



**Alliance for a Healthy South Sound (AHSS) Executive Committee Meeting  
May 25, 2016, 2:00 – 4:00 pm  
Pierce County Executive's Office**

**Executive Committee Members:**

Commissioner Bud Blake, Thurston County  
Jeff Dickson, Squaxin Island Tribe  
Justin Hall, Nisqually River Council  
Commissioner Randy Neatherlin, Mason County  
David Troutt, Nisqually Tribe  
Councilmember Derek Young, Pierce County

**Additional Attendees:**

John Bolender, Mason Conservation District  
Brent Butler, Thurston County  
Tom Kantz, Pierce County  
Chris Schutz, Pierce County SWM  
Tiffany Speir, Pierce County  
Stephanie Suter, PSP  
Dan Wrye, Pierce County SWM/ECB  
Representative, South Puget Sound

**Meeting Summary**

**I. AHSS Administrative Updates**

- The Executive Committee approved the May 2016 meeting summary.

**II. Executive Committee Retreat Follow Up**

**Organizational Structure**

Executive Committee members reviewed the revised table of organizational structure options and provided the following comments:

- There was a recent period during which the IRS was backlogged with applications for non-profit organizations; this experience may have colored people's views of the length of time needed to complete the application process.
- Legislative endorsement can have both positive and negative implications. Legislative authority might require additional audit requirements.
- Counties might be hesitant to participate in a 501C3 organization due to potential liability. Likewise they would be hesitant to participate in a 501C4 because of the lobbying activities.
- The function of the organization is to create a forum where there is significant buy-in to work products from the South Sound community.

**Next Steps**

- Executive Committee members will continue the discussion of organizational structure at the next meeting.
- David and Justin will develop a model or models for setting up the internal organizational structure of AHSS (as discussed during the April Executive Committee retreat).

**JLARC Audit of PSP**



The Executive Committee's draft letter to JLARC includes a significant amount of information. JLARC requested that AHSS submit projects for JLARC staff to tour. The AHSS Technical Team provided a list of projects from the three counties, with a diversity of local funding.

Comments:

- It is important for JLARC to understand that the projects submitted by the Technical Team reflect the work of AHSS members (either individually or in partnership), not AHSS itself.
- The projects should illustrate AHSS members' ability to collaborate and that the issue is not with PSP but rather with EPA's lack of understanding/interest in getting funding to the local level. AHSS should emphasize that PSP is not the obstacle to local project implementation; PSP should be structured in such a way that when EPA moves toward a more local funding model, the model is easily implemented.
- There is a disconnect between the messages that are conveyed to EPA after they are filtered through PSP.

Next Steps

- Elizabeth will work with JLARC to schedule a time to meet with the Executive Committee.

### III. South Sound Strategy

Elizabeth updated the Executive Committee on the Technical Team's work toward a draft South Sound Strategy. The presentation described several emerging goal statements and opportunities within each inlet and island group, and the strategy framework and conceptual models.

[Meeting adjourned]