



**Alliance for a Healthy South Sound (AHSS) Executive Committee Meeting**  
**July 25, 2017, 2:00 – 4:00 pm**  
**Conference Call**

**Executive Committee Members:**

Commissioner Bud Blake, Thurston County  
Commissioner Kevin Shutt, Mason County  
Councilmember Derek Young, Pierce County  
Council

**Additional Attendees:**

Jeff Barney, Pierce County  
John Bolender, Mason Conservation District  
Tom Kantz, Pierce County  
Brad Murphy, Thurston County  
Stephanie Suter, Puget Sound Partnership  
Cindy Wilson, Thurston County

*Meeting Facilitator:*  
*Elizabeth McManus*

**Meeting Summary**

**I. AHSS Administrative Updates**

- No comments were offered for the February or May Executive Committee meeting summaries. The LIO Coordinators will follow up with absent Executive Committee members, and post the finalized summaries to the website.
- Derek Young updated the Executive Committee on the latest discussion of the Ecosystem Coordination Board (ECB). Councilmember Young noted that other LIOs present at the ECB meeting emphasized a focus on on-the-ground work. ECB members also discussed shoreline de-armoring and ideas that are somewhat "out-of-the-box" and have potential to create real revenue that could make an impact on shoreline armoring removal in the South Sound. David Troutt participated in the development of recommendations for that project and may have thoughts on how the AHSS can engage. LIO Coordinators will follow up with David Troutt.
- Tom Kantz provided an overview of the June AHSS Council meeting. Main topics of the meeting included the Human Wellbeing Project, a debrief of the NTA process and the AHSS NTA scoring process update, a brainstorming session for updating the South Sound Strategy, and a presentation on the Oakland Bay restoration project from Scott Steltzner.
- Stephanie Suter informed the group of an RFP recently released by the Puget Sound Partnership. The goal of which is to recruit someone to serve as an interim Development Director for the foundation established in the Partnership's statute. This person would focus on developing a strategy to pursue funding for NTA's primarily from the private sector. The RFP is open until September 10<sup>th</sup>. ([Click here to read the full RFP](#))

**II. AHSS Scoring Process Update**

Following the NTA project scoring exercise, the AHSS Technical Team suggested revising the AHSS project scoring and ranking process. They suggested that the AHSS use two different scoring methods:

one for scoring NTAs and another for other projects. For NTA's, the Technical Team recommended adopting the regional scoring process developed by the Puget Sound Partnership with the addition of a screen for consistency with the South Sound Strategy.

For other projects, the revised process is similar to what the Salmon Lead Entities use to score projects. It retains the same categories (Consistency with the Strategy, Benefit, Likelihood of Success: feasibility & readiness, and Likelihood of Success: Stakeholder/Partnership Support), but is now scored on a scale of 1-10, with a number of guiding questions for reviewers to consider when they assign an overall category score.

#### Next Steps

- The Technical Team is reviewing the revised process and the process will be finalized in the coming months.

### III. AHSS Priorities & Next Steps

#### *Individual Meeting Debrief and Priorities*

Elizabeth thanked Executive Committee members for taking the time to meet individually and discuss the upcoming priorities for the Alliance. She noted the following takeaways from the individual meetings:

- The AHSS is making incremental progress and that is ok.
- There is value in having this forum to have conversations and work together.
- The AHSS can play a role in highlighting success stories and projects in South Sound
- The AHSS needs to be ready with clear materials to advocate for funding at the state and local level

#### Next Steps

- LIO coordinators will continue working on communication materials to highlight success stories, AHSS priorities, and the value of ecosystem services in the South Sound.

#### *Human Wellbeing Project Participation*

Elizabeth explained that the Puget Sound Partnership is teaming with researchers from Oregon State University to help integrate human wellbeing indicators with ecological indicators in LIO decision-making, including NTA development and scoring (more information on the [HWB Handout](#)). Five LIOs have the opportunity to participate. This project would bring expertise and a little bit of funding to help the AHSS make progress on integrating things like public health, economic vitality, and wellbeing into the South Sound Strategy. Four other LIOs, Hood Canal Coordinating Council, Straits, Island, and West Central, are participating.

Executive Committee Comments:

- Commissioner Shutty said that Hood Canal Coordinating Council has had some success with this in the past and would be interested in considering the Alliance's involvement.
- Councilmember Young said he is not opposed to pursuing the project.

Next Steps:

- The LIO Coordinators will continue forward with this project.

**IV. Capacity Grant Vote**

The Committee voted to continue contracting with Ross Strategic for the 2018-2019 LIO Contract period.

**V. Wrap Up and Future Meetings**

Next meeting: September 26, 2018 at LOTT Clean Water Alliance, Thurston County

[Meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm]