

Forestry Advisory Board
Skagit County, Washington
Meeting #50, August 6, 2008
Cranberry Tree Restaurant 2030 Freeway Drive, Mount Vernon

Members in Attendance:

Lisa Cassidy
Dave Chamberlain
Al Craney
Gordy Iverson
Paul Kriegel
Tom Nelson
Fred Loffer
Ken Osborn
Chuck Parker
Aubrey Stargell
Dick Whitmore

Guests:

Samantha Chang, Forestry
Betsy Stevenson, Planning
Carl Stout
Keith Greenwood

Staff:

Kendra Smith
Zoe Parsons

Call Meeting to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 am. The July minutes and August meeting agenda were approved.

Business:

I. Timber tax revenues that benefit Skagit County – Al Craney

Al has a report showing timber tax revenues and harvest levels for Skagit County from “private” forest lands for the years 2000 – 2007. This information is available at:

<http://dor.wa.gov/content/FindTaxesAndRates/OtherTaxes/Timber/forst stat.aspx>

Al will be sending the group a report from the Society of American Foresters (SAF) on the status of forests in America.

Al also noted he is working on certification for small tree farms and needed to leave the meeting early to work on one of those certifications.

Dave recommended forming subcommittees to look at forestry data collection and the importance of forestry to the county. It was decided to further discuss subcommittees at the September meeting. However, Tom Nelson suggested everyone forward any data they currently know of to Kendra Smith to start compiling this data in a central location. It is felt the FAB is in a great position to contribute valuable information on the importance of forestry in helping the global warming issue.

ACTION(S): Committee members to send data to Kendra Smith

Al Craney to send report from the Society of American Foresters (SAF) on the status of forests in America

II. Blanchard Mountain

The Blanchard Mountain decision on SEPA was briefly discussed with the feeling the review group did not look at the bigger picture.

III. Implementation of Skagit County Forest Practice Conversions

A draft of the mandate was present and approved by the Planning Commission. However, DNR rejected it. It was decided to take a look at the old draft, clean it up and make recommendations.

There was interest by Ken Osborn and Aubrey Stargell to participate on a Forest Practice subcommittee.

IV. Forest Practice Updates:

Kendra is on a subcommittee for the clean water act, however, not enough test sites are available. It was discussed that there has not been enough support from DNR.

V. CMER

CMER is looking at adaptive management

Schedule Next Meeting

Due to Labor Day, the next meeting will be on Monday, September 8 from 7 – 9 am at the regular location (2021 E. College Way, 2nd Floor Conference Room).

Adjournment

Chair Dave Chamberlain adjourned the meeting at 7:45 since people started arriving for the Commissioner Candidates' forum to be held in the same room from 8:00 am to 10:00 am.

Submitted by: Zoe Parsons