

**Skagit County Agricultural Advisory Board (AAB) and Forest Advisory Board (FAB)
Minutes – July 18th, 2007**



Members in attendance:

Kim Mower (Chair)
Roger Knutzen
Dave Boon
Randy Good
John Vendeland
Lyle Wesen
Annie Lohman
Don McMoran
Mike Hulbert
Gordy Iverson
Chuck Parker
Lisa Cassidy
Al Craney
Aubrey Stargell
Dave Chamberlain

Members not in attendance:

Murray Benjamin
Nels Lagerlund
Bill McMoran
Ken Osborn
Tim Raschko
Fred Loffer
Bob Hughes

Others in attendance

Carly Ruacho
Kendra Smith

1. Call to order. 7:06 p.m. Kim Mower called meeting to order and welcomed the joint FAB and AAB committees.
2. Mike H. gave the history of the AAB and Dave C. gave the FAB history. Both due to the issues at hand for the respective industries. Would like to be able to get the point of not having to run around discussing the 'fires' at hand....but to become proactive.
3. Feeling of being out numbered and others not understanding what is at stake. Much discussion on issues both industries are facing; acknowledging what the two have in common
4. Discussion on "What can be done":
 - Get message out (positive!) to the community – education
 - Ag/Forestry are the environmentalist

- Protections already in place
 - Cleanest safest standards
 - What the industries provide
 - To the community
 - To fish and wildlife
 - Review codes and their interpretation
 - Frame issues in a positive productive manner i.e. global warming
 - Exposure
 - Farmers market
 - Women in Timber tour
 - Project Learning Tree...can AAB/FAB adopt a Skagit school?
 - Build upon the carbon footprint issue...carbon sequestration
 - Ag/Forest Health...disease infestation
 - Developing own energy sources
 - Unite (call a spade a spade)
 - Harvest
 - BoCC
5. Discussion on “What’s next... “
- Quarterly meetings (more for venting sessions). Chairs will talk and determine when and where
 - Tasks specific (therapy good but need productivity)
 - Sit jointly at agency meetings
 - Subcommittee to work on follow up:
Kim, Dave C, Annie
5. Roger offered to get Mr. Wood from the Skagit Herald to come to the AAB meeting in Sept. Agreed this would be a good idea.
6. Getting the story out in a positive manner...illustrate how the resources really are the good guys and are environmentally sound. Also the importance of critical mass and no net loss
7. Meeting adjourned at 8:45p.m. with a feeling of having a successful first joint meeting.