Snoqualmie Valley Watershed Improvement District (WID) DRAINAGE WORKSESSION November 2, 2016 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Commissioners present: Siri Erickson-Brown, David Andrews, Jason Roetcisoender

Commissioner not present: Gary Remlinger, Patrick McGlothlin

Staff present: Cynthia Krass

Meeting summary: commissioners and staff discussed the need to conduct a more in-depth discussion than is possible during regular monthly board meetings. It was agreed that developing a vision of how the WID can help landowners and farmers with their drainage problems would be productive. One goal identified as an important one to the WID is to establish clarity and consistency around drainage regulations. Stream classifications, which drive the construction requirements, should be examined.

The role of the various agencies was discussed, and whether ADAP is the only or best way to do drainage construction projects. Everyone agreed that drainage costs were an issue, regardless of whether that cost falls on the landowners or the tax-payer. Pros and cons of ADAP were discussed, including real and perceived issues, such as cost to landowner and government, perception that ADAP brings regulators to property, and the requirements of plantings as mitigation. The need for a test case was discussed, in which the regulatory pathways for ditch-cleaning are explored both in and outside of the ADAP program.

It was agreed that regulatory concerns weigh heavy on landowners, and that the WID electorate is looking to WID for help. It was agreed that the Flood Control District network analysis is important work, and that it should proceed, but that it should be expanded to include identification of barriers, including regulations, costs and individual landowner willingness.

It was agreed that the meeting was productive. Staff commented that this work is important, but needs to be further developed before it can be actionable by staff, and further meetings are necessary. Two or three meetings of two or three hours each in the next few weeks could be very productive. All agreed, but no meeting dates were set.

Minutes submitted by: Cynthia Krass