

Approved Minutes Point Roberts Community Advisory Committee (PRCAC) Regular Meeting April 18, 2024

Call to Order 7 p.m.

Chair Calder absent, Vice chair Zidel as Acting Chair handles proceedings. All other members present.

Adoption of Agenda - unanimous

Approval of March Regular Meeting Minutes - unanimous

First Public Comment - Bennett Blaustein notes West Shore coal terminal dust mitigation not being employed resulting in pollution and health risks to region. Will place on next agenda for consideration of action.

OLD BUSINESS

Broadband - No new info re: Whidbey or PUD processes. Bob Hillman is going forward with a privately funded project, likening Point Roberts to a college campus. Member Sundaresan notes various modalities for redundancy in case of emergency is wise.

Abandoned Cable Infrastructure - Member Mason to research and draft letter for PRCAC review noting, among other issues, unsightliness and safety hazard. Bob Hillman stated would provide contacts to Member Mason he has found to date.

Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA)/Circle of Care Memorandum of Understanding - Member Norman reports Agreement complete, money being transferred per agreement, meeting with WTA dispatch scheduled, hiring of required personnel ongoing therefore no firm start date, though stated goal at present is mid May. The tentative schedule is 2 trips to Bellingham/week with potential occasional trips to Blaine/Ferndale.

Drainage Study - awaiting draft report. Expect public meeting summer 2024 to review and receive comments.

Transportation Benefit District - amended state law signed by Governor. County Counsel reviewing to determine necessity of revisiting via local vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Future Sewer - while this is a Water District Issue given their purview, there is at present a seeming disjunct between commercial and residential interests as to efficacy, need, and impact. No action.

"Social Media" opportunity - discussion centered around creating an email mailing list for information about PRCAC. Member Sundaresan notes at present there is no archive for correspondence. Member Oberhaus will contact County to get their take both legally and financially.

Water Rights Adjudication issues with State - Members Mason and Norman attended public meeting regarding issue. Opportunity for presentation by State.

Issue here goes beyond State. It is also international, including both federal and tribal. There is the local impact to water rights holders to consider, that without further environmental review and water district input as to future planning and strategic agreements is solely speculation.

Second Public Comment - None

Adjournment - 8:35 p.m.