

Minutes November 29, 2004

On November 29, 2004, Skagit County's first Forestry Advisory Board (FAB) was called together. Members present were Paul Kriegel, Gordon (Gordy) Iverson, Dave Chamberlain, Lisa Cassidy, Tim Raschko, Aubrey Stargell, Dick Whitmore, Chuck Parker, Fred Loffer, Andy Blachly. Absent were Ken Osborn and Al Craney. Also in attendance were Mark Eaten and Tom Hansen from the industry; and Kendra Smith from Skagit County.

Introductions were made amongst the new Board and attendees.

The first action of business was to select officers for the FAB. Paul Kriegel nominated Dave Chamberlain for Chair, with no other nominations, the vote was taken and Dave received unanimous support. Dave then conducted the rest of the meeting. Nominations were taken for Vice-chair with Paul Kriegel nominating Andy B. With no other nominations, the vote was taken and Andy also received unanimous support. The members then discussed whether the Secretary position should be a FAB member or Skagit County Natural Resource Lands Policy Coordinator, acting as staff support, Kendra Smith. Following a brief discussion, Paul Kriegel nominated Kendra. The vote was unanimous in favor.

The second action was to review the draft by-laws prepared by Kendra. Gordy moved and Aubrey seconded, to adopt the by-laws as written to be reviewed again at the March 2005 meeting to determine whether they are providing the guidance that the FAB desires. After brief discussion the vote was unanimous in favor.

The third action was to select meeting dates and places. It was decided and passed unanimously to have the meetings on the second Monday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at the Berry Patch restaurant in Burlington, Wa. until further noticed. The FAB also discussed the need to have subcommittee meetings periodically in order to more thoroughly research and prepared for issues concerning Skagit County's timber industry. The desire was to try and do as much of the work as possible at the FAB meetings and form subcommittees as necessary.

Concluding Board actions, the FAB proceeded to have a discussion on a strategic plan, including the topics where it saw fit to be involved, in order to start preparing and establishing a policy framework, consistent with Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan, on how Skagit County government can support and strengthen the forest resource sector. The following topics were raised:

- Comprehensive Plan update
- Blanchard Mountain
- Coordination with the DNR

- Forest Practices as a revenue
- Upholding the forest plan- Federal Forests
- Multiple Use Act 1964 (Dick agreed to do some further investigation and report back)
- More involvement with EDAS- economic development
- Separate (need to expand here???????)
- More representation in Olympia and spend more time tracking what is happening as it affects the industry and ultimately the County, specifically with the Forest Practice Board.
- Education- public and in Olympia.
- Right to Manage or Practice Forestry. Research what other counties have adopted, i.e. Whatcom and Jefferson Co.

Discussion of next agenda included the following items (more from the above list may be included per digression of the Chair):

- Right to Practice Forestry
- Comp plan review
 - The Comp Plan
 - Consultant work
 - Platted lands – Dave volunteered to work on this
- Blanchard Mountain progress

Discussion on the potential of Skagit County to manage its own lands took place. It was suggested that at some point in time the FAB review Gray's Harbor management plan.

It was suggested to invite Ted Anderson to the next meeting time permitting. Kendra will talk to him to determine availability.

The meeting was adjourned 10:30 a.m.