitoring.
4. Create a discretionary fund to cover emergencies and emerging opportunities, and to enable the District to conduct current program functions in #2 above throughout the Clean Water District, not just in the areas covered by grants.