

ISLAND COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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Minutes

Prepared by Kelly Zupich

December 5, 2023

HYBRID MEETING

PRESENT: Barbara Bennett, Chair, Jill Lipoti, Vice Chair, Scott Chase, Paul Ben McElwain, Greg Easton, Kirk Larsen, Patrick Havel, Kelly Webb, Ken Collins, Kes Tautvydas, Elsa Schwartz, Andi Kopit, Melanie Bacon, Ex-officio, Kelly Zupich, MRC staff,

ABSENT: Note if notified or un-notified -

VISITORS: Clea Barenburg, SRTCC, Jen Schmitz, Natural Resource Manager, Carlie Miller, Surface Water Quality, Sage Ince, Surface Water Quality, Sara Bergquist, WSU Extension, Caitlyn Blair, NWSC,

CALL TO ORDER: Barbara called the meeting to order at 3:00pm. **INTRODUCTIONS:** Introductions were made. **QUORUM:** A quorum was declared. **AGENDA:** The agenda was approved. **MINUTES:** November 7, 2023, minutes. The minutes were approved with an adjustment to the November minutes.

TRIBAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

We acknowledge the lands we're on today are the ancestral and current homelands of Indigenous Nations who have stewarded them since time immemorial. We respect their sovereignty, support their Treaty rights, their right to self-determination, and we honor their sacred spiritual connection with the land and water. These Indigenous Nations include the Jamestown S'Klallam, Lower Elwha Klallam, Lummi, Makah, Nooksack, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Samish, Stillaguamish, Swinomish, and Tulalip Tribes.

WHITE PAPER/ HARD ARMORING:

- The White Paper presentation will take place on December 20th.
- This paper has been a collaborative effort.
- The PowerPoint presentation is geared towards our ask as an MRC.
- The MRC has drafted a letter to the Commissioners to provide advise surrounding hard armoring and Commissioner Bacon's suggested SMP changes.

DEI DISCUSSION:

- The Executive Committee will now serve as a DEI Committee.
- The first topic they wanted to bring to the table was the potential of switching meeting times to a later time in the day to be more inclusive of working individuals.
- Kelly Z. will work to see if we can store our MRC meeting videos on the county website for folks to watch as they are able.

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- Jill Lipoti made a motion to change our meeting times from 4-6pm for a 6-month trial. Kirk Larsen seconded. Motion passed.

COORDINATOR REPORT:

- Hoypus video – The MRC requested some small language changes to the wording on the video. Kelly Z will work on that and bring the video back for review.

Thank you to Elsa Schwartz for 9 years of service on our committee!

Meeting Adjourned 4:30pm